



**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 27, 2018**

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27th day of February, 2018, at 9:02 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, and Bill Pratt. Others present included: County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Health & Human Services Director Cynthia Bennett, Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor Jessi Goble, Public Health Supervisor Erin Melz, Social Services Supervisor-Adult Services Kim Larson, Social Services Supervisor-Children's Services Jessi Schultz, Health & Human Services Administrative Assistant Shawn Speed, and Guests: Roberta Elvecrog/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Carole Holten/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Joy Janzen/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Brielle Bredsten/Aitkin Independent Age, and Bob Harwarth/Citizen.

Agenda

Shawn Speed requested a change to the agenda. Removing Item V from the Agenda as it was not ready for approval quite yet. All members approved change.

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the February 27, 2018 Health & Human Services Board agenda with the change.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the January 23, 2018 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

Bills

Carli Goble, Fiscal Supervisor, presented the bills to the board and noted no significant changes or surprises.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the bills.

Health & Human Services Director Report, Cynthia Bennett H&HS Director

Train the Trainer Conference Update –

1. Cynthia traveled to the John Maxwell Train the Trainer Conference in Orlando, FL from Feb 18-23.
2. Quote from training "A mass movement never began with the masses". We are in a good place to move forward with strengthening our work environment and this training will help us achieve our long term outcomes.
 - a. Reported that she was very impressed with the training and was very excited to implement tactics she learned.
 - b. Immediate applications we can use -
 - i. Improve Communications – everyone can communicate but not all can connect. Our goal is to connect.

- ii. Improving coaching skills - how to guide and direct others so that they can be successful in their various roles. That is applicable to more than just employees, it also can be taught to our consumers.
 - iii. Mentoring skills. Developing an internal mentoring system so that employees not only grow with our organization but within our organization.
 - c. Long term benefits of these application strategies.
 - i. Employee satisfaction.
 - ii. Employee retention and engagement.
 - iii. Mainstream and efficient operations.
 - iv. Continuous Quality Improvement.
 - v. Overall cost savings
 - d. Ended with many tools in her tool box, at her disposal, that will help her develop a good plan.
- 3. Discussion of the future format of HHS Board meetings.
 - a. HHS is reviewing data collection processes and evaluating the content that is shared with the commissioners.
 - b. All HHS employees have been asked to provide feedback about their daily work processes and to identify what "stories" about their work they feel are important to share.
 - c. Leadership team is contacting peers in other counties to discover what other counties present to their Board members along with how often things are reported.
 - d. Cynthia asked for input from the Board as to what they would like to hear or what information would be important for them to know/learn.
When this feedback and input are gathered a sample format will be presented for the commissioners to discuss.
- 4. Mental Health Housing Resolution
 - a. Our county has been asked by AMC to support a resolution related to mental health bonding which will assist with the development of mental health services along the continuum of care. This resolution is on the main board meeting agenda and will need action.
 - b. The resolution basically states that our County supports State Capital investments to improve the mental health continuum of care. Specifically triage centers and increased housing options.
 - c. The need for various mental health services is so much greater than the resources that are available. This resolution will not fix all the problems we experience in this area but this resolution is a start and we need to start somewhere. Cynthia supports the bonding bill and requested that our County also support the resolution.
 - d. Commissioner Marcotte inquired how many counties had supported the resolution so far?
 - i. Cynthia commented that she did not know the exact number right now, but would find it out for her.
- 5. Commissioner Marcotte recognized Cynthia's one year anniversary as the Director of Health & human Services stating "It has been a great year and you have accomplished a lot and made a great impact on the county in such a short period of time. Thank you for what you brought forth and continue to do."
- 6. Commissioner Niemi asked what our cost was to house someone at the Anoka Regional Treatment Center?
 - a. Carli Goble answered that we have one at the full cost for \$11,000/month and three more that are at a partial rate of \$1100/month.
 - b. Jessica Seibert mentioned that before leaving for AMC Conference they were meeting with H&HS to gather a list of talking points to bring to the representatives and that he could get a copy of that for his MRC meeting tonight.

Financial Reports

Carli Goble reviewed the financial statement for the board-

1. Reported on February 2018.
2. Revenues are not closed yet which will explain the zero's on the report.
3. Out-of-Home placement costs are down substantially from the previous two years.
4. HHS spending for total budget should be at around 17% of our budget at this time and we are currently at about 15% right now.

Joint Powers Board Reports

Erin Melz talked about the last meeting of the Tri-County Community Health Services Board –

1. Was a Reorganization meeting where they elected new chairs and vice chair, etc.
2. Talked about the Quality Improvement Plan.
3. Talked about Electronic Health Records and the costs associated with them going up about \$1000/county/year, which was not significant.
4. Erin will be attending Local Public Health Day at the State Capitol on March 22.
5. She also mentioned that they received their accreditation site visit for Healthy Families America in January.
 - a. Was a three day visit.
 - b. Looked at 13 standards, more than 100 line items.
 - c. Left with only two findings out of that.
 - d. Once they send in their corrections for those findings they will have their accreditation and it will last for four years.

Committee Reports

H&HS Advisory Committee – Commissioner Wedel and/or Pratt

1. Committee member Carole Holten and Joy Janzen provided details of their last meeting, held February 7, 2018.
 - a. Carole talked about the Community meals now being held in McGrath on the third Thursday of each month at 5:30pm at the Zion Lutheran Church in McGrath and how well they were received.
 - b. Also answered Jessi Goble's question on when the Community meals were in McGregor. That they were the third Wednesday of the month at the McGregor Community Center.
 - c. Joy mentioned that Aitkin also holds Community meals at First Lutheran Church on Monday and Thursday nights at 5:00pm, which are served by the over 35 different groups within Aitkin.
 - d. Joy also talked about the two new members to the Advisory Board, Maureen Mishler and Kari Paulsen and the Hannah Colby gave them a great presentation on Healthy Communities.
2. Commissioner Pratt and Wedel commented on the presentation they were given by Hannah Colby and how much he learned from it about Farm2School, in particular.

AEOA – Commissioner Westerlund

1. Talked about Ivy House in Virginia, the low income housing they built up there, the Arrowhead Transit buses contracts, and how employment and training was going to be receiving more money from MNDOT.

NEMOJT Update – Commissioner Niemi

1. Noted that he was unable to attend due to illness but that he was meeting with Kari Paulsen later to discuss what had occurred at the meeting and brief us later.

CJI Update – Commissioner Westerlund

1. Noted that May 18th was the ICWA training in Grand Rapids and let Commissioner Marcotte know it was open to anyone who would like to attend it.
2. They were given a briefing by Deb Tuper on sexually exploited youths.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Next Meeting – March 27, 2018