

The Oakley City Council met in special session in the meeting room at the Oakley Fire Station, 215 Hudson Avenue at 6:30 PM, for the object and purpose for review of employee insurance options. Mayor Timothy Whyte presided.

Council members present. Jordan Burris, Chris Dorman, Leasa Huddle and Shane Stephenson were present. Ilene Nickel was absent.

City staff present. City Administrator Bradley Pendergast, City Clerk Leann Hughes, Chief Communications Officer Sara McDonald, Parks & Cemetery Director Russell Moellering, Utilities Director Rodney Huffman, Street Director Edwin Burris, Utility Clerk Barbara Kelly and Museum Director Jodee Reed.

Others present. Nikki Moellering.

Call to order. Mayor Whyte called the meeting to order.

City Employee Insurance Benefits. Administrator Pendergast reported he has been evaluating and discussing employee insurance options with various brokers. He organized a committee to evaluate plans consisting of himself, City Clerk Hughes, Museum Director Reed and Nikki Moellering. There were three proposals presented to the Council:

Benefit Health Advisors – Fully Funded – Blue Cross and Blue Shield & United Healthcare  
Health Insurance Specialists – Fully Funded – United Healthcare  
Freedom Claims Management – Partially Self-Funded – Blue Cross and Blue Shield & United Healthcare

Pendergast explained that when he checked in-network providers, he found that a percentage of providers used by City employees were not in United Healthcare's network so the committee felt this was not a good option. Also, after researching self-funded plans, Pendergast found many companies advising against this type of plan for a small group and an older work force. The committee concluded that Blue Cross and Blue Shield would be the best option and Pendergast reviewed proposals from Benefit Health Advisors with the Council.

There was discussion of the savings in premiums and the differences between the proposed plans and the State Employee Health Plan the City currently has, including Dental and Vision benefits. There was also discussion of the City paying for a particular plan with the option for employees to pay the difference for a more costly plan. Pendergast noted that 2019 actual premiums will not be available until after October 1, 2018, but the City must decide whether or not to continue with the State Employee Health Plan by September 28, 2018.

Burris moved that the City not renew the contract with the State Employee Health Plan that expires December 31, 2018. Dorman seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#10868).

It was the consensus of the Council to have Pendergast bring back the new rates available after October 1 to consider for the 2019 coverage.

Adjourn. Huddle moved to adjourn the meeting. Stephenson seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Action (#10869). Mayor Whyte adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:04 PM.

Leann M. Hughes, CMC  
City Clerk

