

Minutes

State, Local Education and Local Government Insurance Committees

December 8, 2023

9:00 A.M.-11:00 A.M. (CST)

The State, Local Education and Local Government Insurance Committees met on Friday, December 8, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. (central), in the Nashville Room, Third Floor, William R. Snodgrass TN Tower, Nashville, TN and via Cisco WebEx.

Jim Bryson, Chairman, Commissioner of TN Department of Finance & Administration, called the Insurance Committee meetings to order at 9:01 a.m. (central) and noted that Nicole Sweitzer was attending on behalf of Comptroller Jason Mumpower, Rick DuBray for Treasurer David Lillard, and Scott McAnally for Carter Lawrence, Commissioner of TN Department of Commerce & Insurance.

Chairman Bryson welcomed Shanna Boyette, the new Tennessee County Services Association representative to the Local Government Committee, replacing Nathan Brock, who recently retired. Ms. Boyette has been in public service since 2001 and is currently the Human Resources Director for Bedford County.

Chairman Bryson asked that a Determination of Necessity be established for the Local Education Insurance Committee due to the urgency of the agenda items and the lack of a physical quorum for that Committee.

Chairman Bryson called for the motion and a second. The motion was made by Chairman Bryson and seconded by Mr. DuBray. No further discussion occurred, and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Durksi	Yes
Johnson	Yes	Bryson	Yes
White	Yes		

State Insurance Committee Members

Present:

- Jim Bryson, Chairman, Commissioner, Finance and Administration
- Rick DuBray, representing David Lillard, State Treasurer, Department of Treasury
- Nicole Sweitzer, representing Jason Mumpower, Comptroller, Comptroller of the Treasury
- Scott McAnally, representing Carter Lawrence, Commissioner, Commerce and Insurance
- Juan Williams, Commissioner, Human Resources
- Terry Carroll, Tennessee State Employees Association
- Judi Knecht, state employee representative (by teleconference)
- Holly Girgies, representing Higher Education (TN Board of Regents) (by teleconference)

Absent:

- Sen. Bo Watson, Chair of Senate Finance, Ways and Means Committee
- Rep. Patsy Hazlewood, Chair of House Finance, Ways and Means Committee
- Michelle Consiglio-Young, state employee representative

Local Education Insurance Committee Members

Present:

- Jim Bryson, Chairman, Commissioner, Finance and Administration
- Rick DuBray, representing David Lillard, State Treasurer, Department of Treasury
- Nicole Sweitzer, representing Jason Mumpower, Comptroller, Comptroller of the Treasury
- Scott McAnally, representing Carter Lawrence, Commissioner, Commerce and Insurance
- Maryanne Durski, Chief Financial Officer, Department of Education (by teleconference)
- Erin Johnson, East TN School Employee representative (by teleconference)
- Jennifer White, Tennessee School Board Association (by teleconference)

Absent:

- Kristy Baddour, West TN School Employee representative
- Vacant Seat in Middle TN

Local Government Insurance Committee Members

Present:

- Jim Bryson, Chairman, Commissioner, Finance and Administration
- Rick DuBray, representing David Lillard, State Treasurer, Department of Treasury
- Nicole Sweitzer, representing Jason Mumpower, Comptroller, Comptroller of the Treasury
- Kevin Krushenski, Tennessee Municipal League
- Shanna Boyette, representing Tennessee County Services Association

Absent:

- None

Agenda Item #1 – Public Comment

Per Public Chapter 300 of 2023, this time is reserved to recognize and permit public comment on matters germane to items on the agenda. Chairman Bryson asked if anyone present either in the room or by virtual means wished to make a public comment but none in attendance asked to speak on any of the agenda item.

Agenda Item #2 – [Action] October 26, 2023 Minutes

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the State Insurance Committee to adopt the minutes of the October 26, 2023 meeting. Motion was made by Commissioner Williams and seconded by Ms. Sweitzer. No discussion occurred and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Williams	Yes
Knecht	Yes	Carroll	Yes
Girgies	Yes	Bryson	Yes

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the Local Education Insurance Committee to adopt the minutes of the October 26, 2023 meeting. Motion was made by Ms. Sweitzer and seconded by Chairman Bryson. No discussion occurred and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Durksi	Yes
Johnson	Yes	Bryson	Yes
White	Yes		

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the Local Government Insurance Committee to adopt the minutes of the October 26, 2023 meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Krushenski and seconded by Mr. DuBray. No discussion occurred and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
Krushenski	Yes	Bryson	Yes
Boyette	Yes		

Agenda Item #3.1 – [Action] Approval for the Plan Document Updates

Chairman Bryson introduced Tresa Jones, Director of Health Plan Policy, to discuss the Plan Document updates. Ms. Jones highlighted the positive edits in the definition portion of “parent-child relationships” and how it was not substantive in change but more inclusive.

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the State Insurance Committee to adopt the Plan Document updates as outlined in Attachment B previously distributed to the Committee. Motion was made by Mr. McAnally and seconded by Mr. Carroll. No discussion occurred and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Williams	Yes
Knecht	Yes	Carroll	Yes
Girgies	Yes	Bryson	Yes

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the Local Education Insurance Committee to adopt the Plan Document updates as outlined in Attachment B previously distributed to the Committee. Motion was made by Ms. Sweitzer and seconded by Ms. Durksi. No discussion occurred and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Durksi	Yes
Johnson	Yes	Bryson	Yes
White	Yes		

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the Local Government Insurance Committee to adopt the Plan Document updates as outlined in Attachment B previously distributed to the Committee. Motion was made by Mr. Krushenski and seconded by Mr. DuBray. Discussion occurred before a voice vote was taken. No additional discussion occurred, and the roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
Krushenski	Yes	Bryson	Yes
Boyette	Yes		

Agenda Item #3.2 – [Action] Approval for the Plan Document Update as Outlined in 12/6/23 Committee Memo

Chairman Bryson recognized Ms. Jones to address a proposed change to the 2023 Plan Document permitting a limited opportunity for members to revise their annual enrollment medical plan network election, as outlined in the Committee Memorandum dated 12/6/2023.

