

# Amherst County Government

Amherst County Government  
153 Washington Street  
Amherst, VA 24521

## Section 125 Premium Only Plan

### Plan Document

Effective July 01, 2024

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## Introduction

The company has adopted this Plan effective July 01, 2024. Its purpose is to provide benefits for those Employees who shall qualify hereunder and their Dependents and beneficiaries. The concept of this Plan is to allow Employees to elect between cash compensation or certain nontaxable benefit options as they desire. The Plan shall be known as the Amherst County Government Premium Only Plan (the "Plan").

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## I. Article - Definitions

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01. **"Administrator"** means the individual(s) or corporation appointed by the Employer to carry out the administration of the Plan. The Employer shall be empowered to appoint and remove the Administrator from time to time as it deems necessary for the proper administration of the plan. In the event an Administrator has not been appointed, or resigns from an appointment, the Employer shall be deemed to be the Administrator.
02. **"Benefit"** means any of the optional benefit choices available to a Participant as outlined in the Section titled: "Benefit Options".
03. **"Code"** means Section 125 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended or replaced from time to time, and any governing regulations or applicable guidance thereunder.
04. **"Compensation"** means the total cash remuneration received by the Participant from the Employer during a Plan Year, prior to any reductions pursuant to an Election to Participate form authorized hereunder.
05. **"Dependent"** means any individual who is so defined under an Insurance Contract or who is (i) a Qualifying Child (within the meaning of Code Section 152(c), subject to the exceptions of Code Section 152(b)) or Participant's child (within the meaning of Code Section 152(f)(1)) who has not attained age 27 as of the end of the taxable year, or (ii) a Qualifying Relative who qualifies as a dependent under an Insurance Contract or under (within the meaning of Code Section 152(d), subject to the exceptions of Code Section 152(b)) (as modified by Code Section 105(b)), as applicable. Certain provisions of "Michelle's Law," in which the requirement that a Dependent child have a full-time status in order to extend coverage past a stated age, will generally not apply if the child's failure to maintain full-time status is due to a medically necessary leave of absence or other change in enrollment (such as a reduction of hours). Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, the Plan will comply with Michelle's Law.
06. **"Effective Date"** means the effective date of the Plan which is July 01, 2024.
07. **"Election Period"** means the period immediately preceding the beginning of each Plan Year established by the Administrator for the election of Benefits and Salary Redirections, such period to be applied on a uniform and nondiscriminatory basis for all Employees and Participants. However, an Employee's initial Election Period shall be determined pursuant to the Section titled: "Initial Elections".
08. **"Eligible Employee"** means any Employee who has satisfied the provisions of the Section titled: "Eligibility". However, 2% shareholders as defined under Code Section 1372(b) and self-employed individuals as defined under Code Section 401(c) shall not be eligible to participate in this Plan. An individual shall not be an "Eligible Employee" if such individual is not reported on the payroll records of the Employer as a common law employee. In particular, it is expressly intended that individuals not treated as common law employees by the Employer on its payroll records are not "Eligible Employees" and are excluded from Plan participation even if a court or administrative agency determines that such individuals are common law employees and not independent contractors.
09. **"Employee"** means any person who is employed by the Employer, but generally excludes any person who is employed as an independent contractor and any person who is considered self-employed under Code Section 401(c), as well as any person who is a greater than two percent (2%) shareholder in a Subchapter S corporation, a partner in a partnership or an owner or member of a limited liability company that elects partnership status on its tax return. The term Employee shall include leased employees within the meaning of Code Section 414(n)(2), unless excluded by the terms of an Insurance Contract.
10. **"Employer"** means the Government Entity or any such entity specified in Item 1 of the Adoption Agreement, and any Affiliated Employer (as defined in the Article titled: "Definitions"), that adopts this Plan; and any successor, that maintain this Plan; and any predecessor that has maintained this Plan.
11. **"Health Savings Account"** means an account established in accordance with Code Section 223(d) to which part of any Eligible Employee's Salary Redirection amounts may be allocated.

