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AGENDA ITEM

Action Item

Information Only

Date: November 23, 2020

Item Number: VII

Title: Executive Officer Report

SUMMARY

This report will provide the Board, participants, public, and other stakeholders information on the overall activities of PEBP.

REPORT

COVID-19 UPDATE

PEBP has been working with the Governor's Finance Office (GFO) to ensure the program's COVID-19 related expenditures are captured and reimbursement can be requested from the state's Coronavirus Relief Fund (CRF) allocations. As of November 12, PEBP has incurred almost \$2.5M in COVID-19 related costs but is projected to incur approximately \$4.7M by the end of December. Because CRF funds will expire at the end of the year, PEBP has submitted a work program requesting \$4.7M in reimbursements to cover these projected costs. This is expected to be included as part of the December Interim Finance Committee (IFC) meeting agenda.

SCR10 – FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR A PUBLIC HEALTH INSURANCE OPTION

During the 2019 Legislative session, SCR10 was passed, directing the Legislative Commission to study the feasibility, viability and design of a public healthcare insurance plan offered through the Public Employees' Benefits Program to all Nevada residents (<https://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/NELIS/REL/80th2019/Bill/7087/Text>). In August 2020, PEBP and the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange (SSHIX) were approached by Manatt Health, the organization charged with conducting the feasibility study. Since then, both PEBP and SSHIX

have been working with Manatt and have provided information, data and feedback on possible options and solutions. Manatt is expected to provide a draft report on the findings of their analysis and potential solutions by the end of November and upon input and feedback from PEBP and other agencies, Manatt will finalize their study and deliver a final report to the Legislative Commission by the end of 2020. PEBP will continue to update the Board as more information becomes available on this study.

SOLICITATIONS UPDATE

Due to the enormous amount of time that must be dedicated - not just by PEBP staff and outside evaluators, but also by the Purchasing Division, many of the solicitations staff hoped to be able to bring to the Board in November will not be able to be presented until the January Board meeting, however PEBP is confident that all necessary contractual deadlines will be met and July 1, 2021 implementations will be achieved.

PEBP is pleased to announce successful negotiations for a new Enrollment and Eligibility system with the states' currently contracted Smart 21 vendor, LSI. LSI has partnered with Benefit Focus to offer an integrated enrollment and eligibility system that should seamlessly tie into the statewide system that is due to go live in 2021.

In addition, the Purchasing Division has issued letters of intent for the Medical Network, Dental Network and HMO contracts. PEBP is in the processes of negotiating each of these so that they can be presented at the January 2021 Board meeting and subsequently included in the Board of Examiners meeting for final approval in February.

The Health Plan Auditor RFP has been finalized and submitted to Purchasing for release and the Financial Auditor RFP is undergoing review and should be submitted to Purchasing by the end of the year.

OPERATIONS UPDATE

Flu Shots

As we have in previous years, PEBP hosted two flu shot clinics during the month of October – one in Carson City and one Las Vegas. Governor Sisolak attended the event in the Carson City location to show his support and stress the importance of flu shots during the pandemic. Although PEBP expected a significant decrease in participation due to a large number of employees working from home, we still had a surprisingly strong showing with almost 300 employees receiving flu shots in Carson City and 140 in Las Vegas – which is about 50% more than we saw in 2019.

Staffing

Staffing continues to be a challenge. Although PEBP received approval to staff several open positions, internal promotions created new vacancies and supervisors have found it challenging to fill several entry level vacancies. To date, the executive level CIO position, Management

Analyst III and two member services rep (AAIII) vacancies have been filled and there is one additional recruitment for an Eligibility Specialist (AAIV) in progress. PEBP has chosen not to submit Justification to Fill requests for several other positions that have been determined to not be vital at this time, such as a front desk receptionist. To date PEBP has 30 of 34 positions filled.

CONCLUSION

With all the upcoming changes to the core plan design and possible reductions to other benefits, PEBP expects a very busy year and will be depending on each and every one of our staff to ensure PEBP's 73,000+ members receive excellent service, care and attention.