



**STATE OF LOUISIANA**  
**DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION**  
**OFFICE OF GROUP BENEFITS**



**MINUTES**

**OGB POLICY AND PLANNING BOARD**  
**combined with**  
**OGB ESTIMATING CONFERENCE**  
**Thursday, September 8, 2022**  
**10:00 AM**  
**Louisiana Purchase Room**  
**1201 North Third Street**  
**Baton Rouge, LA 70802**

- I. Call to Order – the meeting was called to order at 10:12 AM.
- a. Estimating Conference Roll Call
    - Mr. Sam Blount Present
    - Mr. Manfredo Dix Present
    - Ms. Stephanie Little Absent
    - Ms. Connie Nelson Absent
    - Mr. Robert Schneckenburger Present
    - Ms. Mei Su Present
  
  - b. Policy and Planning Board Roll Call
    - Sen. Louie Bernard Present
    - Sen. Joseph Bouie, Jr. Present
    - Rep. Chad Brown Present – early departure
    - Ms. Deborah Copeland Present
    - Mr. Jeremy Jackson (Chairman) Present
    - Mr. Frank Jobert, Jr. Absent
    - Mr. Kenneth Krefft (Secretary) Absent
    - Mr. Tony Murray (Vice Chairman) Present
    - Mr. Frank Opelka Present
    - Mr. Mike Saylor Present
    - Sen. Kirk Talbot Present – late arrival / early departure
  
  - c. Guests in Attendance
    - Nancy Gaffney BUCK Global, LLC
    - Alysa Farabaugh BUCK Global, LLC
    - Reed Comelitti BUCK Global, LLC

- II. Approval of Minutes from August 10, 2022 Estimating Conference Meeting
  - a. Mei Su made a motion to approve the Estimating Conference Minutes from the August 10, 2022 meeting. Robert Schneckenburger seconded the motion. The Estimating Conference Minutes were approved unanimously.
  
- III. Approval of Minutes from August 11, 2022 Policy and Planning Board Meeting
  - a. Sen. Louie Bernard made a motion to approve the Policy and Planning Board Minutes from the August 11, 2022 meeting. Frank Opelka seconded the motion. The Policy and Planning Board Minutes were approved unanimously.
  
- IV. 2023 Premium Rate Increases for Self-Funded Plans
  - a. Bill Guerra, OGB Administrator, provided a review of the fund balance amounts and corresponding premium rate changes, including revenues and expenditures for Fiscal Year 2010 - Fiscal Year 2022.
  - b. Nancy Gaffney, an actuary with Buck Global, LLC, provided an overview of the OGB fund balance and the reasons for premium increase.
    - i. Classifications other than School Board Classification
      - 1. Ms. Gaffney provided information about the proposed 4.5% premium rate increase, effective January 1, 2023, for all OGB's self-funded plans except for the Pelican HRA1000 Plan for the School Board Classification.
    - ii. School Board Classification
      - 1. Ms. Gaffney informed the principals and members of the plan designs of the Magnolia Local Plus and the Pelican HRA1000 plans. She explained that the introduction of the gap insurance plans by some school boards changed the inherent plan design of the Pelican HRA1000 Plan, causing the Plan to function like the Magnolia Local Plus Plan. Ms. Gaffney provided information about the year-to-date loss ratios and explained that despite the rate increases that were effective January 1, 2022, the current loss ratio for the Pelican HRA1000 Plan is at 110%. She added that the current loss ratio demonstrates that additional, future rate increases are necessary. Ms. Gaffney also provided information about the recommended 21.2% premium rate increase for active employees in the Pelican HRA 1000 Plan for 2023.
    - iii. The Board and Conference discussed the proposed premium rate increases and the OGB fund balance. Randy Davis, Assistant Commissioner with the Division of Administration, and OGB's actuary, Alysa Farabaugh, Senior Consultant with Buck, responded to questions about the fund balance and the proposed premium rate increases. Tony Murray, Vice Chairman of the OGB Policy and Planning Board, asked if the loss ratio includes the retiree population. Ms. Farabaugh confirmed that the loss ratio does include retirees. Mr. Murray also noted that based on statute, in order to raise the rates on the school board, active and retirees must be included.
  - c. Public Comment Regarding 2023 Premium Rate Increases for Self-Funded Plans

- i. The following individuals provided public comment regarding the proposed Pelican HRA1000 Plan premium rate increase for the School Board Classification:
  - 1. Melissa Stilley, Superintendent, Tangipahoa Parish School System,
  - 2. Bret Schnadelbach, CFO, Tangipahoa School Board,
  - 3. Jennifer Vidrine, Business Manager, Winn Parish School Board,
  - 4. Dannie Garrett, Executive Counsel, LA School Boards Association,
  - 5. Kent Reed, Superintendent, Allen Parish School Board,
  - 6. Rodney Wilson, Director of Finance, Sabine Parish School Board,
  - 7. Rep. Mike Johnson, State Representative,
  - 8. Charley Lemons, Superintendent, Cameron Parish School Board,
  - 9. Jared Gibbs, Business Manager, West Baton Rouge School Board,
  - 10. Elizabeth Domite, CFO, Rapides Parish School Board, and
  - 11. Cynthia Posey, LA Federation of Teacher and School Employees.
- ii. The following individuals submitted written comments regarding the proposed Pelican HRA1000 Plan premium rate increase for the School Board Classification:
  - 1. AnnaShea Fowler, Insurance Clerk, Washington Parish School Board,
  - 2. Frances Varnado, Superintendent, Washington Parish School System,
  - 3. Guenell Whitstine, Finance Director, Grant Parish School Board, and
  - 4. Tami Austin, Business Manager, Winn Parish School Board.
- d. For the Estimating Conference, Mr. Schneckenburger made a motion to forward to the Policy and Planning Board the 2023 plan year 4.5% premium rate increase for Classifications other than School Board Classification, and the 21.2% premium rate increase for the 2023 plan year Pelican HRA 1000 Plan for the School Board Classification. Sam Blount seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- e. For the Policy and Planning Board, there was a failed motion made by Mr. Opelka and seconded by Mr. Murray, to recommend a 4.5% increase across the board with emphasis on providing additional information regarding removal of retirees out of assumptions and calculations regarding the Pelican HRA1000 plan in reference to School Boards.
  - i. Mr. Murray made a subsequent motion to recommend a 4.5% premium rate increase across the board for all other agencies, including School Boards, for the 2023 year. Sen. Bernard seconded the motion.
    - 1. Roll Call Vote:
 

