

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013 at 9:02 a.m. with the following members present: Chairperson J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, Brian Napstad, Anne Marcotte, County Administrator Patrick Wussow, and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham.

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried, all members voting yes to approve the February 26, 2013 amended agenda. Item 3C) Airboat Training, was added.

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
February 26, 2013**

**I. Attendance**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26<sup>th</sup> day of February, 2013, at 9:03 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Chairperson Commissioner Mark Wedel; Commissioners Anne Marcotte, Brian Napstad, Don Niemi, and Laurie Westerlund; and others present included: County Administrator Patrick Wussow; H&HS Director Tom Burke; Staff Members Susan Cebelinski and Sue Tange, Social Services Supervisors; Kathleen Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor; Cynthia Bennett, Public Health Supervisor; Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Roberta Elvecrog, DAC & HHS Advisory; Bob Lewis, HHS Advisory Member; Nanci Sauerbrau, Aitkin Independent Age; Bob Harwarth, Dale Lueck, and Kimberly Clement, Guests.

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

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the agenda as mailed/posted.

**III. Review January 22, 2013 Health & Human Services Board Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the January 22, 2013 Health & Human Services Board Meeting Minutes as mailed/posted.

**IV. Review Bills**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte, and carried; the vote was to approve the Bills as presented this date.

**V. General/Miscellaneous Information for Board Action**

**A. H&HS Advisory Board**

1. Appointment of Candidate to the Health & Human Services Advisory Committee: New Member Application: Kari Paulsen - District 2  
Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried, the vote was to approve the appointment of Kari Paulsen to the Health & Human Services Advisory Committee for a two year term.

**B. Statistics**

Tom Burke discussed the upcoming changes in our reporting systems noting that we will be changing the data presented in the Statistical reports in the future.

**CALL TO ORDER**

**APPROVED  
AGENDA**

**HEALTH &  
HUMAN  
SERVICES  
BOARD**

**VI. FYI - Topics were reviewed and discussed.**

- A. Fraud Prevention Investigation Report for Aitkin County – FYI
- B. NACO – Tom Burke
- C. Charter Agreement Governing Participation in a Seven-County Region 3 Human Service Redesign Project for Electronic Document Management (E-Docs) of Income Maintenance Programs – Tom Burke
- D. Estimated County MA Caseload Distribution – Tom Burke

**VII. Contracts:**

**A. 2013 Family Planning Contract between ACHHS and Riverwood HealthCare Center for the period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013.** Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the 2013 Family Planning Contract between ACHHS and Riverwood HealthCare Center for the period January 1, 2013 to December 31, 2013.

**B. Contract to Participate in the Local Collaborative Time Study Between State of MN acting through DHS and Aitkin County, acting thru H&HS for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017.** Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Contract to Participate in the Local Collaborative Time Study Between State of MN acting through DHS and Aitkin County, acting thru H&HS for the period July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017.

**C. Home & Community-Based Waiver Services Contract between Aitkin County H&HS and:**

- 1. **Recover Health of Minnesota, Minnetonka, MN, for the period January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016.**
- 2. **Dayspring Supportive Living Services, Inc. for the period March 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015.**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Home & Community-Based Waiver Services Contract between Aitkin County H&HS and:

- 1. **Recover Health of Minnesota, Minnetonka, MN, for the period January 1, 2013 through June 30, 2016.**

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Home & Community-Based Waiver Services Contract between Aitkin County H&HS and:

- 2. **Dayspring Supportive Living Services, Inc. for the period March 1, 2013 through June 30, 2015.**

**VIII. Administrative Reports:**

**A. Caseload Update & Graph** – Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor, discussed the caseload numbers presented today.

- B. Financial & Transportation Reports** – Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor, noted the numbers presented today do not reflect anything out of the ordinary.
  - 1. Adult Mental Health Grants** – Notice of Award from DHS, discussed the positive nature of the agency receiving this Grant.

**IX. Committee Reports from Commissioners**

- A. H&HS Advisory Committee** - Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte Meeting updates from Committee Members: Bob Lewis & Roberta Elvecrog Draft copy of the Minutes of the February 6th meeting. Discussion relative to the presentations at the 2/6/13 meeting regarding Restorative Justice and the development of the HHS Advisory Task Force who have reviewed and revised the By-Laws and Mission Statement. It was also noted that volunteers from the Committee will be serving the Community Meal in McGregor on March 20<sup>th</sup>.
- B. AEOA / NEMOJT Committee Updates** – Commissioner Napstad noted that NEMOJT met in February and he is the Secretary for the group. He discussed the main focus of this meeting was the review of the Audit.
- C. CJI (Children’s Justice Initiative)** – Commissioner Westerlund discussed the recent CJI meeting noting they discussed the Restorative Justice Project.

