



WOODBURY COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS AGENDA ITEM(S) REQUEST

Date: 11-19-15

Weekly Agenda Date: 11-24-15

DEPARTMENT HEAD / CITIZEN: Ed Gilliland

SUBJECT: Wellmark Specialty Pharmacy and Pharmacy Management

ACTION REQUIRED:

Approve Ordinance Approve Resolution Approve Motion

Give Direction Other: Informational Attachments

WORDING FOR AGENDA ITEM: Wellmark Specialty Pharmacy and Pharmacy Management, Discussion and Action.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

BACKGROUND:

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

RECOMMENDATION:

ACTION REQUIRED/PROPOSED MOTION: Motion to Approve Wellmark Pharmacy and Pharmacy Management.

Approved by Board of Supervisors March 3, 2015.

From Ed Gilliland

To Woodbury County Board of Supervisors

November 19, 2015

Re: Woodbury County Medical Plan

The purpose of this communication is to relay information on what is needed in the Medical Plan for the 2016 calendar year.

We are always looking at ways to tweak the health plan to lower cost or improve service without hurting the benefits or violating any provisions of the Collective Bargaining Agreements.

One of the areas we can affect is the management of claims. If we make a slight modification to the management (not coverage) of specialty meds we will see first year savings and long term savings with little inconvenience for the people utilizing these medications.

The savings can range from modest to thousands each year for each script.

In other news, we will see an increase in Administrative Fees this year since the honeymoon period runs out December 31, 2015. We were seeing lower costs in Administrative Fees that reflected First Administrators old fees, but did not reflect the fees that Wellmark BCBS would receive. Are we better off than we were with First Administrators? Yes, unequivocally.

We will continue to look to Wellmark and their new Rx vendor or PBM (Pharmacy Benefits Manager), Caremark to offer or work with us to manage claims and customer service as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Today we are asking for approval of using a local Specialty Med provider exclusively after the first fill of a Specialty Med and we are looking to approve renewal of the current benefits. We are also looking for your consent to continue to look for ways to control costs that do not affect the underlying benefit structure (required by the Collective Bargaining Agreements).