

At 9:35 A.M. on Wednesday, October 29, 2025, Jeff Snyder called to order a virtual meeting of the Van Wert Area Schools Insurance Group Trustees' meeting. Members present were Mark Bagley, Ashley Breese, Brenda Core, Ruth Ann Dowler, Matt Dubé, Hollie Ford, Lori Gunderman, Todd Keller, Matt Krites, Jeff Snyder, Kaitlyn Edelbrock, Missy McClurg, Shelby Miller, and Rick Turner. Rick Turner had a proxy for Rachael Thomas. Also in attendance were Troy Bowersock, Denise Mooney, Tricia Taylor, Ashley Whetsel, Serra Hough, Ally Druckemiller, and Kris Gerken.

This meeting was to discuss stop-loss coverage options. According to Kris Gerken, stop-loss coverage does not directly impact employees. Gerken addressed that contractual agreements with Optum prevent lasers and limit rate increases. In addition, Gerken communicated the implications of gene therapy drugs on the stop-loss policy and the structure of aggregate stop-loss coverage, indicating the likelihood of aggregate claims reaching the cap.

The stop loss is currently \$1,158,954; renewal came in at \$1,753,499. Annual fixed costs currently are \$1,233,342; the renewal is \$1,821,301, for the \$150k spec limit. We have a \$2 million exposure, and according to Kris Gerken, this is ridiculously high. We are currently 7% below claims applied. There is the option to move the spec to \$175k for 2026. This will bring the fixed cost down to \$1,622,538.

VWASIG will first absorb \$175,000 of any claimant, then responsibility will go to Optum. The fixed cost would decrease, and about \$200,000 fixed-cost savings. Optum would have a risk exchange of 7.95 claimants. So far, we have three claimants who have exceeded \$175,000. Kris recommends moving to \$175,000 with Optum.

Jeff Snyder commented that taking on a higher exposure (\$175,000) would increase our opportunities for more quotes from other stop-loss carriers.

Ben Thaxton moved, and Mark Bagley seconded to renew with Optum as the stop-loss carrier and adjust the stop-loss deductible to \$175,000 for plan year 2026. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 AM. The VWASIG Trustees will meet at 9:00 A.M. on January 14, 2026 at Willow Bend Country Club.