Ms. Jones described medical plan network issues occurring during the fourth quarter of 2023, which BA earlier communicated to members and the Committees. The Plan Document permits members one opportunity to submit revised annual enrollment elections on or before 4:30 p.m. on December 1. Cigna recently advised BA and plan members of the potential that Vanderbilt Medical Center may not reach an agreement to continue participation in the Cigna networks past December 31, 2023. If negotiations fail, affected plan members could lose access to Vanderbilt as an in-network facility.

Considering this recent uncertainty regarding Vanderbilt, BA recommended an amendment to the 2023 Plan Document to permit an additional one-time opportunity for plan members to revise annual enrollment network elections for the 2024 plan year between December 8 and 4:30 p.m. CT December 28.

In response to questions, Ms. Jones said the network change would be limited to medical only (e.g., not dental, vision, etc.), and that a member could change networks within the medical plan. BA would communicate via the BA website, email and United States Postal Service (USPS).

Chairman Bryson then recognized Tim Cullen of Cigna, who stated that Cigna and Vanderbilt had just come to an agreement for Vanderbilt to remain in network. Discussion followed about the implications of this information and the potential decision of the Committees.

Chairman Bryson recognized Dr. Andrea Dowdy, Director of Clinical Services, who indicated that Cigna would now send out another round of notifications rescinding the previous communication of the potential network disruption. Dr. Dowdy will work with Shelley Walker, BA's Director Communications and Marketing, to ensure that Agency Benefits Coordinators are notified.

Chairman Bryson made a motion for the State Insurance Committee to rescind this agenda item due to the resolution of the Cigna and Vanderbilt network issue, as presented by Cigna. Motion was made by Chairman Bryson and seconded by Mr. Carroll. No further discussion occurred, and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Williams	Yes
Knecht	Yes	Carroll	Yes
Girgies	Yes	Bryson	Yes

Chairman Bryson made a motion for the Local Education Insurance Committee to rescind this agenda item due to the resolution of the Cigna and Vanderbilt network issue, as presented by Cigna. Motion was made by Chairman Bryson and seconded by Mr. DuBray. No discussion occurred and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Durksi	Yes
Johnson	Yes	Bryson	Yes
White	Yes		

Chairman Bryson made a motion for the Local Government Insurance Committee to rescind this agenda item due to the resolution of the Cigna and Vanderbilt network issue, as presented by Cigna. Motion was made by Chairman Bryson and seconded by Mr. Krushenski. No discussion occurred and a voice vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
Krushenski	Yes	Bryson	Yes
Boyette	Yes		

Agenda Item #4 – [Action] Request for Proposal approval – Low-cost plan product

Chairman Bryson introduced Kendra Gipson, Director of Vendor Services & Contracts, Dr. Dowdy, and Colleen Huber (by teleconference), Senior Vice President with Aon, who presented the background and rationale for the request to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) for a new, low-cost plan product.

The Local Government Committee has expressed the need for a more affordable product to address health care cost concerns from both employees and participating employer groups. Through market research, BA identified a potential plan design concept that offers comprehensive coverage while avoiding high deductibles and driving towards quality providers.

The presenters described the concept and product features that will be outlined in the RFP and pro forma contract.

BA requested approval to seek any company willing to provide this type of service with the aim of offering a product with premiums lower than the currently established premiums.

Mr. Krushenski thanked staff for their work on this product and for following up on the feedback he provided BA based on his conversations with rural communities. He indicated that the concept will address a need for smaller government entities to offer a less costly healthcare benefit with less burden on employees up front.

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the State Insurance Committee to seek approval to issue an RFP for a comprehensive, low-cost plan product as outlined by Ms. Gipson, Dr. Dowdy and Ms. Huber. Motion was made by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Commissioner Williams. No further discussion occurred, and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Williams	Yes
Knecht	Yes	Carroll	Yes
Girgies	Yes	Bryson	Yes

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the Local Education Insurance Committee to seek approval to issue an RFP for a comprehensive, low-cost plan product as outlined by Ms. Gipson, Dr. Dowdy and Ms. Huber. Motion was made by Commissioner Bryson and seconded by Ms. Durksi. No further discussion occurred, and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
McAnally	Yes	Durksi	Yes
Johnson	Yes	Bryson	Yes
White	Yes		

Chairman Bryson called for a motion for the Local Government Insurance Committee to seek approval to issue an RFP for a comprehensive, low-cost plan product as outlined by Ms. Gipson, Dr. Dowdy and Ms.

Huber. Motion was made by Mr. Krushenski and seconded by Ms. Boyette. No further discussion occurred, and a roll call vote was taken.

Sweitzer	Yes	DuBray	Yes
Krushenski	Yes	Bryson	Yes
Boyette	Yes		

The next meeting of the State, Local Education and Local Government Insurance Committees is scheduled for January 25, 2024. With no further business, Chairman Bryson adjourned the meeting at 10:15 a.m. (central).

Respectfully submitted,



Laurie S. Lee