



**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
September 25, 2018**

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 25th day of September, 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, Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, Public Health Supervisor Erin Melz, Financial Assistant Supervisor Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Worker Jen Rikila, Assistant to the County Administrator Sue Bingham, and Guests: Robert Marcum/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Carole Holten and Roberta Elvecrog/H&HS Advisory Committee Members, Brielle Bredsten/Aitkin Independent Age, and Bob Harwarth/Citizen.

Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the September 25, 2018 Health & Human Services Board agenda with the addition.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the August 28, 2018 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

Bills

Carli Goble noted there was nothing unusual or noteworthy in this month's bills.

Commissioner Marcotte asked about an amount to the Dept. of Human Services. Carli noted that was our maintenance of effort, which is our percentage we have to pay to get CCDF funding.

Commissioner Marcotte also inquired about a payment to Lakes and Pines and whether that was for pay to the family resource specialist who was hired to provide in home services and Carli noted that it was.

Commissioner Marcotte also reiterated that something needs to be done, by the state, about us bearing the burden to pay for people who are in treatment facilities.

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

Health & Human Services Director Report, Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor

In Cynthia's absence Jessi Goble provided the directors report.

1. Cynthia attended the AMC Fall Policy Conference Sept. 12-14.
 - a. Great discussion at the HHS Policy Committee meeting.
 - b. Multitude of issues that Counties are concerned with.
2. AMC will develop platform positions on a variety of topics and will prioritize 3 areas.
3. The platform topics are-
 - a. Child safety and well being
 - b. Chemical use and abuse
 - c. Children and Family health
 - d. Community Health

- e. Economic self-sufficiency
 - f. Disease prevention and health protection
 - g. Health care financing, access, and quality
 - h. Mental health
 - i. Vulnerable people
4. She hopes to have a document from AMC by the next Board meeting to be able to share more details on all of it.

PDM (Periodic Data Match) Update, Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor

Jessi and Jen Rikila went through their handout and spoke about PDM and what it is.

Was approved by the MN Legislature in 2015. Its purpose is to compare data across many different systems for enrollees of MA or Minnesota Care to ensure that all data matches and that people are indeed eligible for public programs or have had a change in their eligibility status. Process runs six months after a person is enrolled in MA or Minnesota Care.

If a discrepancy is found, the system notifies the enrollee about it and instructs them to contact their financial worker to get it corrected. The system does not redetermine eligibility, the financial worker still must process any of the changes.

PDM process is working better throughout the state than was anticipated for the group that was selected to be tested on.

No concrete date, right now, as to when the process will be turned on completely.

There was a question from Commissioner Niemi, unrelated to PDM, about MTM (Medical Transportation Management) Services and Jessi spoke that they have just begun discussions on the subject, within the region, and that when she has more solid information she will bring it to the board.

Committee Reports

H&HS Advisory Committee Update – Carole Holten/Roberta Elvecrog

Met on September 5th.

- Roberta talked about the Suicide Prevention presentation that was given by Brea Hamdorf and Stephanie Downey and how it gave a good representation of how our area does not recognize that suicide is a concern and that it really needs to be addressed. We are at the denial/resistance level of community readiness.
- H&HS has gathered key stakeholders from Aitkin County and formed CAPS, the Committee for Awareness and Prevention of Suicide.
- Need more community leadership involvement with this issue.
- Roberta commented how disheartening it is how blasé people are about it in our county.

Lakes and Pines Update – Commissioner Niemi

They discussed fuel assistance and weatherization.

- Fuel assistance starts October 1st.
- Income guidelines are that a family of four can only make \$12,490 over three months in gross income to qualify for the program.
- Allowed amount is based on the type of heat.

- If a person has winterization help after September 30, 1994, they cannot request it again. Commissioner Niemi noted that seemed like a long time to go back and will be checking into that date.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Next Meeting – October 23, 2018