**Next Meeting – March 26, 2013**

Break: 10:11 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.

Dale Lueck, Aitkin County Citizen commented on the Fiscal Disparities meeting held on February 21, 2013.

Commissioner Marcotte not present: 10:32 a.m. to 10:41 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Marcotte not present), all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: February 12, 2013 – February 25, 2013; B) Approve County Board Minutes: February 12, 2013; C) Approve Auditor Warrants – January Sales & Use Tax: General Fund \$520.15, Road & Bridge \$1,694.54, Health & Human Services \$61.84, State \$6,716.00, Forest Development \$1.07, Long Lake Conservation Center \$221.63 for a total of \$9,215.23; D) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$44,009.71, Road & Bridge \$61,697.45, Health & Human Services \$1,063.55, Trust \$27,597.27, Forest Development \$3,534.88, Long Lake Conservation Center \$10,738.71, Parks \$33,204.12 for a total of \$181,845.69; E) Approve Resolution – Exempt Permit LG220 of the NWTF Dead Moose River Longbeards; F) Accept \$100 Donation to STS – Spencer Township; G) Approve Duplicate of Lost Warrant #88332, Mildred Gault, dated February 8, 2013 in the amount of \$59.86 – Health & Human Services; H) Approve Reappointment of Roberta Elvecrog to Extension Committee; I) Approve Audit Engagement Letter Signatures for the year ended December 31, 2012; J) Approve Resolution – Aitkin Sno-Drifters Federal Recreational Trail Program Grant

**HHS BOARD  
ADJOURNED**

**BREAK**

**REGULAR BOARD  
RECONVENED**

**CITIZENS’ PUBLIC  
COMMENT**

**MARCOTTE NOT  
PRESENT**

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), all members voting to approve resolution – Exempt Permit LG220 of the NWTF Dead Moose River Longbeards:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agree to approve the Application for Exempt Permit – Form LG220 – of the NWTF Dead Moose River Longbeards, at the following location – Jackson’s Hole, which has an address of 36232 Kestrel Ave., McGregor, MN 55760 – Salo Township. (Note: Date of activity for Raffle – March 23, 2013)

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Marcotte absent), all members voting yes to approve resolution – Aitkin Sno-Drifters Federal Recreational Trail Program Grant:

**WHEREAS**, the Aitkin Sno-Drifters are applying for a Federal Recreational Trail Program grant for purchasing a 2013 Tucker Terra to groom snowmobile trails in the Aitkin County area, and

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County contracts with the Mille Lacs Trails Inc. to groom approx. 80 miles of snowmobile trails in Aitkin County through the Grants in Aide snowmobile trail funds, and

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County feels that no undue environmental impact will be created by the purchase of a new groomer.

**THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that Aitkin County supports the Aitkin Sno-Drifters application for the Federal Recreational Trail Program grant.

Sheriff Scott Turner gave the Board an update on the status of the 800 Mhz radio project.

Sheriff Scott Turner discussed the proposed Social Host Ordinance with the Board. This was first introduced to the Board by Kinship of Aitkin County, and subsequently brought before the Ordinance Committee. Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund to proceed to the Public Hearing phase for the Social Host Ordinance. Roll call vote (3-2 Napstad/Marcotte). Motion carried.

Sheriff Scott Turner requested Board approval to send a deputy to a two day Airboat Training in Bayfield, Wisconsin the first week in March 2013. There is no tuition for the training. Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried to approve the out of state travel request.

Kirk Peysar, County Auditor reviewed the 2012 Year End Report with the Board.

Break: 11:23 a.m. to 11:34 a.m.

Mike Dangers, County Assessor updated the Board on the Rural Preserve Property Tax Program.

