



Aitkin County Health & Human Services

204 FIRST STREET NW
AITKIN, MINNESOTA 56431-1291
PHONE 1-800-328-3744 or 1-218-927-7200
FAX # 1-218-927-7210

AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

October 4, 2017

Committee Members Present:

Roberta Elvecrog
Penny Olson
Beverly Mensing
Bob Marcum
Carole Holten
Joy Janzen
Kevin Insley
Marlene Abear
Kim Demenge
Joell Miranda
Jon Moen
Kristine Layne

Commissioner Bill Pratt
Commissioner Laurie Westerlund

Others Present:

Joel Hoppe

Guests:

Jessi Schultz, Social Services Supervisor Children &
Families
Shawn Speed, Clerk to the Committee

Absent:

Lynette Maas
Holly Bray

I. Call to Order

- a. Roberta called to order the regular meeting of the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Advisory Committee at 3:32pm on October 4, 2017 at Aitkin County Health & Humans Services in the large conference room.

II. Approval of October 4, 2017 Agenda

- a. Beverly motioned to approve the agenda, Kristine seconded the motion to approve the agenda as written, all members voting yes to approve the October 4, 2017 agenda.

III. Approval of minutes from September 6, 2017 meeting

- a. Bob motioned to approve the minutes, Carole seconded the motion, all members voting yes to approve the September 6, 2017 minutes.

IV. Committee Member Input/Updates –

- a. Roberta mentioned she had attended the Salvation Army meeting last week and that if anyone know of any local organizations that give out gift cards/baskets for the holidays to let Shawn know so as to avoid the Salvation Army giving to the same people.
 - i. Carole knew of the Lions, in McGregor, giving out around \$3000 worth of baskets and that their contact was Pat McGwin.
- b. Bob questioned who the members were for the Racial Relations Committee formed last meeting and was informed it was himself, Carole, and Roberta.

V. Children’s Mental Health Presentation – Jessi Schultz, Children & Families Social Services Supervisor

- a. Jessi introduced her two staff that work in the area of Children’s Mental Health.
 - i. Jen Moen is full time in the Children’s Mental Health area.
 - ii. Ashley Gustafson splits her time between Children’s Mental Health and Child Protection.
- b. Jessi went through the attached Children’s Mental Health handout.
- c. Roberta asked about the age range of the children and Jessi said it can be from 0-18 although if a child was placed in the program before turning 18 they can stay until they turn 21.
 - i. If they are still in school they try to keep them on the child mental health side, but if they have graduated and are looking for apartments, etc. they try to transfer them to adult mental health.
- d. Carole asked what exactly was considered a mental health diagnosis for children and Jessi said it is a wide range of diagnosis and that it could be anything from Autism to Anxiety.
- e. Bob asked whether there was any support for everyone else in the family who is involved in the child’s life and Jessi said there are a lot of options available for the family members.
- f. Joel asked if they have someone on staff that is a certified qualifier and Jessi responded that there is not one on staff, due to conflict of interest, but that they have Jeanne Kurtz who comes in once a month to do them.
- g. Roberta followed up with a question of where we are housing children who are awaiting

placement and Jessi answered they are very creative when it comes to getting them home services or they use other placement options.

- h. Carole followed up with whether or not we are limited as to where they put the children and Jessi said no that they use everywhere they can find within the state and have even placed some out of state, i.e. South Dakota and Wisconsin.
- i. Laurie wondered if we have a part in dealing with babies born to addiction and we do but that it is on a case by case basis.
- j. Bob queried if they have Native American families that use this service or if they are restricted to their own mental health unit and Jessi remarked that they are not obligated to use their facility and can use our services.
- k. In closing Jessi asked what the Committee would like her to present to them when returns in December and the committee would like her to present a case example from opening to closing the case.

VI. Comments:

- a. Comments from Committee Members for the Commissioners relative to HHS-
 - i. Bob invited all members who were able to participate in a community clean-up he is involved with at a property in Lawler on October 9th.
 - ii. Bob also commented on the great job that ANGELS is doing and how they are able to help this committee with anything they would like.
- b. Feedback from the HHS Board Meeting – Carole/Roberta – Sept. 26, 2017
 - i. Carole noted there that it was good HHS Board meeting.
 - ii. Roberta noted that Commissioner Niemi had said that the workforce centers were losing computer funding and that we might see less computers available at our workforce center. She talked to ours and they receive their funding from a different source compared to the others so they will not be losing any.
- c. Committee Members scheduled to attend upcoming HHS Board meetings in 2017:

OCTOBER 24	Bob Marcum	Roberta Elvecrog
NOVEMBER 28	Roberta Elvecrog	Marlene Abear
DECEMBER 19	Jon Moen	Kristine Layne

VII. Adjournment

- a. Motion by Joell to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Carole, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 4:15pm.

Roberta Elvecrog, Chairperson

Shawn Speed, Clerk to the ACH&HS Advisory Board

The following documents were included in the packet of information sent to the members for review prior to the meeting or distributed at the meeting:

- Copy of the agenda for the October 4, 2017 meeting.
- Copy of the minutes from the September 6, 2017 meeting.
- Copy of the September 26, 2017 H&HS Board meeting minutes.
- Copy of the Children's Mental Health Handout