

AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING MINUTES

III.

August 25, 2015

I. Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 25th day of August, 2015, at 9:04 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 Tom Burke, Director; Sue Tange, Jessi Schutlz, & Ann Rivas, Social Service Supervisors; Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor; Jessica Goble, Income Maintenance Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Adam Hoogenakker, Aitkin Independent Age; and Roberta Elvecrog, H&HS Advisory Committee Member; Bob Harwarth, citizen.
(Commissioner Anne Marcotte was not present)

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.

III. Review July 28, 2015 Health & Human Service Board Minutes

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

IV. Review Bills

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

V. General/Miscellaneous Information

- A. **Re-procurement** – Verbal Report – Tom Burke updated the Board on the fact that the provider has been changed from UCare to two different providers which will ultimately provide our staff with a lot more work since everyone in our county who previously had UCare will now need to review the two new providers and change to one of them. The cost just to our county is estimated at \$25,000 to \$30,000. Discussion took place with respect to an appeal by UCare to the courts as well as whether or not Aitkin County should appeal to DHS to request reimbursement from the State for the costs involved in making all these changes. There are questions as to whether the change could be delayed.
- B. **WRAP (We Rally Around Parents) Program** - Lakes & Pines Update – Ann Rivas updated the Board that Lakes & Pines is in the process of hiring a Family Resource Specialist to work with and help parents prepare their children for school. A meeting is scheduled with Lakes & Pines to review the applications and interviews will be scheduled in the next couple week. This program will be on a voluntary basis by the parents.
- C. **Discharge Planning at the Aitkin County Jail** Update – Ann Rivas discussed the voluntary services for Discharge Planning for Aitkin County residents in the jail based on the “Stepping Up Initiative” Resolution that was presented and signed at Board recently. Ann will be giving a “Make it Okay” presentation on September 9th and monthly thereafter to the jail inmates from Aitkin County with the hope that those folks will look for educational and informational assistance both prior to and following their discharge from jail.
- D. **Strategic Plan** – Tom Burke discussed the Health & Human Services component of the County Strategic Plan which consists of four areas using measures pulled from information we already have available to us. He noted a number of positive outcomes over the past 18 years including: more consumers in the workforce, fewer that are highly dependent, many are limited to how long they are on programs, there are less kids in out of home placements, there are more services available, and if our elderly folks need to go into a nursing home, their stays are shorter.

There is still a question as to whether we are measuring the right things, i.e. meeting children within five days of a referral and then monthly after that. If we are not showing a benefit to the recipient, are we effective? It was asked if we can check the recidivism rate with those we are engaged with now and again in two years.

VI. Contracts / Resolutions

A. **WIC Agreements** for the period September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016 between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and:

1. McGregor Independent School District # 4
2. Hill City School District #2

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the WIC Agreements for the period September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016 between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and McGregor Independent School District # 4.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried; the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the WIC Agreements for the period September 1, 2015 to August 31, 2016 between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and Hill City School District #2. Erin Melz noted that due to a request from the Hill City School, we are looking at an alternate site in Hill City.

VII. Administrative Reports:

A. **Financial & Transportation Reports** – Tom Burke noted that we are down in revenues right now but we are on track for the rest of the year.

VIII. Joint Powers Board Reports:

A. **Tri-County Community Health Services Board (CHS)**

Commissioner Westerlund / Erin Melz / Tom Burke

August 13, 2015 Meeting Minutes – Erin Melz updated the Board that a Public Health Planner, Ben Kofoed has been hired. Their recent meeting reflected in the attached minutes was general business which included discussion relative to the CHS Conference in October, Pitch Event in International Falls this week and QI/CHIP and Strategic Plan updates. Amy Wyant and Erin Melz will be providing an update of the CHIP plan to the AC H&HS Board next month.

IX. Committee Reports from Commissioners

A. **H&HS Advisory Committee** – Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte

Committee Members attending today: Bob Marcum & Roberta Elvecrog

Minutes of the August 5, 2015 meeting were reviewed and it was noted that the September meeting will be canceled due to the Retirement Open House for Sue Tange.

B. **AEOA Committee Update** – Commissioner Westerlund noted there were various discussions of which many did not involve Aitkin County. There will be a meeting at Camp Esquagamah in October.

C. **NEMOJT Committee Update** – Commissioner Napstad noted they have not met.

D. **CJI (Children's Justice Initiative)** – Commissioner Westerlund noted they have not met.

E. **Lakes & Pines Update** – Commissioner Niemi noted they have not met.

Tom Burke noted that this would be Sue Tange's last meeting before her retirement on September 4th. The agency is having an Open House in honor of Sue on Wednesday, September 2nd from 2:00-3:30 p.m. and invited the Commissioners to join us in wishing her well. Tom also introduced Jessi Schultz as the new Social Service Supervisor replacing Sue. Sue received a round of applause and a thank you from the Board for her many years of service to Aitkin County.