

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27th day of October, 2015 at 9:03 a.m. with the following members present: Chairperson J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Don Niemi, Brian Napstad, and Anne Marcotte. Commissioner Laurie Westerlund was absent. County Administrator Nathan Burkett, and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham were also present.

Chairperson J. Mark Wedel called for a moment of silence in memory of Aitkin County Investigator Steven M. Sandberg, who was shot and killed in the line of duty on October 18, 2015.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), all members voting yes to approve the October 27, 2015 agenda.

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
October 27, 2015**

I. Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27th day of October, 2015, at 9:04 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Chairperson Commissioner Mark Wedel; Commissioners, Ann Marcotte, Brian Napstad, and Don Niemi; and others present included: County Administrator Nathan Burkett; H&HS Staff Members Tom Burke, Director; Ann Rivas, Social Service Supervisor; Erin Melz, Public Health Supervisor; Jessica Goble, Income Maintenance Supervisor; Julie Lueck, Clerk to the Health & Human Services Board; and guests; Adam Hoogenakker, Aitkin Independent Age; and Roberta Elvecrog, H&HS Advisory Committee Member; Bob Harwarth & Mike Hagen, citizens.

Absent – Commissioner Laurie Westerlund.

II. Approval of Health & Human Services Board Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte, and carried; the vote was to approve the Agenda.

III. Review September 22, 2015 Health & Human Service Board Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the Minutes of the September 22, 2015 Health & Human Services Board Meeting.

IV. Review Bills

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

V. FYI

A. State of Minnesota Proclamation – County Financial Worker & Case Aide Day – Wednesday, October 28, 2015. Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried, the vote was to approve and support the State of Minnesota Proclamation – County Financial Worker & Case Aide Day on Wednesday, October 28, 2015.

B. DHS Certificate of Congratulations to ACH&HS Income Maintenance Staff for achieving 100% timeliness for SNAP 30-Day Processing between July 2014

CALL TO ORDER

**MOMENT OF
SILENCE FOR
INVESTIGATOR
STEVEN M.
SANDBERG**

**APPROVED
AGENDA**

**HEALTH &
HUMAN
SERVICES
BOARD**

and June 2015. Jessi Goble clarified that the SNAP program processes on average 200 new applications per month and this is quite an accomplishment for our Financial Workers to achieve 100% timely processing within each 30 day time period for the entire year. Congratulations go out to our Financial Workers.

- C. **Anoka County Hold Order Costs** – Tom Burke / Kathleen Ryan updated the Commissioners on this topic since our last Board meeting.

VI. Contracts/Agreements

- A. **Purchase of Service Agreement between ACHHS and Dr. George Petrangelo, dba Family Assessment Services for the period October 1, 2015 to December 1, 2016.** Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Napstad, and carried; the vote was to approve and authorize the Board Chair to sign the Purchase of Service Agreement between ACHHS and Dr. George Petrangelo, dba Family Assessment Services for the period October 1, 2015 to December 31, 2016.
- B. **County Board Approval of the 2016-2017 County MFIP Biennial Service Agreement.** Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi, and carried; the vote was to approve the 2016-2017 County MFIP Biennial Service Agreement.

VII. Administrative Reports:

- A. **Financial & Transportation Reports** – Kathleen Ryan reported to the Board that we are running on course with our budget including the Foster Care payments. Transportation costs are down as far as the county funds used for the no load miles and per diems not billable to MA.

VIII. Committee Reports from Commissioners

- A. **H&HS Advisory Committee** – Commissioners Westerlund and/or Marcotte Committee Members attending today: Jim Carlson and Jessica Seibert October 7th meeting minutes were reviewed/discussed with respect to the presentation made by Stacey Durgin about the Good Foods Assessment Results.
- B. **AEOA Committee Update** – Commissioner Westerlund – No Report
- C. **NEMOJT Committee Update** – Commissioner Napstad – Updated the Board on the layoffs occurring on the Iron Range and how they are dealing with the population laid off who must be in a re-training to continue receiving unemployment benefits.
- D. **CJI (Children’s Justice Initiative)** – Commissioner Westerlund – No Report
- E. **Lakes & Pines Update** – Commissioner Niemi – No Report

Next Meeting - November 24, 2015

Break: 9:58 a.m. to 10:19 a.m.

