

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
March 24, 2015**

**I. Attendance**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 24th day of March, 2015, at 9:06 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 Nathan Burkett; H&HS Staff Members Tom Burke, Director; Sue Tange & Ann Rivas, Social Service Supervisors; Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor; Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Adam Hoogenakker, Aitkin Independent Age; Bob Marcum and Roberta Elvecrog, H&HS Advisory Committee Members; and Bob Goede, MCIT.

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

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

**III. Review February 24, 2015 Health & Human Service Board Minutes**

*Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the Minutes as mailed/posted.*

**IV. Review Bills**

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

**V. General/Miscellaneous Information**

- A. CHIP (Community Health Improvement Plan)** Erin Melz/Amy Wyant reviewed the CHIP which has been approved by the AIK Community Health Board. The top three Community Priorities addressed in the CHIP are: 1) Eating Habits; 2) Parenting/Family Systems; 3) Healthy Start for Children/Adolescents.
- B. VIP (Aitkin County Volunteer Initiative Program)** Erin Melz/Amy Wyant reviewed the updated draft brochure on the VIP. Developing a program where we would recruit folks who are retired and/or live in the community who have expertise in various areas to give back to the community.
- C. 2014 Year End Budget Review** – Kathy Ryan reviewed the 2014 Year End Budget Review Notes pointing out that we were budgeted to spend \$600,030 of the H&H Fund balance in 2014 but the actual 2014 fund balance used was \$335,329. Kathy also reviewed the Foster Care Costs which have decreased. She noted the major events affecting the budget areas in 2014 and she gave examples of prevention focused services/programs being developed in 2015.

**VI. Administrative Reports:**

- A. Financial & Transportation Reports** – Kathy Ryan reviewed the monthly financial and transportation reports. She touched on a specific expenditure with respect to Aitkin County being the middle man in the payment process for a bathroom modification project.

**VII. FYI**

- A. **Agenda reflecting discussion topics reviewed at the meeting on March 13, 2015 with Senator Carrie Ruud, Representative Dale Lueck and the Health & Human Services Administrative Staff.** Tom Burke noted the meeting went very well and appreciated their interest in Health & Human Services along with the fact that both Ann Rivas and Erin Melz have both had discussions with them at the State Capitol in the past couple weeks. Tom also discussed the Governor's Task Force in progress and the possible changes to the caseload numbers that will be allowed for Social Workers as well as the number of Social Workers a Supervisor may be allowed to supervise in the future. He will continue to update the Board as these changes develop and the information becomes available

**VIII. Committee Reports from Commissioners**

- A. **H&HS Advisory Committee** – Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte were at AMC and were absent from this meeting. Bob Marcum thanked Amy Wyant for the VIP report she presented at the Advisory Committee meeting. He also discussed various issues he has become aware of including MNSure, Initiatives, and funding for Long Term Care Insurance. He made note of funeral practices/customs for the Native American Tribes and the need for cultural diversity and sensitivity training.
- B. **AEOA Committee Update** – Commissioner Westerlund noted the next meeting will be in April.
- C. **NEMOJT Committee Update** – Commissioner Napstad noted the next meeting will be in April.
- D. **CJI (Children's Justice Initiative)** – Commissioner Westerlund was at AMC & unable to attend the last CJI meeting.
- E. **Lakes & Pines Update** – Commissioner Niemi discussed the fact that energy assistance applications for primary heat are down this year. He spoke about a home buying program with a three to one match for low income folks which is a saving plan to help folks reach their down payment. This match can also be accessed for business start-ups which has had a 75% success rate.

**IX. Break at 10:41 a.m. for 10-15 minutes**

**Next Meeting – April 28, 2015**