



**MINUTES
WESLACO CITY COMMISSION
SPECIAL MEETING
THURSDAY, September 10, 2020**

On this 10th day of September 2020 at 12:00 p.m. the City Commission of the City of Weslaco, Texas convened in a Special Meeting via Zoom.

Mayor Suarez called the meeting to order. The following city officials were present, a quorum was established, and the following proceedings were held.

Mayor	David Suarez
Mayor Pro-Tem	Letty Lopez
Commissioner	Greg Kerr
Commissioner	J.P. Rodriguez
Commissioner	Adrian Farias
Commissioner	Josh Pedraza
City Manager	Mike R. Perez
ACM	Andrew Muñoz
City Secretary	Norma A. Cantu
City Attorney	Juan E. Gonzalez

ABSENT: Commissioner Leo Muñoz

Also present: Vidal Roman, Finance Director, and Martin Vela, IT Director.

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Certification of Public Notice.

Mayor Suarez called the meeting to order and certified the public notice of the meeting as properly posted Monday, September 4, 2020.

B. Pledge of Allegiance.

The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance and Texas Flag.

C. Roll Call.

Norma A. Cantu, City Secretary, called the roll, noting the absence of Commissioner Muñoz and a quorum present.

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

III. NEW BUSINESS

A. Discussion and consideration to award the Group Health Insurance to the best qualified, most advantageous bidder and authorize the Mayor to execute any related documents. Possible action. (Staffed by Human Resources Department.)

Commissioner Farias abstained from vote.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez, seconded by Commissioner Lopez moved to discuss.

Mike Perez, City Manager, stated previous commission action rejected bid received for group health coverage and authorized staff to re-bid; Blue Cross Blue Shield, United Health Care and TML Healthcare Division responded to the re-bid.

Roger Garza, Consultant, stated the bids were evaluated and tabulated by staff; the best value for the city is United Health Care option 3; offers same services as current carrier (Blue Cross Blue Shield); is an HMO and PPO program; has savings to city over current carrier and offers a 9% rate cap if renewed next year. The recommendation is to award United Health Care option 3.

In response to the Mayor and Commission; the Consultant stated Knapp Medical Center is not in network for services; requested to allow staff and consultant pursue to negotiate a fee between parties involved; two facilities in Weslaco are in network; Utilization Report for Knapp Medical has not been received and would be forthcoming. Roger Garza stated health carriers determine responding to a bid based on levels of division; small, large and large employers and normally if less than 500 participants carriers may not respond. The City Manager stated Blue Cross Blue Shield was the initial respondent and had a 34% increase; rebid was 26.5% increase; United Health Carrier is 6.6% increase. The concerns of the commission was the inconvenience of transportation that could arise to the employee and family not having Knapp Medical Center as an option for medical services; if an employee seeks their services would be billed out-of-network; United Health Care is fully funded and pre-existing conditions would be covered that would include COVID. Roger Garza stated prescription drugs and copay are the same as current carrier and enrollment would begin as soon as next week once awarded; contract is for one year.

The City Manager summarized estimated savings to the City would be \$400,000 if awarded to United Health; expressed concerns to Knapp Medical and implored for the parties to negotiate an agreement feasible for all that would have Knapp Medical in network; noted six agents worked on recruitment of respondents and overviewed the agents proposed commission recommending United Health Care for the health insurance and Jeff W. Everitt, Agent of Record for Group Health at a commission level of 3%.

In response to Mayor Suarez, the commission of the agent is not embedded in the rate and invoiced separately. Mayor Suarez, Mayor Pro Tem Lopez and Commission Pedraza stated staff and consultant continue discussions with Knapp Medical and if no success solicit proposals next year.

Mayor Pro Tem Lopez, seconded by Commissioner Pedraza moved to award the Group Health Insurance to United Health Care as presented. The motion carried; Commissioner Farias abstained; Mayor Suarez was present and voting.

Commissioner Kerr seconded by Commissioner Rodriguez moved to approve Jeff W. Everitt as Agent of Record for the Group Health Insurance as presented. The motion carried; Commissioner Farias abstained; Mayor Suarez was present and voting.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Pedraza, seconded by Commissioner Farias moved to adjourn at 12:35 p.m. The motion carried unanimously; Mayor Suarez was present and voting.

CITY OF WESLACO

MAYOR, David Suarez

ATTEST:

Norma A. Cantu, CITY SECRETARY

MAYOR PRO-TEM, Letty Lopez

ABSENT

COMMISSIONER, Leo Muñoz

COMMISSIONER, Greg Kerr

COMMISSIONER, Jose “J.P.” Rodriguez

COMMISSIONER, Josh Pedraza

COMMISSIONER, Adrian Farias