

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2014 at 9:02 a.m. with the following members present: Chairperson J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, Brian Napstad, Anne Marcotte, County Administrator Nathan Burkett, and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham.

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the September 23, 2014 amended agenda. Item 5D – Request for Roof/Shingle Replacement - Health & Human Services, was added.

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
September 23, 2014**

**I. Attendance**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 23<sup>rd</sup> day of September, 2014, 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 Nathan Burkett; H&HS Director Tom Burke; H&HS Staff Members Eileen Foss, Income Maintenance Supervisor; Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor; Sue Tange & Ann Rivas, Social Service Supervisors; Kathy Ryan, Fiscal Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Brenda Butterfield, AFSCME Rep.; Nanci Sauerbrei, Aitkin Independent Age; Roberta Elvecrog, and Bob Harwarth, citizens.

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

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the Agenda as mailed/posted

**III. Review August 26, 2014 Health & Human Service Board Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte, and carried, the vote was to approve the August 26, 2014, Health & Human Services Board Meeting Minutes.

**IV. Review Bills**

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

**V. General/Miscellaneous Information**

**A. MN Choices Delay - Tom Burke** noted that our staff are trained and ready but it has been delayed until further notice.

**B. Tribal State Agreement (TSA) Update – Tom Burke** discussed the recent meetings he has attended since May comprised of eight county directors and four county attorneys along with Tribal & DHS representatives. The TSA was put into place in 1997 and reviewed again in 2007 and now for the first time, counties are involved. Recently they went over the QEW (Qualified Expert Witness) and developed a definition of an Indian Child and an Indian Family. The document will be carried by DHS for legislation

**CALL TO ORDER**

**APPROVED  
AGENDA**

**HEALTH &  
HUMAN  
SERVICES  
BOARD**

as the goal for the tribes is to take this from a policy and put it into legislation. Doing work within the TSA requirements are basically the same for us as they have been in the past with the focus on keeping children with their family of origin and /or tribe. There will be a Summit this Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-4:30 at Bois Forte where Tom has been asked to be on the Forum Panel addressing the Crisis of Indian Children. Currently the TSA addresses what happens after the child is pulled from the home. Tom would like to address early intervention and education, resources and services. He will also be encouraging funding from all sources including, counties, state, federal, and the tribes. Following the Summit the County and Tribal representatives will be meeting with DHS staff in St. Paul on Friday, September 26<sup>th</sup> at 10 a.m. to further discuss the TSA.

**VI. Contracts**

**A. Purchase of Service Agreement for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and:**

- 1. AEOA (Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia)**
- 2. NEMOJT (NE Minnesota Office of Job Training, Virginia)**

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried, the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Purchase of Service Agreement for the period January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015, between Aitkin County Health & Human Services and:

- 1. AEOA (Arrowhead Economic Opportunity Agency, Virginia)
- 2. NEMOJT (NE Minnesota Office of Job Training, Virginia)

**VII. Administrative Reports:**

**A. Financial & Transportation Reports** – Kathy Ryan noted the foster care costs are looking good and we will probably come in with a total of \$696,000 by year end. The budget is also doing well and may come in under what was originally expected.

**VIII. Joint Powers Board Reports:**

**A. Tri-County Community Health Services Board (CHS) – Commissioner Westerlund / Tom Burke / Erin Melz– Aug. 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Meeting Minutes were included in the packet.** It was noted the next meeting is October 9<sup>th</sup>. The CHS Conference was held last week and there was a lot of energy around potential services. Consistency and funding is always a concern with new programs.

**IX. Committee Reports from Commissioners**

**A. H&HS Advisory Committee** – Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte Meeting updates from Committee Members: It was noted that Jessi Schultz gave an overview of Children’s Mental Health. Draft minutes of the September 3, 2014 meeting were in the packet.

**B. AEOA Committee Updates-** Commissioner Niemi noted there has not been a meeting.

**C. NEMOJT Committee Updates** – Commissioner Napstad noted their meeting was canceled due to a lack of quorum.

**D. CJI (Children’s Justice Initiative)** – Commissioner Westerlund / Sue Tange noted that the judge was unable to attend and the meeting was quite brief.

