

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
July 26, 2016**

**I. Attendance**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26th day of July, 2016, at 9:36 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Chairperson Commissioner Mark Wedel; Commissioners, Brian Napstad, Don Niemi and Laurie Westerlund; and others present included: County Administrator Nathan Burkett; H&HS Staff Members Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor; Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor; Jessi Schultz & Heather Overn, Social Service Supervisors; Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Adam Hoogenakker, Aitkin Independent Age; and Roberta Elvecrog and Holly Bray, H&HS Advisory Committee Members; and Luke Christensen, Aitkin Transportation Advocate for AEOA; Marcia Mehle, Program Director of AEOA; Bill Feyo and David Kohanek, Clear Lake Assn.; Gordon Prickett, Nordland Twp.; Bill Haroldson, Farm Island L.I.A.; Bill Pratt, Citizen; Rowand & Ruth Fudala, Hamel Lake; John Welle, AC Highway Dept; Sheriff Scott Turner; and Mark Jacobs, AC Land Dept.

**II. Approval of Health & Human Services Board Agenda**

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

**III. Review June 28, 2016 Health & Human Service Board Minutes**

*Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the Minutes of the June 28, 2016 Health & Human Services Board Meeting.*

**IV. Review Bills**

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

**V. General/Miscellaneous Information**

**A. Rural Rides - AEOA - Luke Christensen Aitkin Transportation Advocate  
Marcia Mehle, Program Director**

Luke and Marcia discussed the fact that they were sufficiently funded for the last half of 2015 and the full year of 2016, but they are asking for a letter of support from Aitkin County along with a financial commitment of \$2,000 for the upcoming 2017 grant year of which the application will be submitted in mid August. They explained the program is to assist people with transportation to get to work or to GED classes. The transportation has to be tied to employment and is short-term to assist people in becoming transportation self-sufficient. They have had 28 clients in Aitkin County with 30 drivers which have provided 1,614 one-way rides to work sites.

**B. Non-Emergency Medical Transportation - Kathy Ryan, Jessi Goble, Jessi Schultz**

Kathy Ryan reviewed the reimbursement rate (RUKA Rate) of 0-17 miles @ 27.5 cents/mile, 18-50 miles @ 24.75 cents/mile, and 100+ miles @ 22 cents/mile through Medical Assistance access. Volunteer Rate has been 0-17 miles @ .675 cents/mile and 18-50 miles @ .6075 cents/mile. In 2005, we agreed to pay a per diem rate due to the high cost of gasoline. Ruka rates will be reimbursed by Medical Assistance. Commissioner Napstad asked that we bring this back in the form of a Matrix to our next meeting.

**VI. Contracts/Agreements**

- A. WIC Agreement - McGregor - between ACH&HS and McGregor Independent School District for the period September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017 to administer the Aitkin County WIC Program.** *Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried; the vote was to approve the WIC Agreement - McGregor - between ACH&HS and McGregor Independent School District for the period September 1, 2016 through August 31, 2017 to administer the Aitkin County WIC Program*

**VII. Administrative Reports:**

- A. Financial & Transportation Reports - Kathleen Ryan noted we on budget. July will have a large VCAA grant coming in after the State Fiscal Year ends. The Storm 2016 staff hours and costs are being kept and recorded separately.**

**VIII. Committee Reports from Commissioners**

- A. H&HS Advisory Committee – Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte**  
Committee Members attending today: Joy Janzen & Holly Bray  
No minutes as there was no meeting held in July.
- B. AEOA Committee Update – Commissioner Westerlund - No Meeting**
- C. NEMOJT Committee Update – Commissioner Napstad - No Meeting**
- D. CJI (Children’s Justice Initiative) – Commissioner Westerlund - No Meeting**
- E. Lakes & Pines Update – Commissioner Niemi - No Meeting**

**IX. Break at 10:05 a.m. for 10-15 minutes**

**Next Meeting – August 23, 2016**