12. **"Highly Compensated Employee"** means, for the purposes of determining discrimination, an Employee so described in Code Section 125 and the Treasury Regulations thereunder.
13. **"HSA Trustee"** means the designated Trustee (as defined under Code Section 223(d)(1)(B)) of any Trust established for qualifying account beneficiaries who elect to establish a Health Savings Account.
14. **"Insurance Contract"** means any contract issued by an Insurer underwriting a Benefit, or any self-funded arrangement providing any Benefit offered for health and welfare coverage to Eligible Employees of the Employer.
15. **"Insurance Premium Payment Plan"** means the plan of benefits contained in the Section titled: "Benefit Options" of this Plan, that provides for the payment of Premium Expenses.
16. **"Insurer"** means any insurance company that underwrites a Benefit or any self-funded arrangement under this Plan.
17. **"Key Employee"** means an employee defined in Code Section 416(i)(1) and the Treasury regulations there under.
18. **"Participant"** means any Eligible Employee who elects to become a Participant pursuant to the Section titled: "Application to Participate" and has not for any reason become ineligible to participate further in the Plan.
19. **"Plan"** means the Section 125 Premium Only Plan described in this instrument, including all amendments thereto.
20. **"Plan Year"** means the 12-month period beginning and ending on the dates specified in the Adoption Agreement. The Plan Year shall be the coverage period for the Benefits provided for under this Plan. In the event a Participant commences participation during a Plan Year, then the initial coverage period shall be that portion of the Plan Year commencing on such Participant's date of entry and ending on the last day of such Plan Year.
21. **"Premium Expenses"** or **"Premiums"** mean the Participant's cost for the insured Benefits described in the Section titled: "Benefit Options".
22. **"Regulations"** means either temporary, proposed or final regulations, as applicable, issued from the Department of Treasury, as well as any guidance or interpretations issued in connection therewith.
23. **"Salary Redirection"** means the contributions made by the Employer on behalf of Participants in accordance with the Section titled: "Salary Redirection". These contributions shall be allocated to the funds or accounts established for cost of applicable Benefits provided under the Plan pursuant to the Participants' elections made under the Article titled: "Participant Elections".
24. **"Spouse"** means "spouse" as defined in an Insurance Contract, then, for purposes of coverage under that Insurance Contract only, "spouse" shall have the meaning stated in the Insurance Contract. In all other cases, "spouse" shall have the meaning stated under applicable federal or state law.
25. **"Uniformed Services"** means the Armed Forces, the Army National Guard, and the Air National Guard when engaged in active duty for training, inactive duty training, or full-time National Guard duty, the commissioned corps of the Public Health Service, and any other category of persons designated by the President of the United States in time of war or emergency.

All other defined terms in this Plan shall have the meanings specified in the various Articles of the Plan in which they appear.

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## **II. Article - Participation**

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### **01. Eligibility**

As to each Benefit provided hereunder, any Eligible Employee shall be eligible to participate as of the date he or she satisfies the eligibility conditions set forth in the policy or plan providing such Benefit (the "Eligibility Requirements"), the provisions of which are specifically incorporated herein by reference.

### **02. Effective Date of Participation**

(a) An Eligible Employee shall become a Participant effective as of the later of the date on which he or she satisfies the Eligibility Requirements of the Plan or the Effective Date of this Plan.

(b) If an Eligible Employee terminates employment after commencing participation in the Plan, except as otherwise provided in the applicable policy or plan providing a Benefit, and such terminated Eligible Employee is rehired within 30 days or less of the date of termination of employment, such rehired Eligible Employee shall not be considered a newly eligible employee and will be reinstated with the same election(s) such individual had before termination. If a terminated Eligible Employee is rehired more than 30 days following termination of employment and is otherwise eligible to participate in the Plan, the individual shall be treated as a newly Eligible Employee and may make a new election under procedures otherwise set forth within this section or the Section titled: "Initial Elections" below as applicable.

### **03. Application to Participate**

An Employee who is eligible to participate in this Plan may, during the applicable Election Period, complete an Election to Participate form that the Administrator shall furnish to the Employee. The Election to Participate form is an irrevocable election made by the Employee to redirect and reduce taxable compensation to cover the Employee's applicable cost of Benefits elected, which shall be applicable until the end of the current Plan Year, unless the Participant is entitled to change his or her Benefit elections pursuant to the Section titled: "Change of Elections".

Such election shall be effective for the first pay period beginning on or after the Employee's effective date of participation pursuant to the Section titled: "Effective Date of Participation".

### **04. Termination of Participation**

A Participant shall no longer participate in this Plan upon the occurrence of any of the following events: (a) His or her termination of employment, subject to the provisions of the Section titled: "Termination of Employment"; (b) His or her death; or (c) The termination of this Plan, subject to the provisions of the Section titled: "Termination".

### **05. Termination of Employment**

If a Participant terminates employment with the Employer for any reason other than death, his or her participation in the Plan shall cease, subject to the Participant's right to continue coverage under any Insurance Contract for which premiums have already been paid or any other ability to continue participation in a Health Savings Account pursuant to Code Section 223.

When an Employee ceases to be a Participant, the cafeteria plan must pay the Employee any amount the Employee previously paid for coverage or Benefits to the extent the previously paid amount relates to the period from the date the Employee ceases to be a Participant through the end of that Plan Year.

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### **III. Article - Contributions to the Plan**

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#### **01. Salary Redirection**

Benefits under the Plan shall be financed by Salary Redirections sufficient to support Benefits that a Participant has elected hereunder and to pay the Participant's Premium Expenses. The salary administration program of the Employer shall allow each Participant to agree to reduce his or her pay during a Plan Year by an amount determined necessary to purchase the elected Benefit and to pay the Participant's Premium Expenses. The amount of such Salary Redirection shall be specified by the Plan Sponsor and shall be applicable for a Plan Year. Notwithstanding the above, for new Participants, the Salary Redirections shall only be applicable from the first day of the pay period following the Employee's entry date up to and including the last day of the Plan Year. These contributions shall be allocated to the funds or accounts established under the Plan pursuant to the Participants' elections made in accordance with the Article titled: "Participant Elections".

Any Salary Redirection shall be determined prior to the beginning of a Plan Year (subject to initial elections pursuant to the Section titled: "Initial Elections") and prior to the end of the Election Period and shall be irrevocable for such Plan Year. However, a Participant may revoke a Benefit election after the Plan Year has commenced and make a new Election to Participate (or decline participation on the Election to Not Participate form) with respect to the remainder of the Plan Year, if both the revocation and the new election are on account of and consistent with a change in status and such other permitted events as determined under the Article titled: "Participant Elections" of the Plan and consistent with the rules and regulations of the Department of the Treasury. Salary Redirection amounts shall be contributed on a pro rata basis for each pay period during the Plan Year. All individual Election forms are deemed to be part of this Plan and incorporated herein by reference.

