

ARIZONA METROPOLITAN TRUST
Final – Minutes of Monday, April 10, 2017
Special Trust Meeting

The following Trustees were present via phone and a quorum was met:

Bryant Powell, Chairperson	City of Apache Junction
David Fitzhugh, Vice Chairperson	City of Avondale
Grady Miller, Trustee	Town of Fountain Hills

The following Alternate Trustees were present via phone:

James Alcantar	Town of Youngtown
Sandra King	City of El Mirage
Leo Lew	Pinal County
Kathy Reyes	City of Avondale
Ray Temple	Buckeye Valley Fire District
David Trimble	Town of Fountain Hills

The following consultants/vendors were present via phone:

Michael Hensley	JS&H
Elena Lacy	ECA
Kelly Schoonmaker	AmeriBen
Jaime Schulenberg	ECA

The following guests were present via phone:

Patrick Camunez	Pinal County
Dawn Hailey	City of El Mirage

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 a.m. Ms. Lacy began with roll call.

2. Discussion and Possible Action re Medical Claims Appeal 1

Ms. Schulenberg briefed Trustees that the appeal mirrors one of the last appeals the Trust heard in March. The third-party, Advanced Reimbursement Solutions (ARS), is disputing the payment made for services rendered at an out-of-network facility due to insufficient payment. In short, an AzMT member received an epidural at an out-of-network facility and AmeriBen processed the claim timely and in accordance with the Plan.

Alternate Trustee Temple made a motion to deny the appeal, seconded by Vice Chairperson Fitzhugh and unanimously carried.

3. Discussion and Possible Action re Rx Formulary

Ms. Schulenberg notified Trustees that she received an email from Navitus that a medication that is not on the formulary was approved. The medication costs about \$82,000 per month and the member will be on the medication for six (6) months, costing the plan just under \$500,000. In summary, a physician requested Prior Authorization from Navitus and was denied. The physician subsequently submitted a 2nd level appeal to AmeriBen which was not considered because the member had not provided authorization for the physician to act on his/her behalf. Somehow, the physician submitted another Request for Exception to Navitus and that request was approved.

The Trust's legal counsel, Mike Hensley, noted that we were just gathering all of the needed information to determine exactly what happened and that there are still a number of questions about this situation. He will work with ECA to do more research and then bring a recommendation to the Trust at the April 25 meeting.

Alternate Trustee Reyes expressed concern about AmeriBen's role in notifying ECA of the large claim/appeal and requested that information concerning all vendor involvement be provided at the upcoming meeting.

4. Call to the Public

No comments were made by the public.

5. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Elena Lacy
Recording Secretary