



Northern Plains Insurance Pool Minutes July 14, 2016

Members Present:

Dean Christensen	Sheila Beermann	Sue Kurtz	Angela Arlt
Brice Christensen	David Hutchison	Kristi Lewis	Thomas Cameron

Others Present:

Sarah Delaney	Samantha Thomas	Teagan Molden
Lisa Carlson	Jason Hubers	

Chairman D. Christensen called the meeting to order at 10:02 am on Thursday, July 14, 2016 at Howalt+McDowell Insurance, Cherapa Place in Sioux Falls, SD.

Motion by Kristi Lewis, second by Dave Hutchison to approve agenda. All present voting in favor, motion carried.

Minutes from March 23, 2016 (annual meeting) and June 21, 2016 motion to approve. Motion by Kristi Lewis, second by Dave Hutchison. All present voting in favor, motion carried.

Discussion Brice Christensen provided balance sheet through end of June 2016 and financial report update. Action item for Howalt+McDowell to confirm Merle Krull payment reimbursement status for two months. Finance committee confirmed currently getting everything they need. Howalt+McDowell to resolve consulting tax for pool for past and future payments.

Discussion regarding stipend and travel expenses. Motion to do away with stipend and keep expenses for travel. Proposed \$60.00 per meeting go to \$0.00. Motion by Sheila Beermann, second by Angela Arlt, all present voting in favor, motion carried.

Tom Cameron motion mileage at rate, hotel at cost and food at rate. Sheila Beermann second the motion. All present voting in favor, motion carried.

Discussion regarding ordering official NPIP letterhead. Howalt+McDowell will order a ream of letterhead for the pool.

Performed election of officers. Nomination for Dean Christensen as chair. Motion by Sheila Beermann, second by David Hutchison, motion carried. Nomination for Angela Arlt as vice chair. Motion by Sheila Beermann, second by David Hutchison, Kristi Lewis motion to cease nominations, motion carried. Dave Hutchison proposed ability to revisit stipend for Dean Christensen at later date. Officers for finance committee will continue as is including Angela Arlt, Sue Kurtz, and Dave Hutchison.

Discussion regarding future need for HIPAA committee and developed appeals process for self-funded health insurance claims. May also want to consider future roles and responsibilities for finance committee as needs arise.

Discussion regarding how often as a board would like to continue to meet. Tom Cameron recommended keeping the every month structure with ability to decide month to month if meeting is necessary. Find ability to conference or webex into meeting if not able to attend in person.

Discussion regarding annual meeting. Meeting date will be March 22, 2017 and March 23, 2017 in Huron, SD. Howalt+McDowell will book and confirm the hotel accommodations. Howalt+McDowell will sponsor the meeting.

Discussion regarding NPIP (npinspool.org) website. Reviewed current website and content. Howalt+McDowell agreed to administer the website and update information as needed.

Discussed researching NPIP trademark and necessary steps to register the trademark. Howalt+McDowell will research trademark requirements and how to begin this process.

Conversation regarding ASBSD and NPIP discussions. Dean provided update on where current talks are at as far as potential merger. Board indicated that they are not currently wishing to pursue merger at this time due to lack of transparency and current debt.

11:26 am break for lunch --- 12:05 pm meeting called back to order

Discussion regarding evening JazzFest logistics for parking, group location and dinner.

Update from Sanford Health Plan by Lisa Carlson. Discussed ACA and compliance regarding marketplace notices and recommendations for the appeals process. Discussed current delay for the Cadillac tax, upcoming expiration of transitional health plans, and individual and small group market increases for 2017. Mentioned BCBS of Minnesota withdrawal from marketplace state based exchange and impact to Minnesota.

Update from Howalt+McDowell and current progress. Discussed Hitesman & Wold currently reviewing documents provided to begin preparation of necessary agreements and bylaws for Northern Plains Insurance Pool. Howalt+McDowell team will begin to develop education pieces for pool members. Mentioned property and casualty partners researching workers compensation and liability solutions for the education vertical. Programs for the education vertical are endorsed by Minnesota school boards.

Discussion of name change for the pool submission to IRS. Have not yet received response back from IRS.

Discussion regarding marketing health plan for 7/1/17 effective date. Request for proposal will be sent out to Avera, Sanford, and Wellmark. Discussion regarding school education and self-funding. Education to schools will entail addressing current surplus funds, vesting schedule, and gradual percentage increase. One month of premium will be the recommended initial investment for the reserve. Sarah Delaney will provide tools for plan modeling and rate setting. Howalt+McDowell will provide recommendation of plans for pool to offer. Will ensure that the trust is funded appropriately by 6/30/17.

Discussion regarding reinsurance and aggregate insurance. Howalt+McDowell will provide modeling indicating potential risk and financial impact. Wish to set the reinsurance and aggregate insurance at a low level to increase comfort level. Plan to market reinsurance to Sunlife, Starline, Munich RE, and Wellmark.

Jason Hubers discussion regarding city/county meeting and group has indicated interest of being a part of NPIP. Will reach out to begin having conversations regarding NPIP, going out to bid, and ability to become part of the pool.

Jason Hubers provided Sanford update regarding leadership changes. Kirk Zimmer is the new president, and Sanford internally has experienced a lot of change. Believe Sanford is currently on the upswing. Sanford is committed to being a partner to the pool.

Provided benchmarking update for Sanford Health Plan and Delta Dental. For the 2016-2017 plan year, seventeen schools had plan changes. Recommendation would be to consolidate plan offerings to ten potential plans when moving to self-funding. Consider if wish to offer a \$500 deductible having a sunset date or potential surcharge to schools wishing to offer the plan. All in favor to move forward with recommended plans.

Discussion regarding five year strategy and targeted objectives. Will continue to evaluate the current plan and incorporate additional goals.

Discussion regarding offering a retiree plan and potential options when go self-funded. Do believe there is value in offering the retiree plan.

Sheila Beermann motion to adjourn, Angela Arlt second, motion carried. Meeting adjourned 2:14 pm.