

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
September 28, 2010**

**I. Call to Order**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 28th day of September, 2010, at 9:00 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, beginning with the Pledge of Allegiance, with the following members present: Chairperson Paul Bailey, Commissioners Brian Napstad, Galen Tveit, Mark Wedel; and Laurie Westerlund; and others present included: Patrick Wussow, County Administrator; Tom Burke, Director; Staff Members Susan Cebelinski, Social Service 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, DAC & HHS Advisory; David Leaf & Bob Lewis, Health & Human Service Advisory Committee Members; Georgia Johnson, and John Larson, Citizens.

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Approval of Agenda**

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

**IV. Review August 24, 2010 Health & Human Service Board Minutes**

*Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried; the vote was to approve the August 24, 2010 Health & Human Services Board Meeting Minutes as mailed.*

**V. Review Bills**

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

**VI. General/Miscellaneous Information**

- A. Regionalization of Financial Assistance Document Management – Tom Burke updated the Board that Mike Sexe will be assisting the region in this area. Mr. Sexe worked with St. Louis County throughout their implementation. He will be using our data to come up with a quote for the cost for us to go up on e-docs. Carlton County is building a new building and trying to decide whether to have their own hardware/server. The rest of the counties appear to want to use a common server to cut down on costs, efficiency, and coverage of maintenance. We will use the “train the trainer” method to help keep costs down as well. Our best bet is to keep moving forward and branching out and combining as many systems as possible with the same structure.
- B. Guardianship/Conservatorship – Susan Cebelinski discussed how the process works in our agency and reviewed the Code of Ethics as well as the Court Procedure for the Appointment of Guardians and Conservators.
- C. County Payment of MinnesotaCare Premiums – Tom Burke discussed his meeting with the hospital staff regarding upcoming issues of folks not being covered and a method to be sure some folks have coverage so the system doesn’t have a lot of unreimbursed payments. Hospital cannot pay for premiums nor can the hospital foundation. It would have to be a private entity or through governmental service. Kandiyohi has been paying the premiums and have set a limit on the length of time they will be doing it as a bridge to the federal healthcare coming out in 2014 along with a cap on the amount of dollars. Premiums could vary from \$4-11 per individual per month but we don’t know how many individuals this might involve.

## **VII. Contracts:**

- A. Home & Community-Based Waiver Services Contract between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and Joan Birt, Hill City, for the period March 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013. Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Home & Community-Based Waiver Services Contract between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and Joan Birt, Hill City, for the period March 1, 2010 through June 30, 2013

## **VIII. Administrative Reports:**

- A. Caseload Update & Graph – Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor, reviewed the Caseload History and discussed the volume of MNCare cases that are open not only the ones in Aitkin but there are the ones that the State manages too. If it gets to the point where the state can handle the MNCare cases efficiently and as quickly as we are able to now, it may be time to consider giving it back.
- B. Financial & Transportation Reports – Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor, noted that we are on track with the budget and where we want to be at this time.

## **IX. Committee Reports from Commissioners**

- A. H&HS Advisory Committee - Commissioners Westerlund and/or Tveit  
Meeting updates from Committee Members: Bob Lewis & Dave Leaf  
See also, attached minutes of the September 1<sup>st</sup> meeting. Amy Wyant presented on the SHIP Program and did some planning for the Community Meal coming up on October 4th.  
Commissioner Westerlund attended a recent AC Care meeting and noted the by-laws were signed at that meeting, they have a full board with 5 members and they are adding an additional member from the McGregor or Hill City area to have 6 voting members. Bob Lewis discussed the expansion of Fit City to be a Fit County. Tom noted that Amy has talked about the MN Bike Trail that is following the Mississippi through the Aitkin area and Palisade and expanding to join it to the Munger Trail. David Leaf noted the spark and drive that Amy Wyant has to promote the Fit City expansion countywide along with her involvement with the Nutriman concept of nutritional eating for kindergarten children.
- B. AMC Children's Mental Health - Commissioner Bailey did not attend the last meeting but he will be attending the next one next week. They should be seeing the report at the October meeting regarding the schools.
- C. CHS – Commissioner Bailey noted they did not meet this past month. But he will be attending the CHS Conference at Craguns this week.
- D. AEOA / NEMOJT Committee Updates – Commissioner Napstad noted AEOA did not meet but NEMOJT did. There are a number of funds (about 20) that the agency is operating under for folks unemployed which includes classroom training. Wage subsidy program update is a concern as NEMOJT is a joint county effort where all the counties are participating equally except for this program (that is just the taconite assistance area), whereby an employer can hire up to 5 employees and receive up to half of that employee's wage up to \$10.00 per hour. There are 15 employees in Aitkin County that this program is benefiting. Must be in TAA area which does not include McGregor. Blue/Green Alliance is partnership made up of a combination of a number of unions (i.e. contractors, steel workers, utility workers) also in this partnership are some of the environmental groups because the EPA is pushing a program regionally called Regional HAZE, about air quality standards which are higher in areas where you are close to a Class 1 Facility/Park such as the Boundary Waters Canoe Area and Voyageurs National Park. The quality standards are based on visibility and EPA and pollution control has determined that you should have 150 miles of visibility at all times. The targets of these groups are Keytac,

Minntac, Clay Boswell and others on the range that they want to see environmental controls on that may shut these facilities down because the cost is prohibitive. It is \$2.6 million in allocated Stimulus money that they don't know how to administer.

**X. Adjournment: Next Meeting – October 26, 2010**

*Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Tveit, and carried; the vote was to adjourn the meeting at 10:21 a.m.*

---

Paul Bailey, Chairperson

---

Tom Burke, Director  
Aitkin County Health & Human Services

---

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

DRAFT