

**Clackamas County**  
**Benefits Review Committee**  
Meeting Summary for August 17, 2023

**This document is intended to be a meeting summary. These meetings are recorded.**

**Voting Members Present:** Greta Nickerson, John Lee, Deena Mehdikhan, Robert Skinner, Gretchen Pacheco, Jennifer Hughes, Paula McDonald, Alex Gonzalez, Chris Dannenbring, Jennifer Harvey, Kristi Durham, Fred Yungbluth, Chuck Kerns, Rachelle Bonsi, Jon Santana

**Voting Members Not Present:** Eric Sarha, Lauren Haney

**Minutes:** Toni McGarvey

**Facilitator:** Cory Matthews opened meeting at 1:33 pm

**Attendance and Minutes:**

Recordings will be provided upon request within one year of the meeting.

**Review and Approval of Minutes from 8/10/2023 BRC Meeting:**

1. Two grammatical errors were corrected prior to voting to finalize the minutes: Misspelling of “applicable” and misspelling and grammatical usage of “voteable”.

**VOTING: To accept and approve minutes from 8/10/2023 BRC Meeting with the corrections mentioned above.**

**Greta Nickerson moves to accept minutes with corrections**

**Paula McDonald seconds motion**

**Yay/Nay Count: Unanimous (all present vote YAY), 0 Nays**

**Motion passes to accept minutes**

**2024 Renewal Update:**

Continuation of review of update renewal information as presented by Joe Bober, Mercer in 7/27/2023 BRC meeting

Presenter: Joe Bober

Link to Updated Report: [2024 Renewal Update](#)

Presentation and review only, no voting was conducted.

- Joe Bober discussed potential changes to Kaiser out-of-pocket maximum (adjusting up)
  1. Group discussed increased OOP maximum puts Kaiser closer to aligning with Providence Personal and Open Option
- Joe Bober presented adjustments of Kaiser RX co-pays
  1. Group discussed not seeing much impact in making RX changes
- Corey Matthews indicated group support for waiting for more clarification and discussion of choices prior to voting
- Joe Bober will work to clarify further 1) specific areas included in deductible increase, and 2) list of drugs that might move in cost with definition of difference in 20/40 jump category specifically.

## **BCC Update:**

Presenter: Kristi Durham

- Kristi updated the BRC on recent presentations to the BCC covering 2023 renewal and 2024 forecast for renewal.
- Presentations included 1) cost containment strategies from year to year, 2) benefit breakdown, 3) discussion of emerging novel treatments, and 4) alternative care coverage

## **Short Term Disability Key Provision Analysis: Return to voting on remaining items**

### **1. Imprisonment Limitation:**

- Keith Storie of Mercer will continue to work with Standard and advocate on behalf of the county to change this language
- Standard definition currently does not indicate a clear conviction status definition.
- Language is broad and should be more in alignment with social security definitions
- Keith Storie will return this item to the BRC after more conversation with Standard

Kristi Durham moves to not include the Standard language in relation to imprisonment limitation at this time, and to bring a statement with corrected language back to the BRC at a later date for a vote.

Jon Santana seconds motion

Yay/Nay Count: Unanimous 13 Yes, 0 Nay

Motion passes

- ### **2. Reasonable Accommodation Expense Benefit:**
- No voting required. This is an enhancement that is necessary to be in alignment with new PFML directives.

### **3. Temporary Recovery During the Maximum Benefit Period:**

- This is an enhancement providing a longer period of time for employee on leave to return to work without having to re-satisfy initial benefit waiting period.

Greta Nickerson moves to accept change to the temporary recovery period increasing time from 5 to 90 days

Alex Gonzalez seconds motion

Yay/Nay Count: Unanimous 14 Yes, 0 Nay

Motion passes

## **Member Reports:**

- Joe Bober was asked to run composite numbers for the BRC and provide at next meeting
- Continued discussion occurred on Kaiser renewal and moving toward max OOP and leaving RX alone
- 1. Kristi Durham advises RX changes shows little benefit for the higher cost
- 2. Group consensus forming around aligning to the #5 renewal option
- Corey states that there is still time to gather information from and discuss with constituents and that the BRC will wait to vote on these proposals.

## **Discussion: Next Steps**

- The BRC will meet again on 8/24/23 and will add two additional meetings to the calendar: 8/31/2023 and 9/7/2023. If these additional meetings are not necessary they will be cancelled.
- Joe Bober will continue to work on final numbers and bring an update to the next meeting.
- Kristi Durham will obtain CBA update and insight, and return to the BRC for discussion.
- Keith Storie will continue to work with Standard on STD KPA language (Imprisonment Limitation)
- QUESTIONS: Please send all questions to Billie Hurley via email prior to next meeting on 8/24/2023

## **Meeting Adjourned:**

Cory adjourns the meeting early at 2:58 pm

Next meeting: Thursday, August 24th, 2023, at 1:30 pm

DRAFT