



**AITKIN
COUNTY**
EST. 1857
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 25, 2020

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 25th day of August, 2020, at 9:03 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Commissioners Bill Pratt, J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, Anne Marcotte, and Laurie Westerlund. Others present included: H&HS Director Cynthia Bennett, Children's Social Services Supervisor Jessi Schultz, Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Assistant to the County Administrator Angie Sahr, Human Resources Payroll Specialist Nikki Knutson, and Jennifer Eisenbart, Aitkin Independent Age.

Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the August 25, 2020 Health & Human Services Board agenda.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the July 28, 2020 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

Bills

Carli Goble, H&HS Accounting Supervisor noted that there were no notable bills this month.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the bills.

Review/Approve Contracts/Agreements

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Foster Care Transportation Agreement between Aitkin County and the Hill City School District, effective September 1, 2020 through August 31, 2021.

Committee Reports

Joint Powers Board Report

Commissioner Westerlund reported that they had met and reviewed the financials, approved the delegation agreement, and received a report from Maggie on the LPHA meeting.

Cynthia commented on discussions taking place about possible community testing clinics for COVID-19 which would be a collaborative effort between H&HS, Riverwood, and the CHB.

Commissioner Niemi added that he heard Dr. Taylor, from Riverwood Healthcare Center, talking on the radio about rumors of Riverwood turning people away who had come to be tested individuals were presenting with symptoms or had been exposed to a known COVID-19 patient.

HHS Advisory Committee Report

Commissioner Wedel commented that the committee welcomed one of their two new members and had been presented the H&HS 2021 Budget. The presentation was done by Carli Goble and Commissioner Wedel commended her on how she made the information very easy to understand.

AEOA Committee Update

Commissioner Westerlund said they had discussed the more than 56,000 pounds of food that the AEOA had distributed since the COVID-19 pandemic had started and that they were going to be receiving 9 new Class V buses and 1 new Class IV bus.

CARE Board Update

Commissioner Westerlund stated that they reviewed financials and worked on the CHS Director's annual review.

NEMOJT Committee Update

Commissioner Niemi mentioned that NEMOJT requested CARES funds from the county for the purchase of additional laptops and other equipment for remote work.

Jessica said that the county is now just gathering information from areas that are requesting funds and will be making decisions on the distribution of any funds not already used by the county at a later date.

Commissioner Marcotte added that she had heard from one of the school superintendents about how helpful the county and H&HS, in particular, had been and continues to be in helping schools plan for returning to school this coming fall and that they were very appreciative of all of that help.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:29 a.m.

Next Meeting – September 22, 2020