#### **02. Application of Contributions**

As soon as reasonably practical after each payroll period, the Employer shall apply the Salary Redirections to provide the Benefits elected by the affected Participants. Any contributions made or withheld from an Employee's compensation, pursuant to the Employee's signed Election to Participate for the Health Savings Account shall be credited to such account. Amounts designated for the Participant's Premium Expense Reimbursement Account shall likewise be credited to such account for the purpose of paying Premium Expenses.

#### **03. Periodic Contributions**

Notwithstanding the requirement provided above and in other Articles of this Plan that Salary Redirections be contributed to the Plan by the Employer on behalf of an Employee on a level and pro rata basis for each payroll period, the Employer and Administrator may implement a procedure in which Salary Redirections are contributed throughout the Plan Year on a periodic basis that is not pro rata for each payroll period. In the event Salary Redirections are not made on a pro rata basis, upon termination of participation, a Participant may be entitled to a refund of such Salary Redirections pursuant to the Section titled: "Termination of Employment".

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## **IV. Article - Benefits**

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### **01. Benefit Options**

Each Participant may elect to have his or her full compensation paid to him in taxable compensation or elect to have the amount of his or her Salary Redirection amounts applied to any one or more of the optional Benefits or any other group-insured or self-funded Benefit permitted under Code Section 125, that is offered by the Employer as set forth in the Adoption Agreement. If selected as an available Benefit Option under the Employer's Adoption Agreement, each Eligible Individual may elect coverage under the Health Savings Account Program option, in which case the Article titled: "Health Savings Account Program" shall apply.

The Employer may select suitable health and hospitalization Insurance Contracts for use in providing health Benefits, which policies will provide uniform benefits for all Participants electing this Benefit.

### **02. Description of Benefits**

Each Eligible Employee may elect to have the Administrator pay those contributions that the Employee is required to make to the Benefit options described under the Section titled: "Benefit Options", as a condition for the Employee and his or her Dependents to participate in those Benefit options.

### **03. Nondiscrimination Requirements**

(a) It is the intent of this Plan to provide benefits to a classification of Employees that the Secretary of the Treasury finds not to be discriminatory in favor of the group in whose favor discrimination is prohibited under Code Section 125 or applicable Regulations thereunder.

(b) If the Administrator deems it necessary, in order, to avoid discrimination or possible taxation to Highly Compensated Employees, Key Employees or a group of employees in whose favor discrimination is prohibited by Code Section 125, it may, but shall not be required to, reduce contributions or non-taxable Benefits in order to assure compliance with this section. Any act taken by the Administrator under this section shall be carried out in a uniform and nondiscriminatory manner. If the Administrator decides to reduce contributions or non-taxable Benefits, it shall be done in the following manner. First, the non-taxable Benefits of the affected Participant (either an employee who is highly compensated or a Key Employee, whichever is applicable) who has the highest amount of non-taxable Benefits for the Plan Year shall have his or her non-taxable benefits reduced until the discrimination tests set forth in this Section are satisfied or until the amount of his or her non-taxable Benefits equals the non-taxable Benefits of the affected Participant who has the second highest amount of non-taxable Benefits. This process shall continue until the nondiscrimination tests set forth in this Section are satisfied. With respect to any affected Participant who has had Benefits reduced pursuant to this Section, the reduction shall be made proportionately among all insured Benefits. Contributions which are not utilized to provide Benefits to any Participant by virtue of any administrative act under this paragraph shall be forfeited and deposited into the Plan surplus.

### **04. Non-Tax Dependent Coverage**

- a. If (i) Employee Salary Redirections are made to fund Benefits under the Plan, and (ii) the Employer allows a Participant to elect to cover a Non-Tax Dependent through the Participant's coverage under group Medical, Dental or Vision benefit(s), a Participant who elects to participate in the Salary Redirection program may pay on a pre-tax basis through salary reduction contributions the Participant's portion of the premium cost of coverage under the Employer's Medical, Dental or Vision Benefits, provided that the full fair market value of such Medical, Dental or Vision coverage for any such Non-Tax Dependent shall be includible in the Participant's gross income as a taxable benefit in accordance with applicable federal income tax rules. For purposes of this Plan, the Participant electing coverage for Non-Tax Dependent(s) shall be treated as receiving, at the time that coverage is received, cash compensation equal to the full fair market value of such coverage and then as having purchased the coverage with after-tax employee contributions.