**RESOLUTION  
022613-027  
EXEMPT PERMIT  
OF THE NWTF  
DEAD MOOSE  
RIVER  
LONGBEARDS**

**RESOLUTION  
022613-028  
AITKIN  
SNO-DRIFTERS  
FEDERAL  
RECREATIONAL  
TRAIL GRANT**

**800 MHZ RADIO  
UPDATE**

**SOCIAL HOST  
ORDINANCE**

**OUT OF STATE  
TRAVEL  
REQUEST**

**2012 YEAR END  
REPORT**

**BREAK**

**RURAL  
PRESERVE  
PROPERTY TAX  
PROGRAM**

Patrick Wussow, County Administrator discussed with the Board AMC updates, the upcoming AMC Spring legislative conference, and proposed two resolutions supporting two of the Board's top five priorities.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve first resolution – PILT for Northern Minnesota Forested Counties:

**WHEREAS**, the concept of the state making payments to local taxing districts to help defray costs for local government services provided in support of tax-exempt natural resource lands has been in existence since the 1940's, and

**WHEREAS**, results of a late 1970's study concluded that local government service costs were consistent regardless of ownership or higher because land is public, and

**WHEREAS**, also in the late 1970's, the federal government recognized its obligation to help defray costs that local government services provided in support of tax-exempt natural resource lands and established federal payments in lieu of taxes on certain federal natural resource lands, and

**WHEREAS**, following suit with these actions, the 1979 State Legislature approved what is known today as State Payments-in-Lieu-of-Taxes (PILT) for tax-exempt natural resource lands, and

**WHEREAS**, that considerable deliberation continued over the years to improve PILT reimbursement resulted in an overhaul of the PILT laws in 2000 that is still in place today, and

**WHEREAS**, S.F. 387 and H.F. 413 proposes an inflation adjustment, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees with S.F. 387 and H.F. 413.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners support the current language of S.F. 387 and H.F. 413.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve second resolution – Minnesota Accountable Government, Innovation and Collaboration (MAGIC) Act:

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota is consistently placed at or near the bottom of national measures that assess the capacity for local government innovation in all 50 states, and

**WHEREAS**, Minnesota and its counties face significant demographic trends that will require innovative approaches to program delivery in order to adequately meet the growing and changing needs of citizens, and

**WHEREAS**, counties with innovative ideas should be provided the requisite opportunity and flexibility to successfully implement those ideas so as to best serve their communities, and

**WHEREAS**, counties across Minnesota boast significant geographic, demographic and economic diversity that thus requires maximum flexibility in programmatic implementation, and

**WHEREAS**, counties are willing and able to identify, implement and methodically verify

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

### RESOLUTION 022613-029 PILT FOR NORTHERN MN FORESTED COUNTIES

### RESOLUTION 022613-030 MINNESOTA ACCOUNTABLE GOVERNMENT, INNOVATION AND COLLABORATION (MAGIC) ACT

increased programmatic efficiencies through a process that will cultivate and sustain a strong and trusting state-local partnership, and

**WHEREAS**, transitioning to an outcomes-based system of program evaluation is in the best interest of every Minnesota citizen and government that desires to maximize public resources and enhance the quality of life in their community to the fullest extent possible.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that Aitkin County recommends that the Legislature and governor work cooperatively with all 87 counties to swiftly pass the MAGIC Act into law during the 2013 legislative session, thus implementing a system that will enhance and incent local government efficiency and innovation throughout Minnesota by:

1. Allowing counties to take any action not prohibited by state law to provide for the health, safety and general welfare of the public; and
2. Creating a measured, outcomes-based waiver process whereby counties, in partnership with the legislative and executive branch of state government, can implement efficiency-based, time-limited pilot programs that are subject to final review by the Legislature and governor and will create a repository of best practices so as to improve long-term policy decisions across the state.

Bobbie Danielson, Human Resources Manager and Patrick Wussow, County Administrator requested Board approval to update the outdated Aitkin County Parking Policy. Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the revised Aitkin County Parking Policy, Article 8, Subject 8.17, effective February 26, 2013:

Aitkin County is committed to providing excellent customer service. Employees understand the importance of providing customers with efficient and convenient access to courthouse services. Therefore, during normal business hours, employees will park in county-owned parking lots near the courthouse, saving the closest street parking stalls for customers. These stalls are posted as 2-hour parking areas on the east and south sides of the courthouse and 1-hour parking on the north side.

When necessary, employees are permitted to use these posted parking stalls for briefly loading or unloading their vehicles during normal business hours.

The County owns two parking lots near the courthouse; one is located directly west of the courthouse and the other is located southwest of the courthouse.

