



**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
August 28, 2018**

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 28th day of August, 2018, at 9:01 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, and Bill Pratt. Others present included: County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Health & Human Services Director Cynthia Bennett, Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, Child Social Services Supervisor Jessi Schultz, Public Health Supervisor Erin Melz, Adult Social Services Supervisor Kim Larson, Social Workers Reina Irvine, Rebecca Person, and Nick Anderson, Assistant to the County Administrator Sue Bingham, and Guests: Robert Marcum/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Kari Paulsen/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Brielle Bredsten/Aitkin Independent Age, Joel Hoppe/Citizen, and Bob Harwarth/Citizen.

Agenda

There was a request to add a new Item V, Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor for an Out of State Travel request, to the agenda and to move all the following Items down one.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the August 28, 2018 Health & Human Services Board agenda with the addition.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the July 24, 2018 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

Bills

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the bills.

Health & Human Services Director Report, Cynthia Bennett H&HS Director

Cynthia started by thanking the Board members for the great Strategic Planning workshop that was held last week.

She talked about attending the MACSSA meeting, the end of July, and that she had three main topics she wanted to bring to the Board's attention-

1. MACSSA and AMC are working together to form a group that will work on building relationships between the two organizations and to look at "big picture" trends that are affecting service delivery so they can develop legislative platforms together.
2. She reviewed a presentation given by the Assistant DHS Commissioner Clair Wilson on Mental Health Funding. Clair's main point during this presentation was that we need to look at a new business model for providing funding. When you have a grant based source of funding, that funding goes up and down and is not consistent, yet the need for service remains consistent. DHS wants to work with MACSSA on legislative priorities to try to alter that funding source to be more consistent, balanced, and reliable. DHS is also wanting to

have a better understanding of programs and interventions that are considered best practice. What are counties doing that works or doesn't work? They plan to use focus groups, surveys, and a national database called Results First to share the information across all of the counties.

As an addition, the RFP's for the Mental Health Bonding monies would be coming out in September.

3. Cynthia also reviewed a presentation given by the State Chief Medical Officer and CEO of DHS's Regional Treatment Centers on Competency Restoration. They have been working on a Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) program for the past year. Some of the changes made had had an impact on the Counties. DHS is now discharging 25% of the individuals prior to competency restoration and discharge planning being done. These individuals are being discharged back to the jail in the county of residence. This brought up the question of who is responsible for conducting restoration services for these individuals, once discharged. As far as the statute is concerned, the statute is "silent". What this means is that it doesn't specifically identify who is responsible. Due to this fact, Cynthia, believes there will be support for legislation to clarify statute language that will identify who holds responsibility for competency restoration services when a consumer is discharged from the regional treatment centers prior to the consumer completing restoration.
 - a. Commissioner Marcotte asked why they were discharging people before they were ready, to which Cynthia responded that there is a great need for more crisis stabilization beds within the state and that the longer a person is at the treatment centers the fewer beds there are that are available for that.

Lastly Cynthia talked about the many conferences that are coming up this fall.

- AMC conference: September 13 & 14
 - Cynthia will be attending and as a member of the HHS committee will be participating in the meetings to begin the process of lay out the legislative priorities.
- MACSSA annual conference is the first week of October
- CHS annual conference is the second week of October
- Cynthia will be attending either the MACSSA or the CHS conference based on conference content.
- Opioid Summit September 12 - Erin Melz and Kim Larson, will be attending. Our October presentation for Board will be on Opioid, local opportunities, and working partnerships that are occurring in Aitkin County.

Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor

Out-of-State Travel Request

1. Asked for the Board's approval in sending Shawn Speed and Stacey Durgin to the Center for Emergency Preparedness in Aniston, Alabama October 1-5 to attend the MGT360, Incident Command: Capabilities, Planning, and Response Actions for All Hazards training.
2. Is a three day class, the 1st and 5th are travel days.
3. Concentrates on how decisions made by responders from various disciplines can impact the handling of a chemical, biological, radiological, nuclear, or explosive (CBRNE) incident.
4. All costs, travel, lodging, meals, are covered by the Northeast Healthcare Preparedness Coalition except employee work time.

Commissioner Marcotte inquired as to why these two people were picked to go to the training and Erin explained that Stacey is the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator for HHS and that Shawn, being fairly new to his position on Emergency Preparedness as the Logistics Chief, would greatly benefit to the exposure that this training gives.

A motion was then made by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the out-of-state travel request.

Contracts/Agreements

A motion was made by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to approve the WIC agreement between ACH&HS and McGregor Schools. A motion was made by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve appointment of Steven Teff to the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Advisory Committee for District 5, filling an existing opening on the committee.

Adult Mental Health Targeted Case Management Presentation, Kim Larson Adult Social Services Supervisor

Kim went through her presentation, which is attached, on Targeted Case Management.

Committee Reports

Joint Powers Board Report – Erin Melz

Met in Koochiching County on August 9th.

- Saw a presentation on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs). ACEs analyzes 10 adverse childhood experiences and how that plays into their lives later on. Adverse childhood experiences (ACEs) are stressful or traumatic events, including abuse and neglect. They may also include household dysfunction such as witnessing domestic violence or growing up with family members who have substance use disorders. ACEs are strongly related to the development and prevalence of a wide range of health problems throughout a person's lifespan, including those associated with substance misuse.
- K. Chandler gave the LPHA update. The new Director, K. Oldfield, has been traveling the state to meet with the difference LPHA members. The new legislative priorities are being sorted out while planning for a new Governor.
- One priority will be the Healthcare Access Fund (provider tax) sun setting Dec 2019. SHIP has received \$202 million in HAF funding. The fact that Itasca was celebrating 100 years of Public Health. Kirk Peysar assisted with some history for Aitkin Co. and found the first county nurse started on January 8, 1940, after a campaign to raise \$1,400 to make it possible. Prior to this date the requirements and duties fell to the County Board.

H&HS Advisory Committee Update – Robert Marcum/Kari Paulsen

Met on August 1st.

- Robert thanked the board for providing him the opportunity to serve on the committee the past 6 years.
- Mentioned he had been out in the community knocking on doors and found that there are still so many people who don't realize what help is available to them.
- Kari talked about the budget presentation they were shown, by Carli Goble, and how informative it was.

AEOA Committee Update – Commissioner Westerlund

Met on August 15th.

- Working on bylaws.
- Went through tax information.
- Went through a lot of policy items.

CJI – Commissioner Westerlund/Jessi Schultz

Was a short meeting and all that was discussed was who would be attending the Regional CJI meeting in Grand Rapids and that that meeting has been postponed with a new date yet to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:08 a.m.

Next Meeting – September 25, 2018