**E. Lakes & Pines Update** – Commissioner Niemi noted he discussed service

delivery issues with Bob Benes also discussing the need for low income housing development. It was also felt that weatherization funding was adequate. They felt suppliers of propane in Aitkin County were stocking up and there was hope that folks could pre-buy this year although very few will have the extra money to do that. Eileen Foss noted that staff are working with some folks on a budget plan and incorporating payments to propane providers every month. Commissioner Marcotte would like to know now many residents benefitted from the \$20 million legislation that was implemented.

- F. **Child Protection Issues addressed by Governor Dayton** – Sue Tange addressed the process taken by the County and then the State when a child dies unexpectedly. Governor Dayton is saying that Child Protection protocol needs to be reviewed. Sue noted the outcome will probably be a more structured response with more guidance and more Statutes. Tom noted if the volume of work increases with additional mandates, it will probably require additional staff to accomplish everything.

**Next Health & Human Services Board Meeting – October 28, 2014**

Break: 10:21 a.m. to 10:38 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: September 9, 2014 – September 22, 2014; B) Approve County Board Minutes: September 9, 2014; C) Approve County Board Minutes: September 10, 2014 Special Meeting; D) Approve Auditor Warrants – August Manual Warrants: General Fund \$79,941.89, Road & Bridge \$86,236.51, Health & Human Services \$2,541.05, State \$53,552.44, Forest Development \$250.00, Agency \$86,567.00, Taxes & Penalties \$62.00, Long Lake Conservation Center \$1,578.45, Parks \$1,012.00 for a total of \$311,741.34; E) Approve Auditor Warrants – August Sales and Use Tax: General Fund \$412.79, Road & Bridge \$1,838.78, State \$6,296.00, Trust \$1.93, Forest Development \$0.07, Long Lake Conservation Center \$45.02, Parks \$241.39 for a total of \$8,835.98; F) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$109,291.00, Road & Bridge \$46,188.87, Health & Human Services \$926.22, State \$375.00, Trust \$6,605.24, Forest Development \$8,269.08, Long Lake Conservation Center \$6,377.43, Parks \$1,448.58 for a total of \$179,481.42; G) Adopt Resolution – Form LG220 Jacobson Landing Recreation Area; H) Adopt Resolution – Corner Club Liquor License; I) Adopt Resolution – Northwoods ATV Trail Limited Use Permit

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Form LG220 Jacobson Landing Recreation Area:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the Application for Exempt Permit – Form LG220 – of the Jacobson Landing Recreation Area, at the following location – Forestry Station Bar & Grill, which has an address of 67791 State Hwy 65, Jacobson, MN 55752 – Ball Bluff Township. (Note: Date of activity for Raffle – February 15, 2015.)

**HHS BOARD  
ADJOURNED**

**BREAK**

**REGULAR BOARD  
RECONVENED**

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

**RESOLUTION  
092314-060  
FORM LG220  
JACOBSON  
LANDING  
RECREATION  
AREA**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Corner Club Liquor License:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the following liquor license for a period ending December 31, 2014:

**“ON”, “OFF” and “SUNDAY” Sale:**

Corner Club LLC d/b/a **Corner Club** - Macville Township  
This establishment has an address of 60967 U.S. Hwy 169, Hill City, MN 55748

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Northwoods ATV Trail Limited Use Permit

**WHEREAS**, Aitkin County is administrator of the Northwoods ATV trail; and

**WHEREAS**, part of the trail runs in the right-of-way north of State Highway 200 in the City of Hill City.

**BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED**, that Aitkin County, as trail administrator, authorizes execution of a Limited Use Permit between Aitkin County and the Minnesota Commissioner of Transportation to extend the trail one block west from Cedar Street to Main Street in Hill City as depicted on the attached map.

