

Aitkin County Health & Human Services

204 First St. NW
AITKIN, MINNESOTA 56431
PHONE 1-800-328-3744 or 1-218-927-7200 - FAX # 927-7210

DATE: August 22, 2012

TO: Aitkin County Board of Commissioners
Commissioner Wedel
Commissioner Marcotte
Commissioner Napstad
Commissioner Niemi
Commissioner Westerlund
Patrick Wussow, Aitkin County Administrator

FROM: Tom Burke, Director

RE: Request for Board Action on August 28, 2012 - Public Health Nuisance

I am herewith attaching a copy of the Order to Abate a Public Health Nuisance, which was sent to Marguerite McNutt, owner of Parcel # 25-0-041503, located at 17903 – 180th Lane, McGrath, MN 56350. The Abatement order was sent out July 30, 2012, with a deadline for abatement of August 13, 2012.

Based on the findings in these reports, I am requesting your support in finding this property to be a Public Health Nuisance as defined in MN Statutes, Chapter 145A.04. I, as agent to the County Board of Commissioners, request your authorization to proceed with the abatement of this Public Health Nuisance per Aitkin County Policy. The abatement at this time will consist of removal of the structure and all debris from the property.

Due to the failure/inability of the property owner to abate the nuisance as ordered, the department shall abate the nuisance and charge all costs incurred against the real estate as a special assessment to be collected in the same manner as property taxes.

Any questions, please contact me at 218-927-7225.

C: Jim Ratz, Aitkin County Attorney
Terry Neff, Aitkin County Environmental Services
Kirk Peysar, Aitkin County Auditor
Marguerite McNutt, Property Owner

**Aitkin County Health & Human Services
Order to Abate a Public Health Nuisance**

REVISED

To: **Marguerite McNutt
PO Box 184
McGrath, MN 53650**

Pursuant to authority granted in Minnesota Statutes Section 145A be advised that the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Department has found that a Public Health Nuisance exists at (address):

**17903 – 180th Lane
McGrath, MN 56350**

Located at parcel #: **25-0-041503 Section 26 / Township 44.0 / Range 23**

Description of Public Health Nuisance: **The home structure is dilapidated. The northern two rooms are shut off as there is a large hole in the hallway where a variety of animals such as raccoons enter the residence. The front door is not closeable due to the frame and parts of the wall being deteriorated. The front steps are eschewed and rotting. The living room, kitchen and south bedroom are completely buried in home debris. There is a pathway that an adult can move through sideways in most places. There are only two spots a person can sit. One is a chair in the living room and the other is the bed in the south bedroom. The items include clothes, furniture, and household waste. In addition, there are at least 17 former gallon water containers either full or partially full of human waste. In addition, there are at least 25 gallon containers outside of the residence on the ground immediately in front of the mobile home. The residence has neither running water nor electricity. Food items such as cheese and a roll of summer sausage was simply setting on a mound of clothes with no refrigeration. While the owner has one indoor cat, there are 20 cats around the perimeter of the home, some of which seem to live in the northern part of the trailer. The home was musty smelling. The only form of heat was a wood stove that was also covered and surrounded by debris.**

The owner of the property does not have a permit for the structure to be on this property.

The findings were: **This home/property is a public health nuisance.**

And that you are hereby ordered to abate the nuisance as follows:

- 1. Remove the structure and all debris from the property.**
- 2. If another home is built or brought to the site, you must obtain permits for the new structure and septic system (porta-toilet or outhouse is approved with a permit, assuming no running water is connected to the structure).**
- 3. Environmental Services office will have to approve of the new home location, there are wetlands on the site and no filling or draining of the wetlands is allowed without approval from the county.**

This action must be completed no later than: August 16, 2012

Failure to abate the nuisance as ordered, the department shall abate the nuisance and charge all cost incurred against the real estate as a special assessment to be collected in the same manner as property taxes.

Date: **July 30, 2012**

Aitkin County Health & Human Services

Tom Burke, Director
Aitkin County Health & Human Services
Designated Agent



