

Auburn BPW meets

(KLZA)--The Auburn Board of Public Works met on May 18th

During the meeting Leah Johnson from USI Insurance provided healthcare options for the July 1st open enrollment. Several options were presented including an Associate Plan being developed by the League Association - Risk Management (LARM). BPW is a member of LARM and is eligible to select BCBS Light at an annual cost of \$208,251.78; a -14.2% compared to the current plan.

Jane E. Eckley requested the Board review the minimum charge for electric customers that do not exceed base usage of 1500 kwh. Eckley presented data of personal usage and noted that it is difficult to keep bills low. She requested consideration to remove the minimum fee and include this amount in the usage rate. The Board expressed appreciation for the input. It was noted that minimum fees are to ensure that BPW is able to maintain infrastructure, which is a fixed cost to the company and not recuperated through usage rates. It was also noted that this is a customary practice for all utility companies BPW has low minimums in comparison surrounding communities. The Board determined at this time no action will be taken to change the rate structure.

GM Hunter provided information on water damage to the Power Plant building. Estimates were received for tuckpointing and spray foaming. Discussion was held on tuckpointing the area at a cost of \$18,000.00, versus spray foam for \$6,000.00. The Board requested additional bids to tuckpoint the area in need of repair.

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