

# AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 4, 2012

**Committee Members Present:**

Vernon Awes  
Kathy Barker  
Jim Carlson  
Roberta Elvecrog  
Mickey Gault  
Kami Genz, CMCC  
Renee Larson  
David Leaf  
Robert Lewis  
Tricia Martin, ACCare  
Sara Math, AFSCME Union Rep  
Cheryl Meld  
Sandy Silver  
Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

**Others Present:**

Tom Burke, Director  
Julie Lueck, Clerk to this Committee  
Sue Tange, Social Service Supervisor  
Stacey Durgin, Public Health Educator

**Absent:**

Commissioner Anne Marcotte  
Michele Plagman

**I. Approval of Agenda**

*Motion by Cheryl Meld, seconded by Sandy Silver, and carried; the vote was to approve the Agenda as mailed.*

**II. Approval of Minutes of the December 7, 2011 Meeting**

*Motion by Bob Lewis, seconded by Dave Leaf, and carried, the vote was to approve the December 7, 2011, minutes as mailed.*

**III. Emergency Preparedness Presentation** – Stacey Durgin, PH Educator, gave a PowerPoint Presentation on the Public Health Emergency Preparedness (See attached printout) and the Aitkin County Mass Dispensing Plan of medications and the Management Reform Act addressing natural disasters, acts of terrorism, and other man-made disasters.

**IV. Responses to Questions from AEOA:**

**A. With respect to Meals on Wheels - (Marilyn Ocepek)** – No response yet from Ms. Ocepek. Tricia Martin updated the committee that Meals on Wheels serves 55 residents in and around the city of Aitkin and approximately 20-30 meals per month to rural delivery. There are about 28 recipients that each get 10-15 meals per person per delivery.

**B. With respect to the Blue Bus Schedule – (Pam Smith)**

1. How is the word getting out to residents about the availability of the bus in various areas of Aitkin County?

**Because of "flat funding" (we're not getting an increase in our funds), advertising on radio and newspapers is no longer an option for us. We depend a lot on "word of mouth" and organizations like yours to help us get the word out.**

2. Are there any plans for outreach to communities in Aitkin County, i.e. McGrath, and McGregor?

**There is nothing planned at this time, this goes back to the answer above, flat funding prevents mass media advertising. I am available and have spoken to groups in Aitkin County promoting Arrowhead Transit and am very willing to go again or to other groups that would like to have me!**

*Pam also attached a pdf copy of the Aitkin County and Aitkin City schedules for you. Tricia Martin noted she had a received a bunch of the schedules and would bring them for the committee members next month.*

**V. Hot Topics for Discussion**

- A.** Dave Leaf brought up the need for sub-committees to be formed to discuss specific issues with the involvement of this committee in order to possibly do more in the community/county. Looking for ideas from HHS or the Commissioners with things this committee could look into at the community level. Tom noted there will probably be some transition things that will be coming up and how they could be communicated to the public. A couple suggestions for sub-committees that could be developed include one on Transportation in Aitkin to get the word out about the various types of transportation assistance available. The second suggestion was the Food Shelves and how to get the information out to folks that the food shelves are available in various areas of the county and opportunities for folks to volunteer at the food shelves as well as overcoming the cultural barriers.
- B.** Dave Leaf also questions the need to have Community Recognition on the agenda every month and the need for clarification of who the recipients could/should be or whether or not the guidelines need to be revamped or clarified. Discussed the fact that we want to recognize the “service provided” and not necessarily the employees of the company/organization. Copies of the current Community Recognition Guidelines will be sent to committee members for review and revisions if necessary.

**VI. Comments:**

- A. Comments from the Committee Members for the Commissioners relative to HHS –**  
Nothing additional noted.
- B. Feedback from the Board Meeting – Cheryl Meld, Tricia Martin & Roberta Elvecrog**  
Discussed the fact there were lots of contracts for approval and the Advisory Committee members were appointed to H&HS Advisory. It was also noted that there was a Mental Health – Local Area Council (MH-LAC) presentation which will be presented to this committee at the March meeting. Sue Tange also presented follow-up information on the FGDM (Family Group Decision Making) and the Triple P (Parallel Protection Process).

**C. Committee Members to attend Board Meetings the first six months in 2012 –**

JANUARY 24	Bob Lewis	Jim Carlson
FEBRUARY 28	Bob Lewis	Dave Leaf
MARCH 27	Sara Math	Roberta Elvecrog
APRIL 24	Bob Lewis	Roberta Elvecrog
MAY 22	Kathy Barker	Dave Leaf
JUNE 26	Sandy Silver	Jim Carlson

**VII. Community Recognition** – Further discussion relative to a recognition for the DAC-Mart or DAC. Guidelines will be distributed to members for review and possible changes in language for clarification.

**VIII. Miscellaneous Discussion**

- A. Topics for Discussions/Presentations** – Discussion relative to Transportation, Food Shelf Information, a SHIP Update from Stacey Durgin, Demographics of Aitkin County since the 2010 Census.
- B. Jim Carlson discussed the Operation Christmas numbers** that have dropped over the past couple years (2009 served 620 children, 2010 served 553 children and 2011 served approximately 530 children. The final report will be ready prior to the next committee meeting and Jim will provide an update on the agenda for the overall program and Cheryl Meld will provide an update from the McGregor area participation in Operation Christmas.

**IX. Adjourn**

*Motion by Bob Lewis, seconded by Jim Carlson, and carried; the vote was to adjourn the meeting at 5:16 p.m.*

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Roberta Elvecrog, Chairperson

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Julie Lueck, Clerk to  
Aitkin County Health & Human Services Advisory Committee

The following documents were included in the packet of information sent to members for review prior to the meeting or distributed at the meeting:

- Draft copy of the Minutes of the December 7, 2011, Advisory Committee Meeting
- Draft copy of the December 20, 2011, Health & Human Services Board Meeting Minutes
- New Revised list of Health & Human Services Board Meeting Dates which Advisory Members have signed up to attend in 2012.
- H&HS Advisory Committee Meeting Dates in 2012
- Aitkin County Public Health Emergency Preparedness PowerPoint Slides