

DRAFT OF THE AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING MINUTES October 27, 2009

I. Call to Order

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27th day of October, 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, Director; Staff Members Susan Cebelinski & Sue Tange, Social Service Supervisors; Cynthia Bennett, Public Health Supervisor; Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor; Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Nanci Sauerbrei, Aitkin Independent Age; Roberta Elvecrog, Anne Gunn, & Dave Leaf, Health & Human Service Advisory Committee Members; Jode Freyholtz, Region 5+ MH Consumer Survivor Network Presenter and Gary Lamke, Citizens.

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried; the vote was to approve the agenda as mailed.

IV. Review September 22, 2009 Health & Human Service Board Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried, the vote was to approve the September 22, 2009 Health & Human Service Board Minutes with the correction to the date in paragraph one.

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. General/Miscellaneous Information

A. Jode Freyholtz, Region 5+ Supervisor for the Mental Health Consumer Survivor Network of Minnesota – Ms. Freyholtz informed the Board that the CSN is the statewide organization that represents people with a mental health diagnosis and noted that all employees also have a MH Diagnosis and access services. She discussed how they are trying to get the word out about the crisis line and mental health awareness in the six regions. Her job is to inform people about the resources available to them including housing, the website, the McGregor Support Group, Aitkin County Drop-in Center, 1st Annual Talent Show and Art Exhibit & Sale “With Our Own Hearts” in Staples on Friday, October 30th. She also lets folks know what is happening legislatively, takes people to Day on the Hill on February 16th, and works with Access North. Region 5+ has some of the best resources in the nation which include crisis beds and a Mobile Crisis Outreach Team. She handed out additional resource information pertaining to the CSN.

B. Aitkin County’s Mental Health Grant Application – Susan Cebelinski updated the Board about the Adult Mental Health Grant which is updated every two years indicating how the grant money is being used in Aitkin County. It also addresses unmet needs in Aitkin County.

C. NACO Steering Committee Membership Nomination – Tom Burke asked the Board if they wanted him to continue on the NACO Steering committee. Motion by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried, the vote was to approve the recommendation for Tom Burke to continue on the NACO Health Steering Committee which includes out of state travel and costs associated with that travel.

- D. Review of new Public Health Statistical Tracking Forms** – Cynthia Bennett updated the Board that we have tried to organize the statistical information based on the six areas of PH Essential Local Activities and we will be implementing this new format beginning January 1, 2010.
- E. Redesign update from AMC** – Tom Burke asked if the Board had anything they wanted him to follow up on based on their meeting last week. It was noted that there was limited general discussion and mostly centered around GAMC and what the AMC policy would be going into the next legislative session. Commissioner Napstad noted that when it came time to policy development, nobody was really up to speed except those on the policy committee. He noted that the discussion on regionalization led them to believe that Lake & Cook were talking about partnering with Koochiching and not including St. Louis, who would probably go it alone, and yet leaving Itasca out as well. A common feeling would be that we do the NE Arrowhead counties rather than those counties south or west of us. The two common areas we have with Crow Wing are CMCC and MH Initiative. Recommendation was to realign the AMC districts to conform to regionalization in all areas including HHS.

VII. Contracts:

A. Purchase of Service Agreement between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and:

1. Connections FSE Services, Prior Lake

Motion by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Tveit, and carried; the vote was to approve the Purchase of Service Agreement between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and Connections FSE Services, Prior Lake

B. WIC Agreement for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010 between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and:

1. Hill City Independent School District # 2

2. Malmo Bethesda Lutheran Church

3. McGrath Zion Lutheran Church

4. McGregor Independent School District #4

Motion by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried; the vote was to approve the Purchase of Service Agreement between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and the WIC Agreement for the period January 1, 2010 to December 31, 2010 between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and:

1. Hill City Independent School District # 2

2. Malmo Bethesda Lutheran Church

3. McGrath Zion Lutheran Church

4. McGregor Independent School District #4

III. Administrative Reports:

- A. Caseload Update** – Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor, updated the Board that our numbers continue to rise and coming into the winter season, folks will be losing their unemployment. As of November 1st however we will not have the Emergency General Assistance or Emergency MSA Program as that has been unallotted as of November 1st. General Assistance Medical Care comes under the MA persons (in the stats) and for the month of September we had 167 GAMC cases, however when that drops come March 1st, the majority are on other programs so Eileen doesn't see us dropping cases, as those individuals will continue to be on Food Support or General Assistance. When GMAC ends they will lose their medical care with the option to go on MNCare but they will be required to pay a small premium and the coverage isn't quite the same.
- B. Financial & Transportation Report** – Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor, updated the Board that we are running a little high due to grants that were not budgeted for where we pay out front and

get reimbursed later from the State. Foster care is running a little high this year. Reviewed the Volunteer Transportation - County Funded Report and the Volunteer Driver Transportation numbers for Medical transports, Other transports, Canceled or no shows and total transports arranged. (No loads transports that we are using county dollars for the volunteer drivers to go out.) Board asked that the sheets be combined for Volunteer Driver Transportation showing the dollars and the volume of transports on the same sheet (average cost per ride).

IX. Committee Reports from Commissioners

- A. H&HS Advisory Committee - The Committee did not meet in October as they served the Community Meal. Commissioner Westerlund noted there was a report on the Senior issue and Tom Burke noted that the report from the sub-committee should go to the Advisory Committee prior to a report to the Board. Commissioner Bailey noted it could be an FYI but no recommendations should be made by the Board. Dave Leaf noted things are moving well and the last meeting on October 5th with the three individuals receiving dollars from Aitkin County are moving forward. An initial Board has been developed and they are writing up what the company is going to be called, Mission Statement, Purpose Statement, the 501c3 Non-profit. Harriet Veenker is a Board Member to the newly formed Senior Services Organization (formed to consolidate the three individual service providers – RSVP – Jill Hatfield from Carlton County, Senior Companion – Tricia Martin and Committee on Aging – Cheryl Stauter). Harriet noted that the first board meeting was held on October 20th which included Cynthia Bennett (facilitator and Ad Hoc Member), Henry Brucker, Gary Rogers and Harriet Veenker. Discussion relative to funding for 2010 included noting that the same dollar amount for funding the merged organization as was available last year for the individual groups would be looked at. Discussion as to whether or not the organizations have enough reserve funds available to keep them viable until the combined organization takes place. The Commissioners asked that the newly forming organization, Senior Connections of Aitkin County, provide the Health & Human Services Board with a progress report along with an estimated date they expect to be up and running so discussion can continue relative to funding at their November 24th meeting.
- B. AMC Children’s Mental Health - Commissioner Bailey noted problems with public attitude displayed toward Mental Health. The Committee is hoping to change that attitude by starting with school kids and implementing a Statewide Positive Behavior Patterns program. There are about 150 schools in the state that have it now and it has been working well. Discipline is a problem in schools and they want to focus on rewarding positive behavior and get the students involved to make it work. There are a couple young people on the committee who they have been working with using their suggestions.
- C. CHS – Commissioner Bailey noted they met last month and H1N1 involved considerable conversation along with a report from Cynthia Bennett on the SCHSAC committee and reports from the other health supervisors.

X. Adjournment: Next Meeting – November 24, 2009

Motion by Commissioner Bailey, seconded by Commissioner Tveit, and carried; the vote was to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m.

J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson

Tom Burke, Director
Aitkin County Health & Human Services

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