BREAK

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: October 13, 2015 to October 26, 2015; B) Approve County Board Minutes: October 13, 2015; C) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$93,175.31, Road & Bridge \$306,907.12, Health & Human Services \$989.86, State \$480.00, Trust \$16,549.71, Forest Development \$17,579.47, Long Lake Conservation Center \$8,099.90, Parks \$5,123.77 for a total of \$448,905.14; D) Approve Auditor Warrants – September Sales

REGULAR BOARD RECONVENED

CONSENT AGENDA

& Use Tax: General Fund \$633.31, Road & Bridge \$1,980.37, State \$6,505.50, Trust \$10.62, Forest Development \$-0.40, Long Lake Conservation Center \$45.29, Parks \$191.47 for a total of \$9,366.16; E) Accept \$100 Donation to Sheriff's Office K-9 Unit from Hill City Lions Club; F) Accept \$1,500 Donation to STS from McGregor Area Lions Club; G) Accept \$100 Donation from Gordon and Marilyn Ellingboe to Aitkin County Veteran Services to be used for Christmas Gifts; H) Approve Application for License to Sell Tobacco Products – Gould's Mississippi Landing; I) Adopt Resolution: 2015 Liquor License – Gould's Mississippi Landing; J) Authorize Sale of Used Pickup Truck Unit #436 – Highway Dept.; K) Approve 2016 East Central Regional Library Budget; L) Authorize Filling FT 911 Dispatcher, New Position 2016; M) Ratify Funeral Leave Pay for Employees

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), all members voting yes to approve the following Application for License to Sell Tobacco Products for the period ending March 31, 2016:

#20 B Grand Rapids Greenhouse inc., d/b/a Gould's Mississippi Landing – Ball Bluff Twp

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), all members voting yes to adopt resolution - 2015 Liquor License – Gould's Mississippi Landing:

BE IT RESOLVED, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees to approve the following liquor license for a period ending December 31, 2015:

"OFF" Sale:

Grand Rapids Greenhouse inc, d/b/a Gould's Mississippi Landing – Ball Bluff Township
This establishment has an address of 68298 State Hwy 65, Jacobson, MN 55752

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), all members voting yes to approve East Central Regional Library's 2016 budget and to set Aitkin County's appropriation at \$219,932 as requested.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), all members voting yes to authorize starting the 911 Dispatcher recruitment now, with the understanding that the position will not be filled prior to January 2016, and only after the County Board grants final budget approval in December.

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Marcotte and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), to ratify funeral leave pay for employees who attended the funeral service of Investigator Steven M. Sandberg on October 23, 2015.

Steve Hughes, District Manager Aitkin County SWCD updated the Board on the 2015 Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) summer season, discussed plans for the 2016 season, and introduced Kyle Daun and Lynn Pribbenow, two of Aitkin County's AIS Inspectors.

**TOBACCO
LICENSE –
GOULD'S
MISSISSIPPI
LANDING**

**RESOLUTION
20151027-060
2015 LIQUOR
LICENSE –
GOULD'S
MISSISSIPPI
LANDING**

**2016 ECRL
BUDGET
REQUEST**

**911 DISPATCHER
RECRUITMENT**

**RATIFY
FUNERAL LEAVE**

**2015 AIS
UPDATE**

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Aitkin County Technical OHV Riding Area:

WHEREAS, an environmental assessment sheet (EAS) has been completed for the proposed Aitkin County Technical OHV Riding Area in S. 23 T. 48 R. 24 and the findings of the EAS indicate that this project creates no undue environmental impacts and there is no prudent and feasible alternative to the project;

THEREFORE, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners agrees with the conclusions in the EAS that there are no undue environmental impacts created by this project and there is no prudent and feasible alternative to the project.

Nathan Burkett, County Administrator and Bobbie Danielson, HR Director reviewed data and documents necessary to transition the employee health insurance benefits to a new health insurance plan. Ben Rasmussen and Andrew Gurbada from Nexben were also present to answer questions. Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent), all members voting yes to authorize the transition to the new health insurance plan and to adopt resolution – Aitkin County Health Care Plan:

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners desires to offer health care coverage for Aitkin County employees that is affordable and effective for the employees and the employer in compliance with the provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (hereafter “ACA”); and

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners has observed an average annual premium increase of 10% in the County’s current employee health insurance plan (NESC CCOGA pool) for the period of 2003 - 2016; and

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners has observed and believes it is reasonable to presume that the 10% growth trend in employee health care expenses will continue for the foreseeable future; and