Patrick Wussow, County Administrator reported to the Board that an agreement has been reached with the Local Union #49, Road & Bridge Department, and it will be on the next Board agenda.

The Board reported on the following:

Commissioner Brian Napstad

- **NEMOJET** – Report given during Health & Human Services Board.

**REVISED AITKIN COUNTY PARKING POLICY**

**LOCAL UNION #49 ROAD & BRIDGE**

**BOARD DISCUSSION**

- **EQB/Silica Sand Mine Hearing** – EQB meeting was on Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup>, but went down early on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup> for Silica Sand Mine Hearing at the Senate. The issue was discussed at the EQB meeting on Wednesday. The Environmental Congress is slated for March 15<sup>th</sup>. The Governor will be the keynote speaker, and it will be an all day event.
- **Fiscal Disparity meeting** – Attended meeting on February 21, 2013. Suggests this topic be on a future agenda for further discussion. Aitkin City Council will be meeting again March 4<sup>th</sup>.
- **Mississippi Headwaters Board** – Met at Itasca County Courthouse on February 15<sup>th</sup>. The Governor put \$53,000 in his yearly budget for MHB.
- **Upper Mississippi Flood Mitigation Update** – Met on February 25<sup>th</sup> at Itasca County Courthouse with Sheriff Turner, Patrick Wussow, John Welle, and members from Itasca County to discuss ways to engage the Army Corps of Engineers to do a new reconnaissance study that encompasses a larger geography.

## Commissioner Anne Marcotte

- **Arrowhead** – Reported that there is grant money available for radio system. A few of the topics discussed were the Governor's budget, increases in sales tax revenue, East Central Regional Broadband, cost of housing inmates, gravel pit, bill for combined positions of Auditor/Treasurer/Recorder.
- **MRCC** – There was a meeting with AMC representatives from the Cities and from Greater Minnesota regarding Parks money and how the division is made.
- **Forest Advisory** – Met on Tuesday, February 19<sup>th</sup>. Rich Courtemanche presented idea of handheld GPS devices, and also gave a head cam presentation of the trails. It was noted that Mark Jacobs would like to do a Land Classification for the entire County.
- **Fiscal Disparities meeting** – Attended meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>.

## Commissioner Don Niemi

- **ARDC** – Due to a small agenda, a telephone conference was held on February 21<sup>st</sup>. Elevator repairs were approved, not to exceed \$98,000. It was noted by Pat Henderson that we really want to promote training, and have a trained workforce. The City Planner for the City of Hermantown retired. They requested an ARDC Planner on retainer July 1<sup>st</sup> through December 31, 2013. It was approved.
- **Veterans Transit Meeting** – Scheduled for February 22<sup>nd</sup>, but due to a snowstorm and dangerous roads, was unable to attend.
- **Library** – Did not call another meeting after the snowstorm.
- **Backus & Bemidji Facilities Visit** – February 19<sup>th</sup> went with Patrick Wussow to view facilities.
- **Fiscal Disparity** – Attended meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **Snake River Watershed Board meeting** – Attended on February 25<sup>th</sup>.

## Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

- **Fiscal Disparity meeting** – Attended meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **CMCC** – There is an Aitkin vacancy in Probation.
- **HRA** – Went to January's meeting. Customized living was discussed, along with a flu

policy.

- **Planning Commission** – Met on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **MACPZA** – Went to meeting in Carlton County for zoning training.
- **Onanegozie** – Met on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Minutes are on-line in our February 12<sup>th</sup> Board packet.
- **Extension** – Met on January 29<sup>th</sup>. Reports were given by Jim Ravis, and Jolene Gansen. Beth Haasken provided a written report.

Commissioner J. Mark Wedel

- **CMCC** – Unable to attend, but noted there are good applicants for CMCC Agent.
- **Proposed Truck Route** – Met at City Hall on February 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **Fiscal Disparity meeting** – Attended meeting on February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **Island Concept** – In present, residences in flood plain are not able to rebuild if structure is 50% or more destroyed. In the island concept there are some elevation requirements, but that would allow rebuilding even in the flood zone. FEMA is the authority.
- **Possible New Business Expansion** – Long range. Could involve some application for IRRRB funds.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 1:21 p.m. until Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 9:00 a.m.

**ADJOURN**

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J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson  
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

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Patrick Wussow, County Administrator