

COUNTY EMPLOYEES' ANNUITY & BENEFIT FUND OF COOK COUNTY
And Ex-Officio for the
FOREST PRESERVE DISTRICT ANNUITY & BENEFIT FUND
MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES
33 N. DEARBORN STREET-STE. 1000
CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60602

Minutes for May 31, 2012 Health Benefits Committee Meeting

The County Fund and the Forest Preserve District Fund are herein collectively referred to as the "Fund".

Call to Order and Roll Call.

Trustees Present: Lauren Gore, Brent Lewandowski, Robert Benjamin, Clem Balanoff, and John E. Fitzgerald.

Staff Present: Daniel R. Degnan, Executive Director, Angela McMillin, Director of Health Benefits, James Hogan, Caremark, Kathy Georges, Caremark.

1. Review and Consideration of March 22, 2012 Health Benefits Committee.

It was moved by Trustee Balanoff and seconded by Trustee Benjamin that the minutes of the March 22, 2012, Health Benefits Committee be adopted.

Vote Result: **MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.**

2. Timeline

Ms. McMillin reviewed the Health Benefits Department Timeline for the remainder of the year.

3. Prescription Drug Audit

Ms. McMillin reviewed and reported in draft form preliminary results from the prescription drug audit. The final report will be reviewed and distributed at the next Health Benefits Committee Meeting.

4. Prescription Drug Performance Metrics

Ms. McMillin reviewed Q1 Prescription Drug Benefit Results.

5. Expanded Generics First Program with Copay Incentive

Ms. McMillin reviewed the benefits of expanding the Generic First Program with Copay Incentive implemented in 2012. This program exists on a purely voluntary basis as part of the already expanded Voluntary Generics First Program. It was explained that this program would keep the copay incentive component and expand into an additional 7 classes of drugs with an estimated net savings to the Fund of \$750K after a cost of approximately \$11,700 in copays.

It was moved by Trustee Balanoff and seconded by Trustee Lewandowski to recommend to the Board the expansion of the Generics First Program with Copay Incentive for 2013.

[Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.](#)

6. Overutilization Program

Ms. McMillin reviewed the benefits of implementing Caremark's Overutilization Program. The purpose of this program is to improve communication between Caremark and a member's physician to determine if another combined dosage medication would be appropriate to replace a higher dose of the same medication to reduce the amount of pills filled and taken. Ms. McMillin communicated the cost of \$40K for this program with a 300% ROI annually for a net savings of \$80K annually.

It was moved by Trustee Balanoff and seconded by Trustee Lewandowski to recommend to the Board the implementation of the Overutilization Program for 2013.

[Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.](#)

7. Specialty Step Therapy Program

Ms. McMillin reviewed the importance of programs to support the growing segment of specialty medications. She reviewed Caremark's Specialty Step Therapy Program. This program would only apply to newly diagnosed members and would not affect current medication protocol. Savings to the Fund could be 1-2% of Specialty Costs annually. Members would be required to try a preferred brand or generic specialty medication before the non-preferred therapy is filled. Currently there are less than 400 members on specialty medications. The number of members is trending at 9% and the Fund's costs are trending at 30%. This program could help eliminate unnecessary cost while ensuring safety and appropriateness.

It was moved by Trustee Lewandowski and seconded by Trustee Benjamin to recommend to the Board the implementation of the Specialty Step Therapy Program for 2013.

[Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.](#)

8. Safety and Monitoring Program

Ms. McMillin reviewed the Caremark Safety and Monitoring Program which evaluates drug claims to identify medication misuse and inappropriate use. There is no charge for this program.

It was moved by Trustee Lewandowski and seconded by Trustee Balanoff to recommend to the Board the implementation of the Safety and Monitoring Program for 2013.

9. New Business

Ms. McMillin discussed service and strategy limitations of the current medical vendor and was given direction to evaluate additional vendor options.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Committee upon a motion duly made and seconded the meeting was adjourned.

[Vote Result: MOTION ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY BY VOICE VOTE.](#)