

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018 at 9:03 a.m. with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners J. Mark Wedel, Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, Bill Pratt, County Administrator Jessica Seibert and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the March 27, 2018 amended agenda. Consent Agenda Item 2M – Approve Out of State Travel Request - John Welle, County Engineer, was removed from the agenda, and Agenda Item 3D – Adopt Resolution: Authorizing the Aitkin County Fair Foundation to Make Application to and Accept Funds From the IRRRB Culture and Tourism Grant Program, was added to the agenda.

**APPROVED  
AGENDA**

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

**HEALTH & HUMAN  
SERVICES BOARD**

**Attendance**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2018, at 9:04 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, Kari Paulsen/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Brielle Bredsten/Aitkin Independent Age, and Bob Harwarth/Citizen.

**Agenda**

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

**Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the February 27, 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.

Question from Commissioner Marcotte in regards to how much was left on the DHS bill, which was Carli answered that it was around \$288,000.

Question from Commissioner Marcotte about how many people the St. Peter bill was covering, and Carli answered that was for 3 people.

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

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

Cynthia gave recognition to the Accounting Department for commendation from DHS on their accounting reporting.

Recognition to Public Health for Home Visits third party billing and bringing in around \$22,000 that would not of been there had it not been started 4 years ago.

Recognition of National Social Worker month, Public Health Week April 2-8, and Administrative Assistant Day April 25<sup>th</sup>. In HHS we do one employee recognition day to recognize all employees at once, which is being held on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Marcotte recognized how much is expected of our Social workers, based on their 4 page job description, and how exemplary of a job all of ours do.

Commissioner Wedel recognized that Social workers are very dedicated 24/7/365.

Commissioner Pratt noted the reviews he had heard from clients and how much they appreciate all that Social workers do.

Commissioner Niemi noted how his family has experienced working with our Social workers personally and how good they made him feel about it, even though it was a difficult time.

Commissioner Westerlund noted the how much respect is given to the clients from our Social workers.

Commissioner Marcotte discussed the handouts that were given to the commissioners for the AMC conference and how helpful they were and how exemplary and helpful they were to them at the conference.

Commissioner Wedel brought up HR1625 and its increase in funding for the Opioid epidemic of about \$2 Billion and Cynthia added that they are also looking at adding a 1 cent fee, per pill, that would be charged to manufacturers and will be used for grant opportunities and to fund child protection services more, as the opioid epidemic has created more demand for those services.

Commissioner Marcotte asked about Senate File 2545 and whether Cynthia knew more info about it. Cynthia had not seen it before and will get more information on it and forward that to the Board with a follow-up email.

Commissioner Niemi asked who was working with the tribal communities in regards to the Opioid epidemic. Cynthia discussed how the tribes are involved in their own formulations of plans to deal with it internally within the various tribes.

Cynthia talked about the proposal to add the work requirement for Medical assistance recipients and how it would only affect a small percentage of our population and how much more it would cost the Counties to run this new mandated/unfunded piece of the

program. It would require counties to track this through case management, St. Louis County, for example, has 3800 individual that this would affect and would require them to hire 30 more staff to manage this for those people. For our county it would require 7-8 more staff with offices and everything that they would require for offices, etc.

MN Choices assessment is required annually and the State is looking at an abbreviated form for people who have not had any changes that is much shorter and less intensive than the original assessment.

State is looking at eliminating the Child Protection holdback. We currently get 80% of our allocation in July and we receive the other 20% when we have shown that we meet all of the criteria we are required to meet at 90% or better and they are looking at removing that requirement and giving counties their full allocation all at once, but they had no idea how that would look or how it would be managed.

Erin Melz talked about her time down at the Capital for Local Public Health Day.

- She met with Senator Rudd and Representative Lueck.
- Focused on the Local Public Health Grant.
- Handout that was given out is attached to these minutes.
- Touched on Healthcare Access Fund and how the Provider Tax that funds it is scheduled to expire in December 2019 and how if it goes away there would be many programs at risk.

#### **Approval of Contracts**

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the renewal of the NEMOJT MFIP Contract.

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the renewal of the Compass Counseling Partners POS.

#### **Mental Health Awareness Event Info**

Kim Larson shared that the local advisory council for mental health in Aitkin County is putting together an event on May 15<sup>th</sup> to raise awareness on mental health issues. It will be held at the Beanery from 530-730 pm and will include comedian and author who created a children's book called "When the World Goes Dark".

#### **Community Health Assessment Info**

Erin Melz talked about the purpose of the Community Health Assessment.

