

## **HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SPECIAL SESSION NOVEMBER 17, 2011**

The Howard County Board of Commissioners met in Regular Session on Thursday, November 17, 2011 at 9:00 a.m. in Hearing Room 338 of the Administration Center. Those in attendance included President Tyler Moore, Vice President Paul Wyman and Member Bill Thompson. Also in attendance were County Attorney Larry Murrell and Auditor Ann Wells.

The meeting was called to order by Sheriff Rogers and conducted by President Moore. Commissioner Thompson led the Board in the Pledge of Allegiance and Commissioner Wyman offered a prayer.

The purpose of the meeting was to (1) discuss Employee Health Insurance issues; and (2) to consider any other matters requiring special attention of the Board of Commissioners. Many of the County's employees were present so President Moore opened the floor for discussion. Regions Insurance representative Doug Heath clarified the proposed changes in Group A's payments. The Insurance Committee's recommendation includes the following:

- Exhibit B-1: includes insurance rates paid 52 weeks in lieu of the current 48 weeks, Deductibles \$1,500/\$3,000: Out of Pocket \$4,000/\$8,000  
Affects Group A employees (grandfathered in the plan, hired prior to 2003 and paying 15%) increasing their rates by 26.51%, 52 weeks.  
Group B (after 2003 paying 30%) rates would be similar to current rates, 52 weeks  
No rate increase for Group C (part time)
- Exhibit C-1: includes rates paid 52 weeks, employee may elect to choose higher Deductibles \$3,000/\$6,000: Out of Pocket \$6,000/\$12,000

Group D of the insurance tier is made up of the County Retirees, Center Township Trustees, Library, Howard County Recycling, and the Convention and Visitor's Bureau on the policy, who are billed at 100% of their premiums. The following employees, Department Heads and Elected Officials offered opinions, comment, or suggestions.

Kim McColly	Howard County Clerk Office
Laura Steiner	Howard County Superior Court I
Bill Thompson	Howard County Commissioner
Scott Reed	Buildings & Grounds Superintendent
Martha Lake	Howard County Treasurer
Paul Wyman	Howard County Commissioner
Tyler Moore	Howard County Commissioner
Napoleon Leal	Retired Merit Deputy
Dwight Singer	Howard County Councilman
Ann Leal	Retired Employee
Wanda McKillip	Personnel Director
Larry Murrell	County Attorney

At the conclusion of comment and discussion, a motion was made by Mr. Wyman to take the Insurance Committee's recommendation of allowing the employees to choose between options B-1 and C-1, eliminate the increase for the five (5) retired employees and for anyone that would be retired in the next twelve months. President Moore vacated the chair to second the motion. Commissioner Thompson questioned if the motion should include the effective dates of the change in insurance, and in response, the motion on the floor was amended to include an effective date of February 1, 2012, with payroll deductions to begin January 1, 2011, by Commissioner Wyman. The amended motion was seconded by Mr. Moore and carried with two Aye votes by Mr. Wyman and Mr. Moore and one Nay vote by Mr. Thompson.

A motion was made by Mr. Wyman to include authorizing President Moore to sign any documents related to the health insurance change issues, on behalf of the Board of Commissioners. The motion was seconded by Mr. Thompson and carried.

**There being no further business to come before the Board of Commissioners at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 10:03 a.m. on a motion made by Mr. Wyman and seconded by Mr. Thompson.**

**HOWARD COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS:**

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TYLER O. MOORE, PRESIDENT

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PAUL G. WYMAN, VICE PRESIDENT

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WILLIAM THOMPSON, MEMBER

ATTEST:

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ANN WELLS, AUDITOR

Howard County Commissioner Special Session November 17, 2011