

# COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

**From:** The City Manager

**Subject:** Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Business Association Agreement

**Manager's Recommendation:**

I recommend that the Business Association Agreement with Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Michigan (BCBSM) and the City of Saginaw be approved so that BCBSM can have access to Protected Health Information (PHI) in order to administer health care transactions for the City of Saginaw as provided for in the current approved service contract with BCBS. The Agreement has been approved by me as to substance and the City Attorney as to form. It is further recommended that City Council authorize Dennis Jordan, Director of the Office of Employee Services, to execute the Agreement.

This vendor meets all requirements of §14.23, "Vendors", of "Purchasing, Contracting, and Selling Procedure," of Chapter 14, "Finance and Purchasing, of "Title 1, "General Provisions" of the Saginaw Code of Ordinances O-1.

**Justification:**

BCBSM is the primary health care provider/administrator for the City of Saginaw. This Agreement is a release that will allow BCBSM to process benefits and claims that will keep the City of Saginaw in compliance with the Standards for Privacy of Individually Identifiable Health Information (the "Privacy Standards") set forth by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services ("HHS") pursuant to the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, ("HIPAA") and amended by the Health Information Technology for Economic and Clinical Health Act ("HITECH Act"), part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 ("ARRA") and the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008 ("GINA").

**Council Action:**

Council \_\_\_\_\_ moved that the recommendation of the City Manager be approved.