- Required by State every 5 years.
- Helps identify what our current assets are.
- Identify what our problem areas are and where we should put our focus for the next 5 years.
- Out of the assessment comes the Community Health Improvement Plan.
- Are distributing surveys in paper form and through an online survey provider.
- Have place survey collection boxes in various locations around the County.
- Stakeholders meeting on May 17<sup>th</sup> from 11- 130 at Members COOP Credit Union meeting room.
- There they will narrow it down to no more than 10 priority areas.
- They will take those 10 to the County Fair for the fair goers to help narrow those down to a Top 3 priorities that will be sent to the state.

**Financial Reports**

Carli Goble reviewed the financial statement for the board-

1. Reported on March 2018.
2. Foster Care is considerably less so far this year \$113,573, compared to the same time last year when we were at \$235,000.
  - a. Commissioner Marcotte inquired what is different this year as compared to last, to which Carli noted that we do not have as many foster children in residential treatment center this year.
3. Reviewed residential treatment center costs for the various centers we use.
4. Commissioner Marcotte asked about the percentages that we pay for and Carli will be sending her a follow up email with the rules for what percentages we pay.
5. HHS spending for total budget should be at around 25% of our budget at this time and we are currently at about 22% right now.

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

1. Committee member Kari Paulsen and Roberta Elvecrog provided details of their last meeting, held March 7, 2018.
  - a. Kari discussed that the Advisory Committee volunteered to serve the Community meal in McGregor last week and that it was a huge success.
  - b. Roberta inquired to what door people will use for visiting the various offices that will be moving to the HHS basement and was told that unless they are handicapped and need the elevator they will use the North Door into HHS and go down those stairs.

**AEOA – Commissioner Westerlund**

1. Did not meet but mentioned that they are planning to spend \$200,000 on a new food shelf building in Virginia and will have more information on it after their meeting.

**Lakes & Pines Update – Commissioner Niemi**

1. Noted the seven housing rehab applicants that were located in Wagner and Williams Townships and that he had asked who made the final decision on who gets those and it was told it was the state that made those decisions.
2. Talked about their audit and that they did fine on it.
3. Commissioner Marcotte noted that she had seen where the Federal Government had increased the low income heating assistance by an additional \$250 million.
4. Commissioner Wedel inquired whether or not air conditioning qualifies in the southern states for that assistance and Jessica Goble informed him it was.

**TRIAD Meeting Notes – Commissioner Marcotte**

1. Talked about Bone Builders coming to Hill City on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> to see how much participation they get.

**Hill City Health Fair Notes – Commissioner Marcotte**

1. Noted that they had 220 people attend it.
2. Noted that they are giving kids yoga in the school to help kids deal with their stress and emotions.
3. Was a great turn out and had a lot of information available.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:21 a.m.

**HHS BOARD  
ADJOURNS**

Next Meeting – April 24, 2018

Break: 10:21 a.m. to 10:32 a.m.

**BREAK**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the amended Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: March 13, 2018 to March 26, 2018; B) Approve County Board Minutes: March 13, 2018; C) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$105,645.89, Road & Bridge \$49,659.34, Health & Human Services \$1,029.74, Debt Service \$116,963.97, State \$180.00, Trust \$4,678.83, Forest Development \$844.25, Long Lake Conservation Center \$8,781.87, Parks \$6,702.85 for a total of \$294,486.74; D) Approve Auditor Warrants – Sales & Use Tax: General Fund \$743.10, Road & Bridge \$1,313.52, Health & Human Services \$1.16, State \$6,839.50, Trust \$33.95, Long Lake Conservation Center \$82.14, Parks \$46.30 for a total of \$9,059.67; E) Approve Fire Protection Contracts with City of Hill City Fire Department; F) Approve HHW Agreement with WLSSD; G) Adopt Resolution: 2018 State Boat & Water Agreement; H) Approve Applications for License to Sell Tobacco Products; I) Approve Voting Equipment Grant Agreement and Authorize Signatures; J) Approve Consumption & Display Permit – Minnewawa Sportsmen’s Club; K) Approve Asbestos Bid; L) Adopt Resolution: Repurchase Application – Lindholm

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) Agreement with Western Lake Superior Sanitary District (WLSSD) effective January 1, 2018 through December 31, 2022.

**HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AGREEMENT**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2018 State Boat & Water Agreement Grant:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Aitkin County Board of Commissioners approve the 2018 Boat and Water Safety Agreement on file in the Office of the County Auditor and authorize the Aitkin County Sheriff, County Board Chair and County Administrator to sign the agreement in the amount of \$18,427.00 for the term of January 1, 2018, through June 30, 2019

**RESOLUTION 20180327-021 2018 STATE BOAT AND WATER AGREEMENT GRANT**

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the following **Applications for License to Sell Tobacco Products** for the period ending **March 31, 2019**, subject to the completion of all paperwork in full:

**TOBACCO LICENSES**

- # 01 Bann’s Bar & Café, Inc., d/b/a **Banns Bar & Cafe** – Shamrock Township
- # 02 Barnacles Resort of MN Inc., d/b/a **Barnacles** – Wealthwood Township
- # 05 MacDonald Enterprises of Malmo, Inc., d/b/a **Castaway’s Resort** – Lakeside

- Township
- # 06 ML Gas, Inc., d/b/a **East Lake Convenience Store** – Spalding Township
  - # 07 DAM of Aitkin Lakes, Inc., d/b/a **Farm Island Store** – Farm Island Township
  - # 08 N5 Corporation, d/b/a **Fisherman’s Bay** – Workman Township
  - # 09 Grill of Glen Inc., d/b/a **The Glen Store & Grill Inc.** – Malmo Township
  - # 10 Gould’s Mississippi Landing, d/b/a **Gould’s Mississippi Landing** – Ball Bluff Township
  - # 11 Harry’s Midtown Liquor, L.L.C., d/b/a **Harry’s Midtown Liquor** – City of Hill City
  - # 12 Holiday Stationstores, Inc. d/b/a **Holiday Stationstores, Inc.** – City of McGregor
  - # 13 Rips HLI, Inc., d/b/a **Horseshoe Lake Inn** – Shamrock Township
  - # 15 KRIM15, LLC, d/b/a **The Junction** – Hazelton Township
  - # 16 MacDonald Ent. of Aitkin, Inc., d/b/a **The Landing** – Aitkin Township
  - # 17 Lazy Timber Enterprises, LLC, d/b/a **Malmo Market** – Malmo Township
  - # 18 Rasley Oil Co., d/b/a **McGregor Oil** – City of McGregor
  - # 19 Big Sandy Golf, Inc., d/b/a **Minnesota National Golf Course** – Workman Township
  - # 20 Prairie River Retreat Inc., d/b/a **Prairie River Retreat** – Shamrock Township
  - # 21 Klennert Stores, Inc., d/b/a **Roadside Market** – City of Hill City
  - # 22 Sather’s Gateway, Inc., d/b/a **Sather’s Store** – Shamrock Township
  - # 23 Klennert Stores, Inc., d/b/a **Sunny’s** – City of Hill City
  - # 24 TJ’s Liquor, Inc., d/b/a **TJ’s Liquor** – Malmo Township
  - # 25 Mark Kenneth Ukura, d/b/a **Ukura’s Big Dollar** – Jevne Township
  - # 27 Jacque Saari, d/b/a **Whispering Pines** – Shamrock Township
  - # 28 Minnewawa Partners, LLC, d/b/a **Willey’s Sport Shop** – Shamrock Township

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the State of Minnesota Voting Equipment Grant Agreement and to authorize signatures.

**VOTING  
EQUIPMENT  
GRANT  
AGREEMENT**

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the following Renewal of Consumption & Display (Set Up) Permit:

**CONSUMPTION &  
DISPLAY PERMIT  
MINNEWAWA  
SPORTSMEN’S  
CLUB**

Minnewawa Sportsmen’s Club Inc., d/b/a Minnewawa Sportsmen’s Club – Shamrock Township

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the low bid for asbestos removal from ACCT, Inc. for \$48,000.00.

**ASBESTOS  
REMOVAL BID**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Repurchase Application – Lindholm:

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Lindholm (Michael Lindholm) the former owner has made and filed an application with the County Auditor for the repurchase of the hereinafter described parcel of tax forfeited land, in accordance with the provisions of Minnesota Statutes 1945, Section 282.241, of amended, which land is situated in the County of Aitkin, Minnesota, and described as follows, to-wit:

SE-NE Sec 26 Twp 44 Rge 25 and  
NW-NW Sec 26 Twp 44 Rge 25

**And WHEREAS**, said applicant has set forth in his application, that

- a) *Hardship and injustice has resulted because of forfeiture of said land, for the following reasons, to-wit: Andrew Lindholm has fell under medical/mental hardship and where he wasn't mentally competent to knowingly pay his taxes.*
- b) *That the repurchase of said land by me will promote and best serve the public interest, because: We would like to keep the land within the family and henceforth pay the land taxes.*

**And WHEREAS**, this board is of the opinion that said application should be granted a contract for repurchase for such reasons.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED**, that the application of Andrew Lindholm (Michael Lindholm) for the purchase of the above described parcel of tax-forfeited land be and the same is hereby granted and the County Auditor is hereby authorized, and directed to permit such repurchase according to the provisions of Minnesota Statues 1945, Section 282.241, as amended upon the completion of the contract for repurchase.

