Opening of Meeting: 3:06 PM

In attendance: Chair Jim Fregelette, Vice Chair Donna Walters, Trustees Eileen Fleming, Christa McHale, Fran DiFranceso, John Pope, Robert Giannicchi, Candace Reimer and Melanie Kitchen

Not in Attendance: Michelle Okal-Frink, Kleo Girandola, Barb Smith, Zachary Izard and Debra Brennan,

Also attending: Fiscal Agent, Lora Schasel; Office Coordinator, Carrie Classer and Darcie Falsioni, Esq.

Representatives from Oswald Companies: Medhat Kaldas, Gretchen Heil, John Kertis, Jessica Ihrig and Molly Berry

A. Presentations/ Informational Items

1. Fiscal Update

Lora Schasel reported on the financial period beginning July 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026. Lora advised that the Trust total assets for May 2026 were $66.5M and total equity was $51M. Received rebate revenue as of March 2026 was $5.7M from Rightway and $56K rebate revenue from Capital Rx. The Trust is still waiting on notification from RDS regarding payment of the mandatory 2% reduction of the RDS subsidy received in April 2026. Enrollment from July 1, 2025, to July 1, 2026, increased by 161 enrollees, mostly in the single coverage tier. The July 2026 enrollment numbers include the loss of 20 enrollees from West Seneca and the gain of 70 additional enrollees from the re-entry of two units from Akron. The Revenue and Disbursements for the month of May indicate net assets as of May 31, 2026, were $50.1M. The bank and investment accounts currently total $68.6M. Statement of Cashflow for Contribution Revenue is currently running at a $2.2M deficit through the end of May 2026. Our next Rx rebates are expected in June 2026. The Dental report for July 1, 2025 to May 31, 2026, shows a surplus of $108K.

B. Administrative Report

1. Update on Weight Watchers (WW), and Brook+

Molly Berry from Oswald Companies reported the following Weight Watchers metrics: As of June 1, 2026, there were 1,154 total enrollments, 1,069 unique members and 2,769 net pounds lost.

Weight Watchers for Menopause is a program offering support for women through perimenopause and post menopause. This program is at no additional cost to Weight Watchers members. June 2026 is Weight Watchers Hydration Month. On July 29, 2026, Stacey Porter will be hosting a Weight Watchers presentation during the E1B Wellness Fair.

Brook+ continues to help enrollees lose weight. Independent Health had a total of 1,169 enrolled for a total weight loss of 7,392 lbs. with an average weight loss of 5.24%. UMR had a total of 375 enrollees for a total weight loss of 1,903 lbs. with an average weight loss of 6.5%. Overall, an 11.74% total weight loss.

2. School Audits

Stacey Porter has started scheduling school audits with Benefit Administrators to be completed over the 2026 summer season. The following information will be reviewed:

a. Domestic Partner paperwork
b. Special Needs over 26 paperwork
c. Various other items that districts must have to remain with the Trust.

C. Consultant Report

1. Service Updates

Jessica Ihrig from Oswald Companies advised on the market-leading Rightway biosimilar formulary strategy. The strategy will allow clients and members to capture the full value of lower-cost alternatives, give clients the choice to implement formulary strategies that are most fitting for their populations and no medication manufacturing to retain margin. Initially 33 total members would be impacted who currently use Humira/Stelara and the Trust would implement a $0 member cost share for an enrollee who switches to a biosimilar. All Trust members that are impacted by the biosimilar formulary change will receive a letter sixty (60) days prior to the effective date of the change to allow the enrollees to collaborate with their provider to discuss moving to a biosimilar equivalent. The member is required to try at least 3 biosimilar products before being eligible to move back to the original formulary. Rightway has implemented a pathway with their navigation and utilization teams if the biosimilar is not compatible.

Rightway maintains that over 85% of their clients are currently on a biosimilar strategy and all biosimilar drugs are FDA approved for the same indicators as the original with clinical efficacy as compared to the originator products. Additionally, Rightway will meet quarterly to review any new medications and their clinical efficacy to determine if they should be added to the formulary.

Questions:

Several Trustees raised questions regarding the biosimilar formulary and Rightway's strategy.

1. Subcommittee Updates

a. Financial Committee

MedHat from Oswald Companies, reported on utilization. The previous 12 months, May 1, 2025, to April 30, 2026, average was $1,796 PEPM or 1.7% lower compared to the year. The month of April 2026, the PEPM was $1,885, which is 5% higher than the annual average. The average trend for the area is 8.3% 9.4%.

Over the past 12 months, claim costs were $143.5M or 1.8% lower compared to the previous year with average enrollment of 6,166. Enrollment of 6,210 is up by 44 from the average and up 32 from the previous 12 months.

April 2026 utilization totaled $12.0M, which is up by 8.4% from the last 12 months. The ten largest claimants comprised 12.0% of all medical claims. There are no rebates in April 2026. The Trust is expected to receive $294K reimbursement from Sun Life's Stop Loss coverage.

b. Communications Committee

John Kertis from Oswald Companies, reported on the website analytics. Website user traffic continues to increased year over year, although total views from January 1, 2026, to June 15, 2026, are down a bit from this time last year. Rightway and UMR had the most views followed by Valenz, Weight Watchers and Brook+. Newsletters and programs promote website usage, and the desktop remained the most used device.

