

**INSURE MONTANA**  
**Governing Board Telephone Meeting**  
**June 21, 2007**

**PRESENT BY PHONE:** Kris Wilkinson, Dara Anderson, Connie Welsh, Loretta Drean, Anna Whiting-Sorrel, Malinda Shafman, Daren Engellant, Cliff Larsen

**PRESENT AT SAO:** Lisa Crowley, Kate McIvor, Jim Edwards, Erin McGowan, Christina Goe, Betty Beverly, Helen Taffs

The meeting was called to order at approximately 3:05 pm.

Welcome to Betty Beverly and Anna Whiting-Sorrel, the new Insure Montana Board members.

Lisa reviewed enrollment numbers for the purchasing pool program. Based on current enrollment of 765 businesses, the budget is 95% expended considering sustainability. There is a remaining surplus of purchasing pool funds due to businesses enrolling after July 1, 2006. \$70,000.00 was transferred to operating expenses.

Flex plans: \$115,000.00 would cover all participating businesses with a premium only plan. Cliff recused himself from the flex plan discussion. Jim stated \$152.00 per business per month for a premium-only plan is excessive. Connie agreed more research should be done to see if we could get a lower rate, and to evaluate if this is the best use of program funds. Lisa advised we needed to allocate the funds prior to fiscal year-end or funds would revert to the Special Revenue Account. Christina advised that a vote was needed to allocate the funds with the stipulation that we continue to negotiate the cost.

Betty moved to allow up to a maximum of \$115,000 to be spent on a premium only plan; Jim seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously with Cliff abstaining.

Lisa advised that the purchasing pool has excess funds for FY 07 due to businesses enrolling over the past year and explained that the purchasing pool had to be full July 1, 2006 in order to prevent this. Lisa reviewed the option to revert some of the purchasing pool funds to the tax credit section of the program.

Cliff moved to transfer \$206,000.00 to the tax credit program to provide for a full-year tax credit instead of a 6-month tax credit for all eligible participating tax credit businesses; Jim seconded the motion; Motion passed unanimously.

Lisa requested that an additional \$292,000.00 be transferred to provide a one-time 2007 tax credit for the 52 businesses currently on the tax credit waiting list.

Cliff moved to transfer the additional funds for a one-time tax credit; Betty seconded the motion; Motion passed unanimously.

Connie then moved that the remaining \$490,000.00 in excess purchasing pool funds be moved to the tax credit program to allow for an additional 79 businesses to receive a one-time 2007 tax credit. Jim seconded the motion. Cliff commented that it is important to emphasize to the applicants that this is one time only. Erin stated that Commissioner

Morrison said this was OK with him as long as it is evident that it is one time only. Kris Wilkinson expressed that funds can only be used for businesses that have applied by the end of FY07. Lisa reassured the Board that this would be handled with the proper care. Cliff moved to amend the motion to "up to" \$490,000.00 for businesses who applied prior to 7/1/07. The motion passed unanimously as amended.

Lisa agreed to e-mail all agents and interested parties in order to get additional groups to apply.

Lisa advised that the RFP Committee needs to meet to get started on additional RFP (Request for Proposal) requests. Lisa requested the Board e-mail her their July schedules to allow her to coordinate subcommittee meetings prior to the 8/7/07 Annual Board meeting.

The next Board meeting was announced. Tuesday, August 7, 2007 at 1:00 pm in Helena. Location to be determined.

Betty moved to adjourn; Jim seconded the motion; Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 3:38 pm.