

Employee Council Minutes
2nd Quarterly Minutes, 2005

The 2005 Employee Council's Officers are:

Scott Nemeth -President

Julia Hardy - Treasurer

Rotating Secretary

The following topics have been discussed:

- * health insurance
- * electronic scoop
- * intranet access
- * budget process

County Administrator C.H. Huckelberry attended the June meeting and acknowledged that the increased health insurance rates have been significant over the last couple of years, and this year's costs were a ten percent (10%) increase over last year. What the County cannot give in pay raises, it pays in premium increases, although the County is trying to keep the premium increases moderate so that pay raises may be granted. Over 50% of employees use very little benefits, and most employees are over insured, which is what prompted the County to offer the new PPO Plan E with higher deductibles and lower premiums.

Mr. Huckelberry was receptive to the Council's suggestion of resurrecting 'The Scoop' in an electronic format. Recently, Mr. Huckelberry sent a letter to Appointing Authorities advising that Graphic Services will be developing 'E-Scoop' - a new electronic version of the monthly County newspaper. The Council is also looking at sponsoring an event for employees, perhaps in conjunction with the Wellness Program. All employees are invited to submit suggestions to their Council representative on the type of event they would enjoy.

For employees interested in following the budget process, they can access the Clerk of the Board web page and check for Board agendas and minutes. Additionally, budget meetings are open to the public for those employees interested in attending, who can receive permission from their departments for time off.