

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, November 7, 2012**

Committee Members Present:

Vernon Awes
Jim Carlson
Roberta Elvecrog
Mickey Gault
Kami Genz, CMCC
Renee Larson
David Leaf
Robert Lewis
Tricia Martin, ACCare
Sara Math, AFSCME Union Rep
Michele Plagman
Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

Others Present:

Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor
Sue Tange, Social Service Supervisor
Julie Lueck, Clerk to this Committee

Absent:

Cheryl Meld
Kathy Barker
Commissioner Anne Marcotte

I. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Dave Leaf, seconded by Vern Awes, and carried; the vote was to approve the Agenda as mailed.

II. Approval of Minutes of the September 5, 2012 Meeting

Motion by Bob Lewis, seconded by Renee Larson, and carried; the vote was to approve the September 5, 2012, minutes as mailed.

III. Riverwood Expansion Project – Kris Layne

Sub-topic/Introduction: Access to Health Care Services & importance to Provider that clients have MA/MNCARE – Kathy Ryan introduced Kris Layne as follows: One of the responsibilities of Public Health is to assure access to services, this refers to activities that guarantee quality services, in this case quality health care services for individuals living in our county. One way we can do that is to make sure our local service providers are able to remain viable. Our HHS income maintenance unit helps individuals get on MA or MNCare so that there will be a pay source for service. If the hospital or clinic doesn't get paid, they will lose money and then we will need to figure out how to acquire the services for individuals. Even though we are separate organizations, we need to support each other and work together for our county residents to benefit. As demographics, trends related to chronic disease, and the needs of our population in our county change our service providers need to change too. Thus things like expansion projects occur.

Kris Layne spoke to the committee about the \$21 million expansion project that began in the spring of 2011 which is due to be completed next spring (2013). They had a five year plan and accelerated it into a one year plan. When they moved into the hospital originally it was not exactly what they wanted but they built to the dollars they had at that time. They began this project by looking at the infusion room which now offers lots of options with a separate entrance, with private bays (5) of which one has a bed. It is called "Infusion Services" which allows for other services like blood infusions or antibiotic infusions in addition to the chemotherapy.

The next area that opened was a building added on the hospital grounds which is located off the southwest end. This is the ICU area which is built in an L with the nurse's desk in the middle with much better visibility to the patients. The ICU, inpatient and OB areas were developed with "zones" for patient care with dark flooring for the patient area and where the windows are, there are sleeper sofas for the family. They have a communication board for family contacts, phone numbers and information. The patient boards tell who the nurse, doctor, and therapist is along with the expected release date, special considerations, special diet information, etc.

They opened the inpatient area on April 23rd, 2012. All the new rooms have ceiling lifts that track all the way into the bathrooms. They also have walking slings.

The hallways are being renovated along with the current med room which was too small. They also added a birthing suite with three OB beds in separate areas. Security was an issue so doors are now locked and badges are used for the family members.

They are going to be redoing some of the support services such as the surgery area, especially the sterilization area. The Mike Ryan facility was added on and opened July 2012. They now have all staff on one campus. They also now have a collection box outside so you can drop off a payment.

They have expanded the physical therapy area and expanded that waiting area and also provided an area for the orthopedic doctors.

Question as to whether they might have dialysis in house one of these days. It is being looked into but there are other criteria needed. Need a nurse manager with experience, a nephrologist, a doctor to oversee the patients and yet not take the patients away from another facility. They currently have 29 patients in Aitkin County that need dialysis.

IV. Hot Topics for Discussion – Nothing noted at this time.

V. Comments:

A. Comments from the Committee Members for the Commissioners relative to HHS – Nothing noted at this time.

B. Feedback from the Board Meetings – from those folks who attended the meeting:
September 25 Meeting was canceled.
October 23, Meeting – Roberta Elvecrog - No comments at this time.

C. Committee Members scheduled to attend upcoming Board Meetings in 2012

NOVEMBER 27
DECEMBER 18

Roberta Elvecrog
Tricia Martin

Cheryl Meld
Cheryl Meld

VI. Community Recognition

- A. Motion by Michelle Plagman, seconded by Tricia Martin, and carried, the vote was to present Certificates of Recognition to the following:**
1. The Community Choir performing the Messiah, directed by Brian Johnson contributing to the Well-Being of the Community.
 2. Sandy Kilde, directing the McGregor Contata, contributing to the Well-Being of the Community.
 3. The Great River Strings contributing to the Well-Being of the Community.

VII. Miscellaneous Discussion

- A. It was noted that the Education Foundation for the Aitkin Schools** will be having a Variety/Talent Show on Saturday, November 24th.
- B. Community Meal** – Even though the date was switched, we need a minimum of six people while they are serving. We will reserve October 7th, 2013, to serve in Aitkin and the third Wednesday in May, the 15th, in 2013 to serve in McGregor.
- C. Update on Operation Christmas** - Jim Carlson updated the committee that Molly Dox is co-chairing the project for the Aitkin area and Jim is co-chairing for the McGregor area. The sign up procedure will be appear in the Aitkin Age and Voyageur Press when it gets closer. This year they plan to allow \$40 per child and it will be held at the Moose Lodge in Aitkin on December 11-13. They will be promoting it on the radio three times and noted there are 8 drop off sites in the McGregor/Palisade area and 5 places in the Aitkin area. The program serves about 600 kids per year. **Motion by Dave Leaf, seconded by Laurie Westerlund, and carried,** the vote was to present a community recognition to the Operation Christmas Committee.
- D. Lakes Area Restorative Justice Program** – Kami Genz informed the committee of this new program referred down from the court. It is a decision-making power for juveniles to own up and take responsibility for the crime they committed. They are looking for community members as volunteers on the committee.
- E. Advisory Committee Member Terms** – Those Advisory Committee Members whose terms expire December 31, 2012, include: Kathy Barker, Mickey Gault, Kami Genz, Dave Leaf, Sara Math and Cheryl Meld. Julie will send out applications to each of these current members to complete and send back if they are interested in serving another term. It was noted that advertising for the positions must also take place and the actual appointment or re-appointment to the position will take place at the December 18th meeting.

IX. Adjourn

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Tricia Martin, and carried; the vote was to adjourn the meeting at 4:50 p.m.

Roberta Elvecrog, Chairperson

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 September 5, 2012, Advisory Committee Meeting
- Draft copy of the October 23, 2012 Health & Human Services Board Meeting Minutes
- Notice of Canceled September 25th, 2012 H&HS Board Meeting in Lieu of Agenda