

Insurance Meeting

July 21, 2026; 10:00 a.m.; Aspen Conference Room

Present: Tom Cubbage, Craig Nichols, Chris Cloutier, Nick Herd, Ruth Uecker, Heather Hoyer, Mike Bonville, Sarah Harne, Heather Spurzem, Patty Broesder, Joe Vance, Jessica Maruska, Luke Diekhans, and De Anndrea Bobo

Absent: Amy Hollenback, Stephanie Olson, Alex Rosenleaf, Bill Bronson

Mike Bonville of Alliant presented an overview of the Great Falls Public Schools (GFPS) health plan. He reported that the plan has experienced a decrease in claims related to the Change Healthcare data breach. While some claims associated with the breach are still being processed, claims data for the current plan year is significantly more accurate than it was during the previous plan year.

Mike Bonville also presented information on Meds Direct and its potential benefits to the health plan. Meds Direct would source specialty medications directly from manufacturers, allowing the plan to purchase prescriptions at a lower cost. To implement this benefit, member out-of-pocket costs would increase for preferred brand, non-preferred brand, and specialty medications. Under the Base Plan, copayments would increase by \$50 for preferred brand medications, \$100 for non-preferred brand medications, and \$150 for specialty medications. Under the Catastrophic Plan, preferred brand medication copayments would increase by \$50, and specialty medication copayments would increase by \$150.

Craig Nichols made a motion to approve the proposed prescription plan changes and add the Meds Direct program. Ruth Uecker seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Alliant's underwriting recommendation included a 17.7% renewal increase. Following discussion of the presentation and the anticipated cost-saving impacts of implementing Aware Health, Regenexx, Meds Direct, and Wellrithms, the committee determined that a lower renewal increase was appropriate. Ruth Uecker made a motion to approve a 15% renewal increase. Heather Spurzem seconded the motion. Committee members voted six to two to pass the 15% increase.

Blue Cross Blue Shield recently notified the district that it will not renew the Medicare Advantage plan currently offered. Mike Bonville and Sarah have been evaluating alternative options and will present recommendations to the committee at a future meeting.

The meeting was adjourned.