

AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING MINUTES

April 26, 2016

I. Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26th day of April, 2016, at 9:08 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Chairperson Commissioner Mark Wedel; Commissioners, Ann Marcotte, Brian Napstad, Don Niemi and Laurie Westerlund; and others present included: County Administrator Nathan Burkett; H&HS Director Tom Burke; H&HS Staff Members Jessi Schultz, Social Service Supervisor; Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor; Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor; Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Adam Hoogenakker, Aitkin Independent Age; and Roberta Elvecrog, Marlene Abear and Bob Marcum, H&HS Advisory Committee Members; and Bob Harwarth and Georgia Johnson, Citizens.

II. Approval of Health & Human Services Board Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried; the vote was to approve the Agenda.

III. Review March 22, 2016 Health & Human Service Board Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried; the vote was to approve the Minutes of the March 22, 2016 Health & Human Services Board Meeting.

IV. Review Bills

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the Bills.

V. General/Miscellaneous Information

A. Child Protection Talking Points for MACSSA Members - Tom Burke noted issues that need to be addressed include funding, staffing needs and additional foster homes. Aitkin County has had one of the highest rate of screenings for a long time compared to other counties but the rate of out-of-home placements is increasing also. These are issues for the legislature as most of these are unexpected costs resulting from the Governor's Task Force recommendations.

VI. FYI

A. Improving Care at Minnesota's Anoka-Metro Mental Hospital - Article - Tom Burke & Kathy Ryan discussed and answered questions during the discussion under Review Bills to address the one month (February) payment to DHS-Anoka Metro in the amount of \$37,961 for one person. Many ideas and suggestions were shared with Tom for further discussion at the MACSSA and other upcoming meetings.

B. MSSA - Staff Achievement Award presented to Rae Zahn - Tom Burke and Jessi Schultz discussed the honor that this award brings to our agency for the outstanding work over and above our expectations that was so deserved by our Social Worker Rae Zahn. Commissioner Wedel asked us to convey congratulations from the County Board of Commissioners to Rae Zahn for her Outstanding Staff Achievement Award.

VII. Administrative Reports:

A. Financial & Transportation Reports - Kathleen Ryan noted we are right on track with our budget and the transportation per diem for the volunteer drivers has been re-instated due to the increase in gas prices.

VIII. Committee Reports from Commissioners

- A. H&HS Advisory Committee** – Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte
Committee Members attending today: Bob Marcum & Marlene Abear
Bob Marcum discussed the State Medicaid Citizens Advisory Committee he serves on and a request for a Commissioner to attend and speak to some of the issues surrounding taxpayers picking up costs of specific services. He also addressed the question as to what does the Advisory Committee do and how do they respond to issues? He also discussed bringing visitors to the Advisory Committee meetings.
- B. AEOA Committee Update** – Commissioner Westerlund noted there was a meeting but she was unable to attend.
- C. NEMOJT Committee Update** – Commissioner Napstad noted they met and discussed grants for displaced workers and the process for training them.
- D. CJI (Children’s Justice Initiative)** – Commissioner Westerlund noted they talked about the processes for Child Protection as part of the Child and Family Services Review.
- E. Lakes & Pines Update** – Commissioner Niemi noted they did not meet.
- F. Tri-County Community Health Board (CHS) Update**
Commissioner Westerlund / Erin Melz / Tom Burke - Erin Melz noted they talked about a variety of topics including the Nightingale Notes computer program, strategic planning with our SHIP program, Healthy Northland, creating an MOU for emergency response between counties. She also discussed the fact that Mille Lacs County is dissolving with their CHB and would like to go independent although they may not meet the population requirements. Mille Lacs has made a formal inquiry to A-I-K CHB to consider Mille Lacs County for inclusion into existing CHS structure. Erin also discussed the Farm to School lunch programs in the Hill City and Rippleside Schools.

IX. Break at 10:18 a.m. for 10 minutes

Next Meeting – May 24, 2016