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## **V. Article - Participant Elections**

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### **01. Initial Elections**

An Employee who meets the Eligibility Requirements of the Plan on the first day of, or during, a Plan Year may elect to participate in this Plan for all or the remainder of such Plan Year, provided he or she elects to do so before his or her effective date of participation pursuant to the Section titled: "Effective Date of Participation". or for a newly eligible Employee, no more than 30 days after their date of hire. For any such newly Eligible Employee, if coverage is effective as of the date of hire pursuant to the Section titled: "Eligibility" above, such Employee shall be eligible to participate retroactively as of their date of hire. Newly Eligible Employee Election amounts will be collected the first pay period on or after his or her election was received. However, if such Employee does not complete an application to participate and a benefit election form and deliver them to the Administrator before such date, his or her Election Period shall extend 30 calendar days after such date, or for such further period as the Administrator shall determine and apply on a uniform and nondiscriminatory basis. However, any election during the extended 30-day election period pursuant to this Section shall not be effective until the first pay period following the later of such Participant's effective date of participation pursuant to the Section titled: "Effective Date of Participation" or the date of the receipt of the election form by the Administrator, and shall be limited to the Benefit expenses incurred for the balance of the Plan Year for which the election is made. Any failure to elect the Benefits set forth herein shall constitute an Employee's election to not participate in the Plan during that Plan Year until a valid election is otherwise made in the manner set forth herein.

### **02. Subsequent Annual Elections**

During the Election Period prior to each subsequent Plan Year, each Participant shall be given the opportunity to elect, on an election of benefits form to be provided by the Administrator, which Benefit options he or she wishes to select and purchase with his or her Cafeteria Plan Benefit Dollars. Any such election shall be effective for any Benefit expenses incurred during the Plan Year that follows the end of the Election Period. With regard to such subsequent annual elections, the following options shall apply:

- a. An existing Participant may elect new or different Benefits under the Plan during the Election Period; and an Employee who failed to initially elect to participate may elect to participate in the Plan during the Election Period;
- b. A Participant may terminate his or her participation in the Plan by notifying the Administrator in writing during the Election Period that he or she does not want to participate in the Plan for the next Plan Year;
- c. An Employee who elects to not participate for the Plan Year following the Election Period will have to wait until the next Election Period before again electing to participate in the Plan, except as provided for in the Section titled: "Change of Elections".

### **03. Failure to Elect**

Any Participant failing to complete a new election of benefits form pursuant to the Section titled: "Subsequent Annual Elections" by the end of the applicable Election Period shall be deemed to have elected not to participate in the Plan for the upcoming Plan Year. No further Salary Redirections shall therefore be authorized or made for such subsequent Plan Year for such Benefits.

### **04. Change of Elections**

- a. Any Participant may change a Benefit election after the Plan Year has commenced and make new elections with respect to the remainder of such Plan Year if, under the facts and circumstances, the changes are necessitated by and are consistent with a change in status that is recognized under rules and regulations adopted by the Department of the Treasury. Notwithstanding anything herein to the contrary, if the rules and regulations conflict with provisions of this Plan, then such rules and regulations shall control.

In general, a change in election is not consistent if the change in status is the Participant's divorce, annulment or legal separation from a spouse, the death of a spouse or dependent, or a dependent ceasing to satisfy the Eligibility Requirements for coverage, and the Participant's election under the Plan is to cancel accident or health insurance coverage for any individual other than the one involved in such an event. In addition, if the Participant, spouse or dependent gains or loses eligibility for coverage under a family member's plan as a result of a change in marital status or a change in employment status, then a Participant's election under the Plan to cease or decrease coverage for that individual under the Plan is consistent with that change in status only if coverage for that individual becomes applicable or is increased under the family member's plan.

Regardless of the consistency requirement, if the individual, the individual's spouse, or dependent, becomes eligible for continuation coverage under the Employer's group health plan as provided in Code Section 4980B or any similar state law, then the individual may elect to increase payments under this Plan in order to pay for the continuation coverage. However, this does not apply for COBRA eligibility due to divorce, annulment or legal separation.

Any new election shall be effective at such time as the Administrator shall prescribe, but not earlier than the first pay period beginning after the election form is completed and returned to the Administrator. For the purposes of this subsection, a change in status shall only include the following events or other events permitted by Treasury regulations:

1. Legal Marital Status: events that change a Participant's legal marital status, including marriage, divorce, death of a spouse, legal separation or annulment;
  2. Number of Dependents: Events that change a Participant's number of dependents, including birth, adoption, placement for adoption, or death of a dependent;
  3. Employment Status: Any of the following events that change the employment status of the Participant, spouse, or dependent: termination or commencement of employment, a strike or lockout, commencement of return from an unpaid leave of absence, or a change in worksite. In addition, if the eligibility conditions of this Plan or another employee benefit plan of the employer of the spouse, or dependent, depend on the employment status of that individual and there is a change in that individual's employment status with the consequence that the individual becomes (or ceases to be) eligible under the applicable plan, then that change constitutes a change in employment under this subsection;
  4. Dependent satisfies or ceases to satisfy the Eligibility Requirements: an event that causes the Participant's dependent to satisfy or cease to satisfy the requirements for coverage due to attainment of age, student status, or any similar circumstance; and
  5. Residency: A change in the place of residence of the Participant, spouse or dependent.
- b. Notwithstanding subsection (a), affected Participants may change an election for accident or health coverage during a Plan Year and make a new election in accordance with the special enrollment rights provided in Code Section 9801(f) pertaining to HIPAA special enrollment rights or the Family and Medical Leave Act.

An affected Participant may change an election for accident or health coverage during a Plan Year and make a new election in accordance with the special enrollment rights provided in Code Section 9801(f), including those authorized under the provisions of the Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009 (CHIP); provided that such Participant meets the sixty (60) day notice requirement imposed by Code Section 9801(f) (or such longer period as may be permitted by the Plan and communicated to Participants).

