MINUTES

**METROPOLITAN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT BOARD**

**MEDICAL & LIFE COMMITTEE**

**April 23, 2013**

The Metropolitan Employee Benefit Board’s Medical & Life Committee met on Tuesday, April 23, 2013 in the Civil Service Conference Room, Suite 163, 222 Building, Third Avenue North, Nashville, Tennessee, at approximately 9:30 a.m.

Committee Members present: Chair: Rita Roberts-Turner; Vice-Chair: Edna J. Jones; Members: Ann V. Butterworth, Charles Clariday, and B.R. Hall, Sr.

Member Richard M. Riebeling and Alternates Christine Bradley and W. Todd Henry were unable to be present.

Others present: Shannon Hall, Metro Human Resources, Nicki Eke, Attorney, Metro Legal Department and Dr. Celia Goodson, Civil Service Medical Examiner.

Board Chair Edna Jones called the meeting to order and stated the first order of business is to elect a Chair and Vice-Chair for the Medical and Life Committee.

Shannon Hall opened the floor to nominations for Committee Chair.

B.R. Hall nominated Rita Roberts-Turner for Chair of the Medical and Life Committee. Charles Clariday seconded.

Rita Roberts-Turner nominated Edna Jones for Vice-Chair of the Medical and Life Committee. Charles Clariday seconded.

A vote was taken on the nominations for Committee Chair and Vice-Chair and were approved unanimously by the Committee.

# **BENEFIT BOARD ITEMS**

The Human Resources staff submitted the following for the Committee’s consideration and appropriate action:

1. Self-insured Choice Fund plan appeal – Request for coverage for panniculectomy and abdominoplasty.

Shannon Hall reported to the Committee that this appeal was initially heard at the August 2012 Medical and Life Committee meeting. She stated that the Committee requested additional clarification/information from the surgeon that did the first surgery as to whether or not she believes this request is related to or a continuation of the initial surgery or medically necessary. She stated that the Committee also requested that the Civil Service Medical Examiner review the medical information and render an opinion as well.

Shannon Hall also noted that the employee was present.

There was some discussion on the information/statements from the surgeon.

Dr. Celia Goodson reported to the Committee that in reviewing the letters from the surgeon, it appears that they do address medical necessity, but in two different areas (psychological and physical). Dr. Goodson also reviewed the nature of the medical condition and stated that she was hopeful that the surgeon would have been more specific/detailed in answering the Committee’s questions, however it is implied that the procedure is needed to complete the skin removal.

After some discussion about the statements from the surgeon and whether additional surgery is medically necessary or for cosmetic and/or psychological reasons, Edna Jones moved for approval of the procedure as medically necessary for this case only. Charles Clariday seconded.

1. Self-insured Choice Fund plan appeal – Request for coverage for panniculectomy and abdominoplasty.(continued)

There was some discussion of the criteria for this procedure to be covered, how this situation is distinguished from any other similar case and these types of cases being heard on a case by case basis.

A vote was taken on the motion to approve the procedure as medically necessary for this case only and was approved with Ann Butterworth opposed and Rita Roberts-Turner abstaining.

1. Self-insured PPO plan appeal – Request for coverage for lipectomy.

Shannon Hall reported to the Committee that a member’s dependent participating in the Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO plan was denied for this coverage. She stated that the member has submitted the appeal and related documentation on the dependent’s behalf, information from BlueCross BlueShield regarding its determination for this coverage and the first level appeal has also been supplied. Ms. Hall also noted that the employee is present.

After clarification as to whether or not Dr. Goodson has reviewed the case, the member addressed the Committee regarding the dependent’s condition/diagnosis and/or treatment.

There was some discussion of the treating physician’s recommendation indicating medical necessity for the procedure, the medical information/diagnosis, current treatments and there being no identifiable medical condition.

After some discussion about obtaining additional medical information and having it reviewed by Dr. Goodson with the parent’s consent, Edna Jones moved to defer this item pending additional information and review by Dr. Celia Goodson. B.R. Hall seconded and the Committee approved without objection.

 With nothing further presented, the meeting adjourned accordingly.

ATTEST: APPROVED:

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Mrs. Rita Roberts-Turner, Director Mrs. Rita Roberts-Turner, Chair

#### Human Resources Medical & Life Committee