



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Department Name: Public Health
Department
Department No.: 041
For Agenda Of: March 17, 2015
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Tme:
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: Department Takashi Wada, MD, MPH, Director & Health Officer
Director(s) Public Health Department
Contact Info: Dan Reid, MPA, Assistant Deputy Director, Public Health
Department
SUBJECT: Western Growers Health Care Services Participating Provider Agreement

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence: Risk Management

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors consider recommendations as follows:

- a) Approve and authorize the Chair to execute the Western Growers Assurance Trust and Pinnacle Claims Management Participating Provider Agreements, for the period of January 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 for payment of established fees for healthcare services rendered to Western Growers eligible employees and affiliated members; and
- b) Determine that the recommended actions are fiscal activities which do not involve any commitment to a specific project which may result in a potentially significant physical impact on the environment and are thus exempt from the California Environmental Quality review pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378(b)(4).

Summary Text:

This item is on the agenda to authorize the Chair to execute new Agreements with Western Growers Assurance Trust Fund and the Pinnacle Claims Management to establish reimbursement rates for medical services provided by COUNTY for eligible Western Growers employees and affiliated members. Board approval for Recommendation A will establish the reimbursement rates and conditions for eligible medical services for Western Growers employees and affiliated members seen at the County Health Care Centers.

Background:

Through its network of five health care centers and three satellite clinics countywide, the Public Health Department (PHD) provides medical services and access for Western Growers employees and affiliated members of Pinnacle Claims Management. This is a long standing relationship and these agreements are to better define and formalize this relationship.

This health care coverage, although with limited benefits, is often the only insurance for farm workers, growers and their family members in Santa Barbara County. These employees are well aligned with the Mission of the Public Health Department to serve the underinsured, low income, and minority populations. Western Growers Assurance Trust manages different employer based medical plans. Pinnacle Claims Management is a third party claims administrator that manages many of, but not all Western Grower medical plans. Although there currently are no Western Grower members that have medical plans managed by the Pinnacle Claims Management organization, there are several members in neighboring Counties such as Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. Many Western Grower members are involved with migratory farm work and move from County to County. By having both Agreements in place, the Public Health Department ensures that it can provide reimbursable medical services for existing Western Grower members that are residents of Santa Barbara County as well as those members managed by the Pinnacle Claims Management organization that may move into Santa Barbara County or are working here in Santa Barbara County on a temporary basis. In the future, it is also conceivable that Western Grower membership employers may select plans managed by Pinnacle Claims Management for their employees rather than the Western Growers Assurance Trust.

The proposed Agreements outline identical provisions for Western Growers Assurance Trust and Pinnacle Claims Management Agreement for eligible services and are effective January 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Budgeted: Yes

Fiscal Analysis:

This action will provide for the contractual authority for Western Growers Assurance Trust and the Pinnacle Claims Management to pay the County for clinical services it provides to eligible Western Growers employees and affiliated members. It is anticipated that services for these members will generate approximately \$25,000 of revenue annually.

Key Contract Risks:

N/A

Staffing Impacts:

Legal Positions:

0

FTEs:

0

Special Instructions:

Please return one (1) fully executed Agreement for the Western Growers Assurance Trust Agreement, one (1) fully executed Agreement for the Pinnacle Claims Management, and one certified Minute Order to PHD Contracts Unit, 300 North San Antonio Road, Building 8, Santa Barbara, CA 93110, Attn: Kelly Lazarus.

Attachments:

The Western Growers Assurance Trust Participating Provider Agreement

Western Grower and Pinnacle Claims Management

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The Pinnacle Claims Management Participating Provider Agreement

Authored by:

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