Such change shall take place on a prospective basis, unless required by Code Section 9801(f) to be retroactive.

- c. Notwithstanding subsection (a), in the event of a judgment, decree, or order ("order") resulting from a divorce, legal separation, annulment, or change in legal custody (including a qualified medical child support order defined in ERISA Section 609) that requires accident or health coverage for a Participant's child (including a foster child who is a dependent of the Participant):
1. The Plan may change an election in order to provide coverage for the child if the order requires coverage under the Participant's plan; or
  2. The Participant shall be permitted to change an election in order to cancel coverage for the child if the order requires the former spouse to provide coverage for such child, under that individual's plan, and such coverage is actually provided.
- d. Notwithstanding subsection (a), Participants may change elections in order to cancel accident or health coverage for the Participant or the Participant's spouse or dependent if the Participant or the Participant's spouse or dependent is enrolled in the accident or health coverage of the Employer and becomes entitled to coverage (i.e., enrolled) under Part A or Part B of the Title XVIII of the Social Security Act (Medicare) or Title XIX of the Social Security Act (Medicaid), other than coverage consisting solely of benefits under section 1928 of the Social Security Act (the program for distribution of pediatric vaccines). If the Participant or the Participant's spouse or dependent who has been entitled to Medicaid or Medicare coverage loses such eligibility, that individual may prospectively elect coverage under the Plan if a benefit package option under the Plan provides similar coverage.
- e. Notwithstanding subsection (a), Participants may make a prospective election change to add group health coverage for the Participant or the Participant's spouse or dependent if the Participant or the Participant's spouse or dependent loses coverage under any group health

coverage sponsored by a governmental or educational institution, including (but not limited to) the following: a state children's health insurance program (CHIP) under Title XXI of the Social Security Act; a medical care program of an Indian Tribal government (as defined in Code Section 7701 (a) (40)), the Indian Health Service, or a tribal organization; a state health benefits risk pool; or a foreign government group health plan, subject to the terms and limitations of the applicable benefit package option(s).

Further, if the Participant or the Participant's spouse or dependent who has been entitled to Medicare or Medicaid loses eligibility for such coverage, the Participant may elect to prospectively commence or increase the accident or health coverage of the individual who loses Medicare or Medicaid eligibility.

- f. Notwithstanding subsection (a), if the cost of a Benefit provided under the Plan increases or decreases during a Plan Year, then the Plan shall automatically increase or decrease, as the case may be, the Salary Redirections of all affected Participants for such Benefit. Alternatively, if the cost of a benefit package option increases significantly, the Administrator shall permit the affected Participants to either make corresponding changes in their payments or revoke their elections and, in lieu thereof, receive on a prospective basis coverage under another benefit package option with similar coverage; or drop coverage prospectively if there is no other benefit package option available that provides similar coverage. This Plan treats coverage by another employer, such as a spouse's or dependent's employer, as similar coverage.

A cost increase or decrease refers to an increase or decrease in the amount of elective contributions under the Plan, whether resulting from an action taken by the Participants, an action taken by the Employer, or an action taken by an Insurer.

- g. Notwithstanding subsection (a), if the cost of a Benefit package option provided under the plan decreases significantly during a Plan Year, the Administrator shall permit the affected Participants to make corresponding changes in their payments; and employees who are otherwise eligible under the Plan may elect the Benefit package option, subject to the terms and limitations of the Benefit package option.

If the coverage under a Benefit is significantly curtailed, and such curtailment results in a complete loss of coverage, affected Participants may revoke their elections of such Benefit and, in lieu thereof, elect to receive on a prospective basis coverage under another plan with similar coverage, or drop coverage prospectively if there is no other Benefit package option available that provides similar coverage.

If the coverage under a Benefit is significantly curtailed, and such curtailment does not result in a loss of coverage, affected Participants may revoke their elections of such Benefit and, in lieu thereof, elect to receive on a prospective basis coverage under another plan with similar coverage.

If, during the period of coverage, a new Benefit package option or other coverage option is added (or an existing Benefit package option or other coverage option is eliminated) or a significantly improved existing Benefit package option is added, then the affected Participants and employees who are otherwise eligible under the Plan may elect the newly-added or significantly improved option (or elect another option if an option has been eliminated) prospectively and make corresponding election changes with respect to other Benefit package options providing similar coverage.

- h. Notwithstanding subsection (a), a Participant may make a prospective election change to add group health coverage for the Participant, or the Participant's Spouse or Dependent, if such individual loses group health coverage under a governmental or educational institution, including a state children's health insurance program under the Social Security Act, the Indian Health Service or a health program offered by an Indian tribal government, a state health benefits risk pool, or a foreign government group health plan.
- i. Health Savings Account changes. Notwithstanding subsection (a), with regard to the Health Savings Account Benefit specified in the Article titled: "Benefits", a Participant who has elected to make elective contributions under such arrangement may modify or revoke the election prospectively, provided such change is consistent with Code Section 223 and the Treasury regulations thereunder.

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## **VI. Article - Health Savings Account Program**

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### **01. Establishment of Program**

This Health Savings Account Program (hereinafter the "HSA") is intended to qualify as a program under Code Section 223 and shall be interpreted in a manner consistent with such Code Section. The Health Savings Account Program is provided and administered by the HSA Trustee.

