



**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
December 18, 2018**

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 18th day of December, 2018, at 9:01 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Commissioners Anne Marcotte, Laurie Westerlund, J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, and Bill Pratt. Others present included: County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Cynthia Bennett ACH&HS Director, Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, Public Health Supervisor Erin Melz, Child Support Supervisor Ruth Sundermeyer, Adult Social Services Supervisor Kim Larson, Child Social Services Supervisor Jessi Schultz, Assistant to the County Administrator Sue Bingham, Shawn Speed, H&HS Executive Assistant, and Guests: Bob Marcum and Kristine Layne/H&HS Advisory Committee Members, and Brielle Bredsten/Aitkin Independent Age.

Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the December 18, 2018 Health & Human Services Board agenda.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the November 27, 2018 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

Bills

Carli Goble noted there were no notable items on the bills, but we do have two more payroll runs left this month.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the bills.

Health & Human Services Director Report, Cynthia Bennett, ACH&HS Director

Cynthia stated that since they had last met, she had attended the AMC Conference and while there participated in the HHS policy committee meeting where they reviewed all of the legislative platform statements. There were some language changes and she relayed that she would share more about them when they were finalized.

Commissioner Marcotte asked if there were any major changes coming out to them this year?

Cynthia responded that there looks to be a lot that are simply being carried over from last year, however, there was talk last year of gaps in knowledge about how emergency personnel respond to calls involving vulnerable individuals. As a result there was talk last year of a movement towards first responders having additional training on response protocols when working with individuals who have disabilities. This language to mandate additional training was added into the platform for this year.

Commissioner Marcotte asked Cynthia if she had seen the device that individuals can carry on them which provides first responders with information about any pertinent medical or mental health issues when they are on the scene.

Cynthia relayed that it is a FOB type of device that the person carries on them and when a first

responder arrives who has the app installed on their phone the responder can access the individual's pertinent data for a more informed response.

Kim Larson added that the AMHI had additional monies from 2018 and determined that the use of this app called Vitals may be very helpful for local law enforcement. The AMHI is able to purchase this app for local law enforcement for one year. If it was found to be valuable then law enforcement could continue with the app service into the future. Or, there may be other sources within AMHI or its partners whom could cover this cost in the future. Kim relayed that at this time counties are gathering the numbers of potential users and then will AMHI will move forward with this project.

Commissioner Pratt added that he had heard it would cost the individuals themselves, who have the fob like device, nothing for the service, that the first responders were the only ones who paid a fee for the service and that it would be beneficial to anyone with a health issue no matter what it is.

Commissioner Niemi inquired whether it was currently in use anywhere else and Kim replied that it is use in the Metro area and that Crow Wing County has been using it for a couple of years now with favorable results.

Lastly, Cynthia gave a quick update on the Clubhouse and stated that they are still working on the remodeling and that in January they plan to hold a meeting for the stakeholders to discuss the plans for opening. She will keep the commissioners informed of the plans for opening once she learns more information.

Review Approval of Contracts/Agreements

Service Agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS & Compass Counseling Partners.

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Service Agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS & Woodview Support Services/Oakridge Homes, Inc.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Service Agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS & Northern Psychiatric Associates.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Ambulance Service Contract for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between Mille Lacs Health Systems Ambulance and Aitkin County.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Ambulance Service Contract for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between North Memorial Medical Transportation Services and Aitkin County.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Service Agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS & Northland Counseling Center, Inc.

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Service Agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS & George Tetreault.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Service Agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS & Northeast MN Office of Job Training.

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Family Planning Contract for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS and Riverwood HealthCare Center.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the contract.

Revised AMHI CSP Grant Contract for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2020 between MN DHS Behavioral Health Division and Aitkin County.

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the grant.

Respite Care Grant for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between MN DHS Behavioral Health Division and Aitkin County.

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the grant.

Child Support Report – Ruth Sundermeyer

Cynthia started by informing the board that Ruth had won the Outstanding Staff Achievement Award from MSSA this past year and read the application outlining what her coworkers said about her that lead to her winning the award.

Ruth started by going through her handouts about Child Support numbers from 2017.

She also talked about a few of the highlights of changes that have been made in Minnesota.

- The Child Support Task Force was formed by the Legislature.
- The Continuing Legal Vision committee came up with a form that parents who are separating or that do not live together can fill out for a custody agreement themselves and have the judge sign as long as it is agreed to under good circumstances.
- The Child Support Advisory Board has been looking at more ways for people to make their Child Support Payments
 - o Came up with an agreement for Family Dollar to accept payments at the store.
 - o Can do money grams at CVS
 - o The State Child Support System allows for online payments

- Looking into kiosks at malls in larger cities that will accept payments
- Looking into accepting credit cards also
- New parenting adjustment law took effect. It is based on how many nights the child(ren) spend with each parent.

Commissioner Marcotte commented that Ruth's clients appreciate her and give her rave reviews about her customer service.

Committee Reports

Joint Powers Board Report – Commissioner Westerlund and Erin Melz

CHB Met on December 13th in Itasca County.

- Reviewed Financials
- Grant Awards
- Itasca is going to have an in-house SHIP Coordinator instead of contracting it out as they previously did.
- Handed out some brochures on pre-diabetes.
- Discussed E-Cig proposal for Aitkin's revised tobacco ordinance.

Commissioner Wedel noted that the Surgeon General declared E-Cigs/Vaping a Health epidemic.

H&HS Advisory Committee Update – Bob Marcum and Kristine Layne

Met on December 5, 2018.

- Bob commented that when Kristine gave her report back to the Advisory Committee, on this meeting, it was the best ever and would like to see a template made for all committee members on how to give their report back from this meeting.
- Being his last meeting, as an Advisory Member, Bob talked about all of the good he has seen happen in his last six years, how much he appreciated the opportunity Commissioner Niemi gave him for suggesting he be on the Advisory Board, and how he got to be a plenary speaker for the National Association of Medicaid Directors Conference out in Washington, D.C.
- Kristine commented that she appreciates how much Cynthia has done with the Advisory Board and how active they are going to be from now on.
- She also mentioned that they will now be taking on projects for HHS.

Commissioner Wedel thanked Bob for his dedication and commitment to the Advisory Board, and Aitkin County.

Commissioner Pratt thanked Bob for his dedication and enthusiasm that he showed when on the Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:11 a.m.

Next Meeting – January 22, 2019