

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
January 27, 2009**

I. Call to Order

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27th day of January, 2009, at 9:02 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance, with the following members present: Chairperson J. Mark Wedel; Commissioners Paul Bailey, Brian Napstad, Galen Tveit, and Laurie Westerlund; and others present included: Patrick Wussow, County Administrator; Tom Burke, H&HS Director; Staff Members Susan Cebelinski, Social Service Supervisor; Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor; Ruth Sundermeyer, Child Support/Collections Supervisor; Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Nanci Sauerbrei, Aitkin Independent Age; Roberta Elvecrog & Dave Leaf, Health & Human Service Advisory Committee Members; Gary Lamke, Georgia Johnson, Connie Pettersen, Citizens.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, and carried, the vote was to approve the Agenda as presented.

IV. Review December 23, 2008 Health & Human Service Board Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, and carried, the vote was to approve the December 23, 2008 Health & Human Service Board Minutes as mailed.

V. Review Bills

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Tveit, and carried, the vote was to approve the bills as presented this date.

VI. Contracts:

- A. Purchase of Service Agreement between NE MN Office of Job Training & ACHHS for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.** Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Bailey, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Purchase of Service Agreement between NE MN Office of Job Training & ACHHS for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.
- B. Purchase of Service Agreement between Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency & ACHHS for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.** Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Purchase of Service Agreement between Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency & ACHHS for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.
- C. Agreement between Northland Counseling Center and Aitkin County for Detoxification Services for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.** Motion by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Tveit, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Agreement between Northland Counseling Center and Aitkin County for Detoxification Services for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.
- D. Purchase of Service Agreement between CORE Psychological Services and ACHHS for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.** Motion by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Purchase of Service Agreement between CORE Psychological Services and ACHHS for the period January 1, 2009 to December 31, 2009.

VII. General/Miscellaneous Information

A. Legislative Updates – Tom Burke updated the Board that the Directors attending MACSSA attended both the House and Senate sessions for the MOE (Maintenance of Effort) discussions. There were very good presentations by five directors. Jim Mulder anchored the talks in both the House and Senate. The Finance person for the Governor spoke last and both groups voted down the repealed languages from last year. The four critical service areas of MOE’s are Mental Health, Child Care, Detox, and Libraries. We would like to see the MOE’s taken out and be allowed more flexibility with the dollars. The money available is tight and the counties need to look at prioritizing, find better ways of using the dollars and find ways of reporting the outcomes. In Aitkin County, we continue to see a large upturn in requests for services, especially in the income maintenance area. At a recent Food Shelf meeting, they noted a huge influx of first time users as well as senior citizens on fixed incomes, some of whom, in the past, were donors to the food shelf.

VIII. Administrative Reports:

- A. Financial Report - Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor, noted there are two financial reports, one for the nearly final 2008 year and then the 2009 first month statement as well as the attached foster care report. Unduplicated amount of children in placement is down about 12 children with expenditures up about \$16,000 but in 2008 we had more Rule 5 placements. It can be just one or two children that throw the numbers out of whack because of those higher costing placements. We try to look at 6 to 9 months in a Rule 5 placement with the hope of sending the child home with outpatient treatment or use a step down approach to a less restrictive placement before going home.
- B. Caseload Update – Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor, reviewed the Income Maintenance Caseload History chart. She explained the crisis money guidelines.
- C. Minnesota Health Care Programs – Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor, updated the Board on what services, co-pays, etc. are covered by the HealthCare Programs.

IX. Committee Reports from Commissioners

- A. H&HS Advisory Committee - Commissioners Westerlund and/or Tveit
Meeting updates from Committee Member: Roberta Elvecrog & David Leaf
See also, attached minutes of the January 7, 2009, meeting. It was noted that the committee voted in new officers and Jessica Seibert is the new chairperson. There was discussion relative to the Tax Preparation available to low income folks. Tom talked about the impact of budget cuts and possible legislative action. Roberta noted this is a pro-active committee that asks lots of questions.
- B. AMC Children’s Mental Health - Commissioner Bailey – No Meeting this month.
- C. CHS – Commissioner Bailey – No Meeting this month.

X. Adjournment: Next Meeting – February 24, 2009

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Tveit, and carried, the vote was to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson

Tom Burke, Director
Aitkin County Health & Human Services

Julie Lueck, Clerk to Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board