Sen. Bernard	Yes
Sen. Bouie	Yes
Rep. Brown	Yes
Ms. Copeland	No
Mr. Jackson	Yes
Mr. Murray	Yes
Mr. Opelka	No
Mr. Saylor	Yes

Sen. Talbot Yes  
The motion carried with 7 in favor and 2 opposed.

V. Caremark Pharmacy Benefits Manager (PBM) Contract

- a. Colonel David Couvillon, Chief Executive Officer of OGB, provided an update on the PBM Contract. He reminded the Board of the First Circuit Court of Appeal's decision to reinstate the award of the Contract for PBM services to Caremark with the term of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2025. Since receiving the court order, OGB in conjunction with its consultant, BUCK Global, LLC, conducted a market check and, as a result, has renegotiated with Caremark for better pricing.
- b. The PBM Contract was discussed.
- c. Public Comment Regarding Caremark Pharmacy Benefits Manager Contract
  - i. The following individuals provided public comment:
    - 1. Charles Calvi, President, ABC, Inc., and
    - 2. Randal Johnson, President and CEO, LA Independent Pharmacies Association.
  - ii. Linus Jordan with Express Scripts, Inc. and Don Caffery with the Louisiana Independent Pharmacies Association waived their right to comment.
- d. For the Estimating Conference, Mr. Schneckenburger made a motion to forward the Caremark PBM Contract to the Policy and Planning Board. Ms. Su seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- e. Mr. Davis reviewed the history of the Caremark Contract and assured the Board that extensive evaluations, a market check, and negotiations have been completed in order to make the decision to move forward with the Contract. He asked the Board to recommend the Contract.
- f. Sen. Bernard made a motion to recommend the Caremark Pharmacy Benefits Manager Contract. Ms. Copeland seconded the motion.
  - i. Roll Call Vote:

Sen. Louie Bernard	Yes
Sen. Joseph Bouie	Abstention
Ms. Deborah Copeland	Yes
Mr. Jeremy Jackson	Abstention
Mr. Tony Murray	Abstention
Mr. Frank Opelka	Yes
Mr. Mike Saylor	Yes

The motion carried.

VI. Buck Global, LLC Contract Amendment

- a. Col. Couvillon provided an overview of the Buck Global, LLC Contract Amendment #8. He indicated that it incorporates pharmacy benefits manager contract implementation services for the PBM contract and related deliverables.
- b. Public Comment Regarding Buck Global, LLC Contract Amendment
  - i. There was no public comment.

- c. For the Estimating Conference, Mr. Schneckenburger made a motion to forward the Buck Global, LLC Contract Amendment #8 to the Policy and Planning Board. Ms. Su seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- d. For the Policy and Planning Board, Mr. Murray made a motion to recommend the Buck Global, LLC Contract Amendment #8. Mr. Opelka seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**VII. Fully-Insured HMO and Medicare Advantage Contract Amendments**

- a. Col. Couvillon provided an update on the fully-insured HMO and Medicare Advantage contract amendments listed below. The amendments provide premium rates for plan year 2023.
  - i. Vantage Health Plan MHHP
  - ii. HMO Louisiana, Inc. d/b/a Blue Advantage Medicare Advantage
  - iii. Humana Medicare Advantage
  - iv. Peoples Health Medicare Advantage
  - v. Vantage Health Plan Medicare Advantage
- b. Public Comment regarding Fully-Insured HMO and Medicare Advantage Contract Amendments
  - i. There was no public comment.
- c. For the Estimating Conference, Mr. Blount made a motion to forward to the Policy and Planning Board the Fully-Insured HMO and Medicare Advantage Contract Amendments. Ms. Su seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- d. For the Policy and Planning Board, Mr. Murray made a motion to recommend the Fully-Insured HMO and Medicare Advantage Contract Amendments. Mr. Opelka seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

**VIII. Public Comment – Non-Agenda Issues**

- a. Carrie Griffin, Human Resources/Insurance, Assumption Parish School Board, asked the Board to visit the 20-year participation schedule for teachers and consider reducing the schedule to 10 – 15 years.

**IX. New Business**

- a. There was no new business.

**X. Adjournment**

- a. For the Estimating Conference, Mr. Blount made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Ms. Su seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- b. For the Policy and Planning Board, Mr. Murray made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Deborah Copeland seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.
- c. The meeting was adjourned at 12:55 PM.

Approved by Estimating Conference: \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_

Approved by Policy and Planning Board:  R. Jean \_\_\_\_\_

Date Approved: 8/30/2023