The Valenz Bluebook Postcard was mailed on June 15, 2026. The Valenz Bluebook Postcard focuses on highlighting how Valenz Bluebook can assist enrollees on finding fair pricing, facilities in their area, diagnostic and imaging, outpatient surgery facilities and high-quality facilities for their inpatient procedures.

Additionally, enrollees will receive the following communications for the remainder of 2026 and into the beginning of 2027.

- August 2026 – Member Postcard (Rightway and App)
- August 2026 – Rightway Email Test (same as postcard)
- September 2026 – Fall Newsletter
- December 2026 – Year End Newsletter
- December 2026 – Engagement Game Postcard (Valenz Bluebook)
- January 2027 – Member Postcard (Valenz Bluebook)

c. Population Health Committee

Molly Berry from Oswald Companies indicated that July 22, 2026, is World Brain Day and July 24, 2026, is International Self-Care Day focusing on improving mental health, managing chronic conditions, preventing illness, reducing stress and enhancing quality of life. Molly thanked Maryvale School District for their Wellness Tip Submission.

The 2026-2027 Engagement Strategy allows participants to earn easy, free money for their district. The district can utilize these funds for wellness-related activities from July 1, 2026 – June 30, 2027. Rightway's Train the Trainer program has been added as an incentive to the engagement strategy.

The Wellness+ "On-Demand" Resource Center offers the following resources Wellness Tips & Information:

- IH Resources:
    - Health Diet counseling
    - Wellness Discounts
- UMR Resources:
    - Health Education Library
    - HealthyYou Quarterly Magazine

- OnePass Select (Gym Discounts)
- Nutrition & Exercise:
  - Monthly Recipe
  - Monthly Exercise Feature
- Know Before You Go Information
- Additional Programs Available to YOU:
  - Brook+
  - Weight Watchers (WW)
  - Level2 - *UMR population only*

d. Innovation Committee

Gretchen Heil from Oswald Companies advised that the Innovation Committee heard final comments from the virtual MSK vendor pilots and determined that Hinge Health was the preferred vendor based on the following factors:

- Fewer technological issues than Sword
- Enzo device is unique to Hinge and not offered by Sword.
- Pricing is more flexible for the enrollee, and the Trust is only billed for members who use the program.
- Hinge offered higher ROI.
- Hinge includes an Implementation Credit which will be used to offset the one-time file feed set up from Bswift.

Hinge Health is scheduled to present at the Finance Committee meeting on July 7, 2026.

D. General Trust Business

1. At Large Trustees from Gowanda

Donna Walters thanked Barb Smith and Zachary Izard for their participation as At Large Trustees from Gowanda.

The new At Large Trustees from Cheektowaga-Sloan who will re-join the Trust as of August 18, 2026, are Wayne Drescher (Management) and Michelle Struzik (Labor).

2. South Buffalo Charter School Withdrawal – effective July 1, 2027 (medical only)

South Buffalo Charter School's Notice of Withdrawal was sent to the Trust on June 12, 2026, and has been accepted by the Trust. The total members leaving is 83, however, this is roughly equivalent to the number of new members who joined the Trust from Akron as of July 1, 2026.

E. Approval of Minutes for Meeting Number 149, May 21, 2026.

The motion to approve the minutes from Meeting #149 held on 5/21/26, was made by Eileen Fleming seconded by John Pope and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units) No opposed.**

F. Old Business

None

G. New Business

1. **Vote on Board Resolution**
   a. Approval of 2026/2027 Board Meeting Dates

   The motion to approve the 2026/2027 Board Meeting Dates was made by Eileen Fleming and seconded by Melaine Kitchen and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units) No opposed.**

   b. Approval of Guardian Dental Agreement Renewal

   The motion to approve the Guardian Dental Agreement Renewal was made by Candace Reimer and seconded by Eileen Fleming and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units) No opposed.**

   c. Approval of 2026/2027 Administrative Budget

   The motion to approve the 2026/2027 Administrative Budget was made by Candace Reimer and seconded by Eileen Fleming and carried unanimously. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units) No opposed.**

   d. Approval of Biosimilar Formulary Change

   Trustees Melanie Kitchen and Christa McHale raised questions regarding the approval of a Biosimilar Formulary Change. Gretchen Heil from Oswald Companies will reach out to Rightway for further information. After discussion with Oswald and the Trustees, a decision was made to table the decision until additional discussions and clarifications could be made by the Trustees.

Adjournment

1. **Next Board of Trustees' Meeting will be on August 18, 2026, at 3:00 PM**

   The motion to adjourn at 4:20 PM was made by Eileen Fleming and seconded by Christa McHale and unanimously approved. **CARRIED (by both Management and Labor Units)**

Respectfully Submitted,

_____

Carrie Classer, Secretary to the Board of Trustees