WHEREAS, at the current growth trend it is reasonable to presume that the current Aitkin County group health plan (NESC CCOGA pool) will be subject to the ACA “Cadillac Tax” upon enforcement of said tax, and estimates that the County would be subject to a tax of approximately \$88,000 annually; and

WHEREAS, the employee’s share of premiums for Family health care plans on the Aitkin County group health insurance plan (NESC CCOGA pool) range from 11% to 29% of the average Aitkin County Employee’s annual income; and

WHEREAS, Aitkin County staff has researched many options to provide affordable health insurance benefits in accordance with the ACA including the **Aitkin County Health Care Plan**, the Local 49ers union plan, the Teamsters union plan, self-insurance, fully insured plans and has received responses to requests for proposal, all of which proved to be cost prohibitive for the employees and/or the employer or proved to decrease the value of health benefits to employees; and

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners has reviewed an option to provide

**RESOLUTION
20151027-061
AITKIN COUNTY
TECHNICAL OHV
RIDING AREA**

**TRANSITION TO
NEW HEALTH
INSURANCE
PLAN**

**RESOLUTION
20151027-62
AITKIN COUNTY
HEALTH CARE
PLAN**

employee health benefits named the “**Aitkin County Health Care Plan**” and made comparisons to the current group plan (NESC CCOGA pool) and considered the requirements of the ACA; and

WHEREAS, the Aitkin County Board has relied on the legal expertise of Darcy Hitesman, who has 25 years of employee benefits legal experience in making the following findings.

NOW THEREFORE BEFORE IT RESOLVED the Aitkin County Board makes the following findings:

1. Due to the high premiums of the plan, the current Aitkin County employee group health plan (NESC CCOGA pool), while meeting the basic requirements of the ACA, does not meet the spirit of the ACA which is to ensure that employees of the County have access to affordable and effective health care coverage; and
2. An employee eligible for coverage under the **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** has greater flexibility with respect to his or her “total” health coverage (i.e., through **Aitkin County’s Health Care Plan** in combination with coverage available outside **Aitkin County’s Health Care Plan**) than is available under the current Aitkin County employee group health plan (NESC CCOGA pool), including but not limited to breadth of coverage (e.g., premium costs, network selection, deductible and co-pay specifics); and
3. The **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** satisfies the applicable mandates of ACA, including but not limited to preventive care, age of dependent child, rescission, and enhanced claims and appeals procedures; and
4. The **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** qualifies as “minimum essential coverage” (MEC) for purposes of ACA, including but not limited to part (a) of the Employer Shared Responsibility provisions; and
5. The list of covered expenses under the **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** includes preventive care, as required under ACA, and the payment of the premium for an individual insurance policy; and
6. The **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** is not an “employer payment plan” as defined in, and precluded by, IRS Notice 2013-54. The **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** is not a health reimbursement arrangement (HRA). The **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** is a defined benefit, self-insured medical plan fully operating within the employer sponsored group health plan environment, including but not limited to compliance with applicable ACA mandates such as preventive care; and
7. The **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** is being offered to employees as a single, single +1 or family plan without regard to any other demographic factor or health history in compliance with the ACA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Aitkin County Board:

1. Hereby adopts the **Aitkin County Health Care Plan** effective January 1, 2016; and
2. Authorizes the County Administrator to finalize plan documentation necessary to put the intentions of the Aitkin County Board, as reflected in these

Resolutions, into full effect for 2016; and

- 3. Authorizes the County Administrator to engage in an MOU with bargaining units in accordance with the intent of this resolution and in accordance with the October 20, 2015 proposal to bargaining units from the Aitkin County Administrator hereby incorporated by reference; and
- 4. Authorizes the County Administrator to engage in an agreement to utilize Nexben Inc.'s technology platform and insurance services; and
- 5. Authorizes the County Administrator to engage in a risk sharing agreement with Nexben, Inc.

The Board reported on the following: JCNRB, AMC, ACA, Snake River Watershed, Forest Advisory, TZD, and CMCC.

Commissioner Brian Napstad left at 12:49 p.m.

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried (3-0 Westerlund/Napstad absent), all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 12:58 p.m. until Tuesday, November 10, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

**BOARD
DISCUSSION**

NAPSTAD LEFT

ADJOURN

J. Mark Wedel, Chairperson
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

Nathan Burkett, County Administrator