Amanda Voller and Kari Paulson from the Aitkin Workforce Center, along with Paul Karelis from Aitkin Public Schools gave a presentation to the Board related to joint efforts for career opportunities and training.

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the following Aitkin County Government Center project construction contracts to the lowest qualified bidders for a combined total of \$8,210,586.00 as indicated below:

Eagle Construction	\$652,666.00
Thompson Concrete	\$236,442.00
Harbor City Masonry	\$690,990.00
Roden Iron	\$220,000.00
Gopher State Contractors	\$245,300.00
Thelen Heating & Roofing	\$720,000.00
Progressive Building Systems	\$226,000.00
Sunrise Specialties	\$51,750.00
API Garage Door	\$49,950.00
Skold Specialty Contracting	\$15,340.00

**RESOLUTION  
20180327-022  
REPURCHASE  
AGREEMENT -  
LINDHOLM**

**AITKIN  
WORKFORCE  
CENTER AND  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**AWARD BIDS –  
AITKIN COUNTY  
GOVERNMENT  
CENTER PROJECT**

Anderson Glass Co.	\$315,100.00
Olympic Companies	\$889,350.00
Dorholt Tile	\$207,164.00
Twin City Acoustics	\$298,873.00
Contract Tile & Carpet	\$134,768.00
Fransen Decorating	\$209,750.00
MEI Total Elevator	\$258,232.00
LVC Companies	\$244,800.00
Masters Plumbing & Heating	\$845,000.00
SMB of MN	\$34,700.00
Holden Electric	\$974,350.00
Thurnbeck Steel	\$419,600.00
Sell Hardware	\$106,785.00
Northwest Cabinets	\$163,676.00

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried (4-0-1 Westerlund abstained), to approve the following Application for License to Sell Tobacco Products for the period ending March 31, 2019:

#26 Westerlund Inc., d/b/a Westerlund Cenex – Malmo Township

**TOBACCO  
LICENSE –  
WESTERLUND  
CENEX**

Motion for a resolution by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Authorizing the Aitkin County Fair Foundation to Make Application to and Accept Funds From the IRRRB Culture and Tourism Grant Program:

**WHEREAS**, the authorizing authority approves of the application for construction of a new horse barn; and

**WHEREAS**, the authorizing authority hereby agrees to accept funding for the underlying project if approved by the IRRRB.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the authorizing authority of Aitkin County does hereby adopt this resolution.

**RESOLUTION  
20180327-023  
AUTHORIZING THE  
AITKIN COUNTY  
FAIR  
FOUNDATION TO  
MAKE  
APPLICATION TO  
AND ACCEPT  
FUNDS FROM THE  
IRRRB CULTURE  
AND TOURISM  
GRANT PROGRAM**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to offer Aitkin County residents free residential electronic waste collection on June 16, 2018, hosted by The Retrofit Companies, using Solid Waste reserves to pay for the event.

**RESIDENTIAL  
ELECTRONIC  
WASTE  
COLLECTION**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve replacement of Jail Intercom System from Accurate Controls at a cost of \$57,263.14. Inmate welfare funds will be used for this expense.

**JAIL INTERCOM  
SYSTEM**



Sheriff Scott Turner reviewed the Aitkin County Sheriff's Office Year End 2017 Power Point presentation with the Board.

**ANNUAL  
SHERIFF'S OFFICE  
UPDATE**

The Board discussed: Snake River Watershed, Mille Lacs Watershed, CARE, BSLWMP, AIS, APT Tour, JPNRB, Sobriety Court, Aitkin County Water Planning Task Force, MHB, ECB, Hill City Health Fair, and AMC Board of Directors.

**BOARD  
DISCUSSION**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 1:18 p.m. until Tuesday, April 10, 2018 at 9:00 a.m.

**ADJOURN**



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Anne Marcotte, Board Chair  
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners



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Jessica Seibert, County Administrator