### **02. Coordination with Premium Only Plan Benefits**

All Participants in the Premium Only Plan are eligible to receive Benefits under this HSA, as long as they otherwise meet the definition of an Eligible Individual set forth in Code Section 223. The Employer may allow Employees to make contributions to the HSA with pre-tax dollars, as governed and elected under the Adoption Agreement. In circumstances in which Employees are allowed to make pre-tax contributions to the HSA, the Employer shall also have the option of making contributions to the Employee's HSA as well, through usage of this Plan and as otherwise set forth herein after consideration of, among other provisions. The Articles titled: "Contributions to the Plan", and "Benefits" as they relate to applicability of Employer contributions and applicable nondiscrimination standards. The enrollment and termination of participation under the Premium Only Plan shall constitute enrollment and termination of participation under this HSA. In addition, other matters concerning contributions, elections and the like shall be governed by the general provisions of this Premium Only Plan.

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## **VII. Article - Administration**

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### **01. Plan Administration**

The Employer shall be the Administrator, unless the Employer elects otherwise. The Employer may appoint any person or persons, including, but not limited to, one or more Employees of the Employer, to perform the duties of the Administrator. Any person so appointed shall signify acceptance by filing written acceptance with the Employer. An Administrator may resign by delivering a written resignation to the Employer, to take effect at a date specified therein, or upon delivery to the Employer if no date is specified. The Administrator may be removed by the Employer by delivering a written notice of removal to the Administrator, to take effect at a date specified therein, or upon delivery to the Administrator if no date is specified. Upon the resignation or removal of any individual performing the duties of the Administrator, the Employer may designate a successor.

The operation of the Plan shall be under the supervision of the Administrator. It shall be a principal duty of the Administrator to see that the Plan is carried out in accordance with its terms, and for the exclusive benefit of Employees entitled to participate in the Plan. The Administrator shall have full power to administer the Plan in all of its details, subject, however, to the pertinent provisions of the Code. The Administrator's powers shall include, but shall not be limited to the following authority, in addition to all other powers provided by this Plan:

- a. To make and enforce such rules and regulations as the Administrator deems necessary or proper for the efficient administration of the Plan;
- b. To interpret the Plan, the Administrator's interpretations thereof in good faith to be final and conclusive on all persons claiming benefits by operation of the Plan;
- c. To decide all questions concerning the Plan and the eligibility of any person to participate in the Plan and to receive benefits provided under the Plan;
- d. To reject elections or to limit contributions or Benefits for certain Highly Compensated Participants if it deems such to be desirable in order to avoid discrimination under the Plan in violation of applicable provisions of the Code;
- e. To provide Employees with a reasonable notification of their benefits available under the Plan;
- f. To keep and maintain the Plan documents and all other records pertaining to and necessary for the administration of the Plan;
- g. To keep and communicate procedures to determine whether a medical child support order is qualified under ERISA Section 609; and
- h. To appoint such agents, counsel, accountants, consultants, and actuaries as may be required to assist in administering the Plan.

Any procedure, discretionary act, interpretation or construction taken by the Administrator shall be done in a nondiscriminatory manner based upon uniform principles consistently applied and shall be consistent with the intent that the Plan shall continue to comply with the terms of Code Section 125 and the Treasury regulations thereunder.

### **02. Examination of Records**

The Administrator shall make available to each Participant, Eligible Employee and any other Employee of the Employer such records as pertain to their respective interests under the Plan for examination at reasonable times during normal business hours.

### **03. Payment of Expenses**

Any reasonable administrative expenses shall be paid by the Employer unless the Employer determines that administrative costs shall be borne by the Participants under the Plan or by any Trust Fund which may be established hereunder. The Administrator may impose reasonable conditions for payments, provided that such conditions shall not discriminate in favor of Highly Compensated Employees.

### **04. Application of Benefit Plan Surplus**

Any forfeited amounts credited to the Benefit Plan surplus by virtue of the failure of a Participant to incur a qualified expense may, but need not be, separately accounted for after the close of the Plan Year in which such forfeitures arose. In no event shall such amounts be carried over to reimburse a Participant for expenses incurred during a subsequent Plan Year for the same or any other Benefit available under the Plan; nor shall amounts forfeited by a particular Participant be

made available to such Participant in any other form or manner, except as permitted by Treasury regulations. Amounts in the Benefit Plan surplus shall first be used to defray any administrative costs and experience losses and thereafter be retained by the Employer.

05. **Insurance Control Clause**

In the event of a conflict between the terms of this Plan and the terms of an Insurance Contract of a particular Insurer or other benefit program that is self-insured whose product is then being used in conjunction with this Plan, the terms of the Insurance Contract shall control as to those Participants receiving coverage under such Insurance Contract. For this purpose, the Insurance Contract shall control in defining the persons eligible for insurance, the dates of their eligibility, the conditions which must be satisfied to become insured, if any, the Benefits Participants are entitled to and the circumstances under which insurance terminates.

06. **Indemnification of Administrator**

The Employer agrees to indemnify and to defend to the fullest extent permitted by law any Employee serving as the Administrator or as a member of a committee designated as Administrator (including any Employee or former Employee who previously served as Administrator or as a member of such committee) against all liabilities, damages, costs and expenses (including attorney's fees and amounts paid in settlement of any claims approved by the Employer) occasioned by any act or omission to act in connection with the Plan, if such act or omission is in good faith.

