

Brenham City Council Minutes

A Special Meeting of the Brenham City Council was held on Wednesday, August 27, 2025 beginning at 8:30 AM in the Brenham City Hall, 2nd Floor Conference Room, at 200 W. Vulcan Street, Brenham, Texas.

Members Present:

Mayor Atwood Kenjura
Mayor Pro Tem Clint Kolby
Councilmember Leah Cook
Councilmember Paul LaRoche
Councilmember Adonna Saunders
Councilmember Albert Wright
Councilmember Steve Soman

Members Absent:

None

City of Brenham Staff Present:

City Manager Carolyn Miller, City Secretary/Director of Administrative Services
Jeana Bellinger and Director of HR and Risk Management Susan Nienstedt

Citizens/Others Present:

Judge John Durrenberger, Commissioner Misty Corn, Harrison Williams, Carrie
Marmol, Will Hampton and Mike Mallory

Media Present:

Joshua Blaschke, KWHI

1. Call Meeting to Order

REGULAR SESSION

2. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon:

- a. **An Agreement with Baylor Scott & White Health for Group Medical Coverage Benefits for the Plan Year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026;**
- b. **An Agreement with United HealthCare for Voluntary Dental and Vision Coverage Benefits for the Plan Year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026;**
- c. **An Agreement with Ochs/Securian for Employee-Sponsored Basic Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment, and Long-Term Disability Coverage Benefits for the Plan Year October 1, 2025 through**

- September 30, 2026;**
- d. An Agreement with Surency for the Administration of Flexible Spending Account/Dependent Care Reimbursement, Health Savings Account, and COBRA for the Plan Year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026;**
 - e. An Agreement with Alliance Work Partners for an Employer-Sponsored Employee Assistance Program for the Plan Year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; and**
 - f. An Agreement with FinPath for an Employer-Sponsored Financial Wellness Program for the Plan Year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026**

and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Director of HR and Risk Management Susan Nienstedt presented this item. Nienstedt explained that HUB International worked tirelessly as our benefit consultant to negotiate pricing for our lines of coverage, as well as analyzing and informing us of trends in our health and wellness position. HUB negotiated with our current medical provider, United HealthCare, for a reasonable renewal in early July; however, the increase was not acceptable at an increase of over 16%. Due to the increase, HUB requested proposals from other providers for all lines of coverage

Nienstedt advised that, based on HUB's recommendation, staff recommends the following:

- Group medical plan changing to Baylor Scott & White (BSW). This change will result in a decrease in premiums for both employees and the city. Also, the BSW plan allows employees to buy-up to the PPO, which includes out-of-network coverage, or remain in the BSW network on the HMO or HDHP/HSA plan.
- Flexible Spending, Dependent Care, and Health Savings accounts will continue to be administered by Surency and will be provided with BSW with no rate change.
- Changing our Basic Life, AD&D, and long-term disability provider to Ochs/Securian with a life insurance amount of \$50,000 for each full-time city employee. Ochs/Securian will also allow employees to purchase additional life insurance coverage for themselves and/or add coverage for their family members - which will be a newly added benefit.
- Alliance Work Partners for our Employee Assistance Program, with no rate change.
- Add a financial wellness program with FinPath. This program will help employees take control of their money with the help of trusted financial coaches and powerful online financial health tools. This benefit will be funded by the City.

A motion was made by Councilmember Wright and seconded by Councilmember Saunders to approve: (1) an agreement with Baylor Scott & White Health for Group Medical coverage benefits for the plan year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; (2) an agreement with United HealthCare for Voluntary Dental and Vision coverage benefits for the plan year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; (3) an agreement with Ochs/Securian for Employee-Sponsored Basic Life, Accidental Death and Dismemberment, and Long-Term Disability coverage benefits for the plan year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; (4) an agreement with Surency for the administration of Flexible Spending Account/Dependent Care Reimbursement, Health Savings Account, and COBRA for the plan year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; (5) an agreement with Alliance Work Partners for an Employer-Sponsored Employee Assistance Program for the plan year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026; and (6) an agreement with FinPath for an Employer-Sponsored Financial Wellness Program for the plan year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026 and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Kenjura called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Yes: Mayor Kenjura, Mayor Pro Tem Kolby, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman, Councilmember Wright

No: None

Absent: None

3. Discuss and Possibly Act Upon the Renewal of Cyber Liability and Data Breach Response Insurance Coverage with AmTrust Cyber, Billed and Collected by Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool, and Authorize the Mayor to Execute Any Necessary Documentation

Director of HR and Risk Management Susan Nienstedt presented this item. Nienstedt explained that cybersecurity coverage continues to change quickly as cybercrime increases for municipalities. As a member of the TML Intergovernmental Risk Pool (TMLIRP) we benefit from the Pool's ability to provide comparable rates to the commercial insurance market and its competitors.

Nienstedt stated that AmTrust Cyber renewal for the plan year October 1, 2025 through September 30, 2026, will remain the same cost as last year at \$44,017.69, billed and collected through Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool.

A motion was made by Councilmember Saunders and seconded by Councilmember Wright to renew the cyber liability and data breach response insurance

coverage with AmTrust Cyber, billed and collected by Texas Municipal League Intergovernmental Risk Pool and authorize the Mayor to execute any necessary documentation.

Mayor Kenjura called for a vote. The motion passed with Council voting as follows:

Yes: Mayor Kenjura, Mayor Pro Tem Kolby, Councilmember Cook, Councilmember LaRoche, Councilmember Saunders, Councilmember Soman, Councilmember Wright

No: None

Absent: None

WORK SESSION

4. Discussion and Presentation by Strategic Government Resources (SGR) on the Strategic Plan for Washington County

Mike Mallory with Strategic Government Resources (SGR) presented information on Washington County's strategic plan and the planning process involved in creating such a plan for the County. SGR also asked for feedback from City Council on several questions related to Washington County's needs, current challenges and the future of Washington County. The City Council provided the following information:

- What They Love Most About Washington County
 - Small town feel
 - Sense of community (neighbors helping neighbors)
- What They Hope Never Changes
 - Small town feel
- Washington County's Top Three (3) Needs
 - Ground water conservation
 - Infrastructure/roads
 - Support of BISD
 - Judicial center and courthouse repairs/security
 - Bringing more jobs to the area
- Washington County's Challenges
 - Affordability
 - Water
 - BISD
 - Economic Development

- What They Would Washington County to Look Like in 10 Years
 - Younger families
 - More industry
 - Medical facilities

ADJOURN

Atwood C. Kenjura

Mayor

Jeana Bellinger, TRMC, CMC

City Secretary

