

**MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF
CARBON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, October 12, 2010
County Courthouse, Rawlins, Wyoming**

A special meeting of the Board of Carbon County Commissioners (BOCC) commenced Tuesday, October 12, 2010 at the County Courthouse in Rawlins, Wyoming to discuss health insurance. Attending the meeting were Chairman Terry Weickum; Vice Chairman Jerry Paxton; Deputy County Attorney Mike Kelly; County Clerk Gwynn Bartlett; and Deputy Clerk Helen Winningham. Also present was Mark Moreno from Meritain Health. Absent was Commissioner Charles C. Young.

Chairman Weickum called the meeting to order at 1:12 p.m. Chairman Weickum clarified the meeting is being held to help facilitate non-county employees acquire alternative health insurance. He also stated that there are many boards appointed by the BOCC that employ individuals that do not have the county's benefits. Chairman Weickum clarified the definition of county employees also reading the IRS' definition of employee.

Mark Moreno explained the differences between self-funded and fully insured plans, the costs associated with the county's partially self-insured plan, and partially self-insured plans.

Chairman Weickum identified the following spokespeople from each entity present: Glen Culver of the Medicine Bow Healthcare District, Leo Chapman from Weed & Pest, George Bagby from Carbon County Senior Services Incorporated, Larry Moore from the Public Library Board, and Barry Bryant from the Noyes Clinic. Dave Throgmorton of the Museum was also present.

Mr. Chapman asked for further clarification on the re-insurance premium and the liability the county has taken on and this was further discussed.

Mr. Moore discussed the possibility of Library employees becoming county employees, other counties where library employees have county benefits, and asked if retired individuals will be allowed to maintain benefits. Mr. Moreno clarified that retirees will maintain insurance on the county's plan and he offered a broker's assistance to all non-county entities to help with quotes on their individual policies. Mr. Moreno explained what companies will look for at quoting policies noting that there are numerous variables. Commissioner Paxton pointed out that with healthcare reform, the county may not have the same coverage in the future. Mr. Moore asked with these changes would the Library's legal representation change. Deputy Attorney Kelly reported that the county attorney position is limited by statute to represent the County Commissioners, elected officials, and the county itself. He stated that the BOCC's generosity has allowed that office to help the Library in situations where there has been no conflict.

Mr. Chapman asked if these groups could form their own pool. Mr. Moreno replied only when there is a business commonality and he did not see the commonality between these groups.

Mr. Bagby asked if the BOCC noted that Senior Services could stand an increase in premium and recognized that the current repayments to the county are low. He discussed his concern for the consequences of removing the Senior Service managers off insurance and stated these people are not working for pay but the benefits they receive. Mr. Bagby also stated his concern for impacts of preexisting conditions and what that might do to rates. He reported the group has been on the county's insurance for 35 years and asked why the group could not be grandfathered in. Chairman Weickum clarified the decision is not about money but rather a policy decision. He stated the plan is for county employees and allowing some subsidiaries and not other county related groups to be on the county's plan is problematic.

Jill Duthie asked for clarification about retiree insurance and she was informed that if someone is a retiree or qualified as a retiree by the cutoff date for subsidiary insurance, those individuals will remain on the plan as long as premiums are paid timely. Mr. Moreno distributed contact information for a broker with Benefit Health Services and stated this person could offer assistance obtaining quotes. Chairman Weickum clarified that the county does not endorse this person and this is just one option and person that the entities should talk to and explore.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Chairman Weickum adjourned the meeting at 2:25 p.m.

-s- Gwynn G. Bartlett, Carbon County Clerk

Approved this 19th day of October 2010

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
CARBON COUNTY, WYOMING

-s- Terry Weickum, Chairman