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## **VIII. Article - Amendment or Termination of Plan**

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### **01. Amendment**

The Employer, at any time or from time to time, may amend any or all of the provisions of the Plan without the consent of any Employee or Participant. No amendment shall have the effect of modifying any benefit election of any Participant in effect at the time of such amendment, unless such amendment is made to comply with federal, state or local laws, statutes or regulations.

### **02. Termination**

The Employer is establishing this Plan with the intent that it will be maintained for an indefinite period of time. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the Employer reserves the right to terminate the Plan, in whole or in part, at any time. In the event the Plan is terminated, no further contributions shall be made. Benefits under any Insurance Contract shall be paid in accordance with the terms of the Contract.

Any amounts remaining in any such fund or account as of the end of the Plan Year in which Plan termination occurs shall be forfeited and deposited in the Benefit Plan surplus.

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## **IX. Article - Miscellaneous**

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### **01. Plan Interpretation**

All provisions of this Plan shall be governed and interpreted by the Employer, or it's delegated Administrator, as applicable, in its full and complete discretion and shall be otherwise applied in a uniform, nondiscriminatory manner. This Plan shall be read in its entirety and not severed except as provided in the Section titled: "Severability".

### **02. Gender and Number**

Wherever any words are used herein in the masculine, or feminine, or are gender neutral, they shall be construed as though they were also used in another gender in all cases where they would so apply, and whenever any words are used herein in the singular or plural form, they shall be construed as though they were also used in the other form in all cases where they would so apply.

### **03. Written Document**

This Plan document, in conjunction with any separate written document which may be required by law, is intended to satisfy the written Plan requirement of Code Section 125 and any Regulations thereunder relating to Cafeteria Plans.

### **04. Exclusive Benefit**

This Plan shall be maintained for the exclusive benefit of the Employees who participate in the Plan.

### **05. Participant's Rights**

This Plan shall not be deemed to constitute an employment contract between the Employer and any Participant or to be a consideration or an inducement for the employment of any Participant or Employee. Nothing contained in this Plan shall be deemed (i) to give any Participant, or (ii) Employee the right to be retained in the service of the Employer or to interfere with the right of the Employer to discharge any Participant or Employee at any time regardless of the effect which such discharge shall have upon him as a Participant of this Plan.

### **06. Action by the Employer**

Whenever under the terms of the Plan the Employer is permitted or required to do or perform any act or matter or thing, it shall be done and performed by a person duly authorized by the Employer to do so.

### **07. Employer's Protective Clauses**

- a. Upon the failure of the Employer to obtain the insurance contemplated by this Plan (whether as a result of negligence, gross neglect or otherwise), a Participant's Benefits shall be limited to the insurance premium(s), if any, that remained unpaid for the period in question and the actual insurance proceeds, if any, received by the Employer or the Participant as a result of the Participant's claim.
- b. The Employer's liability to a Participant shall only extend to and shall be limited to any payment actually received by the Employer from the Insurer. In the event that the full insurance Benefit contemplated is not promptly received by the Employer within a reasonable time after submission of a claim, then the Employer shall notify the Participant of such facts and the Employer shall no longer have any legal obligation whatsoever (except to execute any document called for by a settlement reached by the Participant). The Participant shall be free to settle, compromise or refuse the claim as the Participant, in his or her sole discretion, shall see fit.
- c. The Employer shall not be responsible for the validity of any Insurance Contract issued hereunder or for the failure on the part of the Insurer to make payments provided for under any Insurance Contract. Once insurance is applied for or obtained, the Employer shall not be liable for any loss which may result from the failure to pay Premiums to the extent Premium notices are not received by the Employer.

### **08. No Guarantee of Tax Consequences**

Neither the Administrator nor the Employer makes any commitment or guarantee that any amounts paid to or for the benefit of a Participant under the Plan will be excludable from the Participant's gross income for federal or state income tax purposes, or that any other federal or state tax treatment will apply to or be available to any Participant. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the rights of Participants under this Plan shall be legally enforceable.

### **09. Indemnification of Employer by Participants**



If any Participant receives one or more payments or reimbursements under the Plan that are not for a permitted Benefit, such Participant shall indemnify and reimburse the Employer for any liability it may incur for failure to withhold federal or state income tax or Social Security tax from such payments or reimbursements. However, such indemnification and reimbursement shall not exceed the amount of additional federal and state income tax that the Participant would have owed if the payments or reimbursements had been made to the Participant as regular cash compensation, plus the Participant's share of any Social Security tax that would have been paid on such compensation, less any such additional income and Social Security tax actually paid by the Participant.

**10. Funding**

Unless otherwise required by law, contributions to the Plan need not be placed in trust or dedicated to a specific Benefit, but shall instead be considered general assets of the Employer until the Premium Expense required under the Plan has been paid. Furthermore, and unless otherwise required by law, nothing herein shall be construed to require the Employer or the Administrator to maintain any fund or segregate any amount for the benefit of any Participant, and no Participant or other person shall have any claim against, right to, or security or other interest in, any fund, account or asset of the Employer from which any payment under the Plan may be made.

