



Approved by the EAC

Employees' Advisory Council - Representatives Meeting

Wednesday, June 19th, 2013, County Annex, Room 429, 2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.

- 1- Call to order was at 2:35pm by Chairman Charles Toney.
- 2- The council approved the minutes submitted for approval with a unanimous agreement.
- 3- Comments from Dave Blasewitz for Peggy Rowe

Human Resources Benefits Division proceeded to give the council an update on the new Pre-Diabetes Prevention program that was launched for county employees. It is a 16-week program in partnership with the YMCA and offers both on-site classes as well as classes at the YMCA's located in Hillsborough, Pasco and Pinellas counties. This is just for employees and covered dependents qualifying to be in this "Pre-Diabetes Prevention Program". Others that already have this disease should be in the maintenance program with assistance, if needed, from your personal wellness nurse assigned to you to answer any questions you may have.

The Assessment and Biometrics screening programs are moving along as well. Many employees have already completed this task to ensure their costs remain lower for healthcare. You can get a free Biometrics Screening at any Walgreens or CVS that has an in-house clinic and specifically tell them it is for a screening for your employer and give them your insurance card. The last day to submit the results is December 31, 2013.

Obesity has now been designated as a disease by the American Medical Association and when treated has a diagnosis code.

Many employees have asked about the shingles vaccine. According to the CDC it is not recommended for people younger than 60. For those over 60 it is very beneficial. If you feel the need to get a shingles vaccine, Walgreens offers them for \$237.00 according to Mike Powell from the Property Appraisers Office. Dave B. mentioned that they do indeed run between \$200-250 at various places and that would be your out of pocket cost since United Healthcare is not covering this vaccine at this time for younger individuals.



After this very informative discussion concerning our benefits and newest programs, we moved on to other Human Resources employees that were present to touch on various topics at hand. One suggestion was that we are welcome to run a story about our EAC Advocates program in “The Pen” and try to recruit more individuals wishing to become an advocate for their fellow employees. This would be a great avenue to appeal to the masses about this program and try to enlarge our advocate base back to where it originally started.

We were also encouraged to mention to our delegates/employees that if we have any highlights or special events that an employee has done can be sent in to “The Pen” for a special story. They welcome any new topics of interest that would capture the employee’s attention while reading.

- 4- Personnel Board- Termination appeals are scheduled at the Personnel Board meetings in August and September 2013.

- 5- Committee Reports-

Legislative - Charles Toney mentioned the article in the paper about the FRS pension changes and how some counties were blindsided by the changes to the plan. Pinellas County was not one of them, nor caught by surprise. They anticipated the changes and have directed the budget process accordingly.

The Personnel Rules Committee – Hazel Lane – the committee is still meeting and the finalization of the changes being made is on the horizon. Afterwards it will be presented to the Personnel Board for approval and then implementation of them.
Next meeting: 7-10-13

Advocates – Lisa Wombles – Suggestion to run an article in the Pen to solicit more Advocates.

- 6- Old Business- Additional information- Jim Valliere from Human Resources stated that employees experiencing any troubles in the workplace should come forward to Employee Relations or Human Rights to have matters investigated. There are avenues for employees to take and utilize for assistance in creating a better working environment.



Employees Advisory Council



to continually improve the Pinellas County classified employees' quality of work life

EAC proposed changes to the Funeral Leave will be discussed at the next Rep meeting.

Still a question as to the proposed 2.8% increase and employees above the maximum pay for their positions.

- 7- New Business- The council had another long discussion with members from Human Resources on our proposed raise. It was clarified once again that this year would be considered a general salary increase that will be added to our base salaries. Last year's onetime payment of \$1200.00 was just that, a onetime payment. This year's general increase is different in being that it is added to our salaries overall. This onetime base salary increase is this year only. According to Dave B., Peggy Rowe is looking into merit based salary increases in the future. There is more to come on this topic. EAC still prefers a combination of a COLA and a merit annually.

Bob LaSala will be our guest speaker at the EAC Delegate meeting scheduled for July 25, 2013 at the Extension Services Magnolia Room.

EAC elections were discussed with a reminder notice to those that will be up for re-election. We are still trying to fill the Clerk North Rep spot on our council with no success as of yet.

Charles Toney mentioned Veterans Honor Flights and prompted review on-line for more information.

Motion to adjourn by Lisa with second by Elaine - Meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

EAC Representatives not in attendance at this meeting: Tim Clark, Mercedes Pearson, Josh Chance