Kirk Peysar, County Auditor continued the July 22, 2014 Public Hearing for Petition for Partial Abandonment of a Drainage System within Sections 27, 28, 32, 33 and 34 of Workman Township (T.49N.-R.24W.) Aitkin County, MN. United States Steel Corporation (U.S. Steel) submitted this petition for ditch abandonment pursuant to Minnesota Statute 103E.806. On September 15, 2014, in response to concerns expressed at the July 22<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing, United States Steel Corporation submitted a revision to the original petition. Dan Tix and Tracy Muck represented US Steel and presented revisions. John Welle, Aitkin County Engineer approved of the revisions. No public comment was given. County Attorney Jim Ratz offered opinion and guidance. Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to continue the Public Hearing on October 14, 2014, to keep the written public comment period open through 4:30 p.m. on October 14<sup>th</sup>, and to schedule Board deliberations with possible action on October 28, 2014.

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – S.A.P. 001-628-013 Grant Agreement:

**WHEREAS**, the County of Aitkin has applied to the Commissioner of Transportation for a grant from the Minnesota State Transportation Fund for construction of Bridge No. 01J28 on County State-Aid Highway 28 over Ripple River, and

**WHEREAS**, the Commissioner of Transportation has given notice that funding for this local bridge replacement project is available; and

**RESOLUTION  
092314-061  
CORNER CLUB  
LIQUOR LICENSE**

**RESOLUTION  
092314-062  
NORTHWOODS  
ATV TRAIL  
LIMITED USE  
PERMIT**

**CONTINUATION  
OF JULY 22<sup>ND</sup>  
PUBLIC HEARING  
FOR PETITION  
FOR PARTIAL  
ABANDONMENT  
OF A DRAINAGE  
SYSTEM – UNITED  
STATES STEEL  
CORPORATION**

**RESOLUTION  
092314-063  
S.A.P.  
001-628-013  
GRANT  
AGREEMENT**

**WHEREAS**, a Grant Agreement has been proposed with the grant amount determined to be \$71,999.98.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that Aitkin County agrees to pay any additional amount by which the cost exceeds the estimate, and will return to the Minnesota State Transportation Fund any appropriated amount that is not needed.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED**, that the County of Aitkin does hereby agree to the terms and conditions of the Grant Agreement and authorizes the Aitkin County Engineer to execute the Agreement and any amendments thereto.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting to schedule the 2015 Public Budget Hearing on November 25, 2014 at 6:05 p.m. in the Aitkin County Boardroom, located in the Aitkin County Courthouse, at 217 2<sup>nd</sup> Street NW, Aitkin, MN.

**2015 PUBLIC BUDGET HEARING SCHEDULED**

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting to adopt resolution – 2015 Preliminary Levy:

**RESOLUTION 092314-064 2015 PRELIMINARY LEVY**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the preliminary Aitkin County tax levy for payable 2015 be set at \$11,999,900.

Nathan Burkett, County Administrator discussed Aitkin County financial policies with the Board.

**FINANCIAL POLICIES**

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve quote of \$23,546 from Darrick Weimer Construction L.L.C. for roofing project at Health & Human Services.

**ROOF SHINGLE REPLACEMENT - HHS**

Nathan Burkett, County Administration asked the Board if they would like him to continue to attend Broadband meetings and be a part of broadband discussions. The Board agreed he should continue to participate in the meetings and discussions.

**BROADBAND**

Commissioner Anne Marcotte left at 12:16 p.m.

**MARCOTTE LEFT**

The Board reported on the following: AIS, EQB, MHB, Planning Commission, Big Sandy Lake Association, Enbridge Pipeline, ARDC, Farm Bureau, Lakes & Pines, Snake River, CMCC, Community Health Board, MACCAC, Sobriety Court, TZD, Water Planning Task Force

**BOARD DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Don Niemi left at 12:56 p.m.

**NIEMI LEFT**

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Napstad and carried (3-0 Marcotte/Niemi absent), to adjourn the meeting at 1:01 p.m. until Tuesday, October 14, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

**ADJOURN**

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J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson  
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

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Nathan Burkett, County Administrator