**11. Governing Law**

This Plan is governed by the Code and the Treasury regulations issued thereunder (as they might be amended from time to time). In no event does the Employer guarantee the favorable tax treatment sought by this Plan. To the extent not preempted by federal law, the provisions of this Plan shall be construed, enforced and administered according to the laws of the state of Virginia.

**12. Severability**

If any provision of the Plan is held invalid or unenforceable, its invalidity or unenforceability shall not affect any other provisions of the Plan, and the Plan shall be construed and enforced as if such provision had not been included herein.

**13. Captions**

The captions contained herein are inserted only as a matter of convenience and for reference, and in no way define, limit, enlarge, or describe the scope or intent of the Plan, nor in any way shall they affect the Plan or the construction of any provision thereof.

**14. Continuation of Coverage**

Notwithstanding anything in the Plan to the contrary, in the event any benefit under this Plan subject to the continuation coverage requirement of Code Section 4980B becomes unavailable, each Participant will be entitled to continuation coverage as prescribed in Code Section 4980B.

**15. Family and Medical Leave Act**

Notwithstanding any provision in this Plan to the contrary, if a Participant goes on a qualifying unpaid leave under the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA), to the extent required by the FMLA and, after consideration of Treasury Regulation Section 1.125-3 as applicable, the Employer will continue to maintain the Participant's benefits under this Plan on the same terms and conditions as though he/she were still an active Employee (i.e., the Employer will continue to pay its share of the premium to the extent the Employee opts to continue his or her coverage). If the Employee opts to continue his or her coverage, the Employee may pay his or her share of the premium with after-tax dollars while on leave (or pre-tax dollars to the extent he/she receives compensation during the leave), or the Employee may be given the option to pre-pay all or a portion of his or her share of the premium for the expected duration of the leave on a pre-tax salary reduction basis out of his or her pre-leave Compensation by making a special election to that effect prior to the date such Compensation would normally be made available to him or her (provided, however, that pre-tax dollars may not be utilized to fund coverage during the next plan year), or via other arrangements agreed upon between the Employee and the Administrator (e.g., the Administrator may fund coverage during the leave and withhold "catch-up" amounts upon the Employee's return). Upon return from such leave, the Employee will be permitted to reenter the Plan on the same basis the Employee was participating in the Plan prior to his or her leave, or as otherwise required by the FMLA.

Furthermore, if a Participant goes on a qualifying paid leave under the FMLA, to the extent required by the FMLA, the Employee will continue coverage while on FMLA by the method normally used during any paid leave.

In all instances, a paid or unpaid leave under FMLA will be treated in the same manner and consistent with a non-FMLA paid or unpaid leave.

**16. Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act**

Notwithstanding anything in this Plan to the contrary, this Plan shall be operated in accordance with HIPAA and regulations thereunder.

17. **Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act**

Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan to the contrary, contributions, benefits and service credit with respect to qualified military service shall be provided in accordance with USERRA and the regulations thereunder, as well as any other applicable Regulations specific to the rights and obligations of Employers with Employees on active military leave.

18. **Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act**

Notwithstanding any provision of this Plan to the contrary, this Plan shall be operated in accordance with GINA and regulations thereunder.

# Adoption Agreement

## For Amherst County Government Section 125 Premium Only Plan

The undersigned Employer adopted the Premium Only Plan for those Employees who shall qualify as Participants thereunder. It shall be effective as of the date specified below. The Employer hereby selects the following Plan specifications:

- 1. **Name of Employer:** Amherst County Government
- 2. **Effective Date:** This adopted Premium Only Plan shall be effective as of **July 01, 2024**
- 3. **Plan Year:** Your Plan's records are maintained on the basis of a twelve-month period. This is known as the Plan Year. The adopted plan year begins on July 01 and ends on June 30.
- 4. **Employer's Principal Office:**  
153 Washington Street  
Amherst, VA 24521
- 5. **Benefits:** All the benefits listed below are included in this plan:
  - **Health Plan.** Premiums that are payroll deducted on a pre-tax basis may include the following:
    - Group Medical Plan
    - Group Dental Plan
    - Group Vision Plan
    - Voluntary Benefit(s)

AMHERST COUNTY GOVERNMENT

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

# CERTIFICATE OF RESOLUTION

The undersigned authorized representative of **Amherst County Government** (the Employer) hereby certifies that the following resolutions were duly adopted by the governing body of the Employer on \_\_\_\_\_, and that such resolutions have not been modified or rescinded as of the date hereof:

**RESOLVED**, that the form of Welfare Benefit Plan, effective July 01, 2024, presented to this meeting (and a copy of which is attached hereto) is hereby approved and adopted, and that the proper agents of the Employer are hereby authorized and directed to execute and deliver to the Administrator of said Plan one or more counterparts of the Plan.

**RESOLVED**, that the Administrator shall be instructed to take such actions that the Administrator deems necessary and proper in order to implement the Plan, and to set up adequate accounting and administrative procedures for the provision of benefits under the Plan.

**RESOLVED**, that the proper agents of the Employer shall act as soon as possible to notify the employees of the Employer of the adoption of the Plan and to deliver to each employee a copy of the Summary Plan Description of the Plan, which Summary Plan Description is attached hereto and is hereby approved.

The undersigned further certifies that attached hereto as Exhibits, are true copies of Amherst County Government's Benefit Plan Document and Summary Plan Description approved and adopted at this meeting.

Amherst County Government

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_