

Shon Small, Chairman
Benton County Representative

Scott Hamilton, Pro-Tem
Member at Large Representative

Don Smith
Second Law Enforcement Representative

BENTON COUNTY
Law Enforcement Officers'
and Firefighters'
Disability Board

Bob Elder
Mayors' Representative

Paul Hart
Law Enforcement Representative

Peggy Brown
Secretary

PO Box 190, Prosser, WA 99350
(509) 786-5600 Ext. 5667 FAX: (509) 786-5625

AGENDA

Wednesday, October 6, 2021
Via WebEx

2:00 PM Review of June 2, 2021 Minutes

Executive Session

- Review of Submitted Medical Claims

Hearings

Old Business

- The LEOFF Board approved increasing the dental crown and root canal limit to \$1,300 on a trial basis for the 2020 calendar year. Since Covid-19 and the appointment of a new LEOFF secretary, that trial period has come and gone. What action does the Board want to take?

New Business

- Discussion of Medevac Insurance: Per a discussion with an Asuris representative, Medicare Part B does supply some coverage for air ambulance if it's deemed "**medically necessary**" by Medicare. Medicare coverage hinges on pre-approval. A doctor must recommend air transport as being medically necessary, then the doctor/medical facility must contact Medicare for approval, and if approved Medicare will only provide partial coverage with the remainder going to secondary insurance or the patient. A patient's deductible will apply. Also, Medicare puts limits on how far any ambulance can transport you. Medicare only allows ambulance transport to the nearest hospital for care. In a nutshell, if Medicare approves **any** ambulance transport, they will pay 80% of the Medicare-approved amount after the yearly deductible is met. As the supplement to Medicare, Asuris would cover most if not all the remaining cost. If the claim was denied by Medicare, Asuris would deny the claim as well. Would LEOFF pay for claims on a case-by-case basis if Medicare/Asuris denied the claim?
- Discussion of Life Flight Network: Life Flight Network is a medical transport service available to communities throughout Oregon, Washington, Idaho, and Montana which provides helicopter, fixed-wing, and ground ambulance support to seriously ill or injured patients. Emergency responders such as law enforcement, rescue agencies, fire departments, ambulance services, and hospitals are authorized to call Life Flight Network. The general public must still call 9-1-1 for emergencies. The Life Flight Network Program is a \$69 annual membership in which members pay no out-of-pocket expenses for medically necessary emergent flights. Life Flight Network will accept an insurance payment (if any) as payment in full. Coverage includes the member, spouse, dependents

claimed on income tax returns, and elderly/disabled family members living in the same household. Life Flight can forgive up to 100% of the out-of-pocket expenses for transport to those who qualify, after their completed application has been reviewed. Payment plans and pay discounts are also offered. Is this an expense the LEOFF Board wants to look more into?

- Does LEOFF cover claims denied by the insurance such as prescriptions? If so, what documentation would the member need to supply to the Board?
- Discussion of an unusual claim from LEOFF member regarding reimbursement for hotel charges.