

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
September 24, 2013**

**I. Attendance**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 24th day of September, 2013, at 9:03 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Chairperson Commissioner Mark Wedel; Commissioners Anne Marcotte, Brian Napstad, Don Niemi, and Laurie Westerlund; and others present included: County Administrator Patrick Wussow; H&HS Director Tom Burke; H&HS Staff Members Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Roberta Elvecrog & Dave Leaf, H&HS Advisory Members; Galen Tveit, Resident; and Nanci Sauerbrei, Aitkin Independent Age.

**II. Approval of Health & Human Services Board Agenda**

*Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund, and carried; the vote was to approve the Agenda with the addition of V. – C. Pandemic Planning and Prep Course out of State.*

**III. Review August 27, 2013 Health & Human Service Board Minutes**

*Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte, and carried, the vote was to approve the August 27, 2013, Health & Human Services Board Minutes.*

**IV. Review Bills**

*Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried, the vote was to approve the Bills as presented this date.*

**V. General/Miscellaneous Information**

- A. Re-procurement** – Tom Burke discussed the process that has taken place with the NE Region of seven counties researching and proposing providers for the plans. The State of MN made the decision that any county that is not metro will have one provider which will be UCARE in Aitkin County. Only a couple service areas will be affected and other programs will have Medica or Blue Cross Blue Shield.
- B. NACO – Health Steering Committee membership** – Tom Burke noted that he was again appointed to the NACO - Health Steering Committee for the 2013-2014 term and he is requesting that the Board approve and support his appointment. *Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve and support the appointment of Tom Burke to the NACO Health Steering Committee and approve the travel expenses to attend the meetings involved.*
- C. Pandemic Planning and Prep Course (out of state) Training** – Tom Burke noted this training is very appropriate for up to three county staff members to attend in Anniston, Alabama on January 21-25, 2014. All expenses (airfare, cost of class, materials, lodging and food) will be paid by the Federal government except for the actual staff time. Tom would expect that either he or the Public Health Supervisor and Stacey Durgin, along with possibly someone from the Sheriff's office would attend to participate in the regional effort to work together for disaster preparedness. This training also provides educational credits. *Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte, and carried, the vote was to approve the attendance of up to three people to attend the training with the stipulation that those attending the training give a half hour presentation to the Board at either the January 28<sup>th</sup> or February 25<sup>th</sup> H&HS Board meeting as to what occurred at the training and what the County Board should be aware of as emergency planners.*

## **VI. FYI**

- A. **What is MNSure & What Will it do?** – Eileen Foss noted that one week from today (October 1) people should be able to go online with open enrollment, and then it is going into effect January 1, 2014. For current coverage, they will be referred to our office. There will be different levels which will tell them what they are qualified for and assist them in the direction they need to go. Our training has been delayed but each week there is a number of hours of training that can be done on-line at the worker's desk.

## **VII. Administrative Reports:**

- A. **Financial & Transportation Reports** – Tom Burke noted that our dollars are looking good at this time.

## **VIII. Committee Reports from Commissioners**

- A. H&HS Advisory Committee – Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte  
Meeting updates from Committee Members: Dave Leaf & Roberta Elvecrog  
Draft minutes of the September 4, 2013 meeting.
1. Roberta Elvecrog noted that the Task Forces are in the process of learning about their various areas. The Task Forces were wondering if the Commissioners have any suggestions or questions for them to research. The committee is discussing how often to meet in the future but will continue monthly through 2013. The committee along with members of the AFSCME Union served the Community Meal in August and will serve again in October.
  2. Commissioner Marcotte noted that they would like to continue to have service providers give presentations to the committee but it will be those not included in the Task Force areas.
  3. Dave Leaf noted these Task Forces are facing a steep learning curve with a tremendous amount of information being shared with them so they will be moving slowly to allow them to develop on their own.
  4. Commissioner Napstad suggested that the committee look into why we have a population of “hard to serve” individuals, meaning hard to get them employed. What services are obstructing them from getting jobs? What services are they receiving from agencies to allow them to survive? How can we help them transition to jobs?
- B. AEOA / NEMOJT Committee Updates – Commissioner Napstad updated the Board with respect To:
1. The AEOA Weatherization program (Lakes & Pines) consolidating from 37 Community Action Councils down to 6 providers;
  2. AEOA is looking into sharing their Executive Director with Kootaska;
  3. AEOA is looking at building a new office building to share with Range Mental Health Services at a cost of \$20 million.
  4. Patrick Wussow discussed the Public Assistance Recipients presentation that was given in December 2012 and that we will continue that discussion with the Board at a future meeting.
  5. AMC Conference discussion relative to the Indian Child Welfare presentation.
- C. CJI (Children's Justice Initiative) – Commissioner Westerlund noted they had a presentation from Liz DeRuyck regarding drug testing also pertaining to the recipe for synthetic drugs changing frequently.

## **IX. Break at 10:28 a.m. for 10 minutes**

**Next Meeting – October 22, 2013**