



# Aitkin County Health & Human Services

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## AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### *Meeting Minutes*

*December 5, 2018*

**Committee Members Present:**

Robert Marcum  
Penny Olson  
Carole Holten  
Kristine Layne  
Kari Paulsen  
Jon Moen  
Joy Janzen  
Steven Teff  
Kevin Insley  
Joell Miranda

Commissioner Bill Pratt  
Commissioner Mark Wedel

**Guests:**

Shawn Speed, Clerk to the Committee

**Absent:**

Beverly Mensing  
Marlene Abear  
Maureen Mishler

**I. Call to Order**

- a. Robert called to order the regular meeting of the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Advisory Committee at 3:31pm on November 7, 2018 at Aitkin County Health & Human Services in the large conference room.

**II. Approval of December 5, 2018 Agenda**

- a. Penny moved to approve the agenda, Steve seconded, all members voting yes to approve the agenda.

**III. Approval of minutes from November 7, 2018 meeting**

- a. Kari moved to approve the minutes as written, Carole seconded, all members voting yes to

approve the November 7, 2018 minutes.

**IV. Committee Member Input / Updates – Must be informational in nature, relative to Aitkin County Health & Human Services and not exceed five minutes per person.**

- a. Bob thanked the committee members for allowing him to work with them for the past 6 years.
- b. He also mentioned that we had another opportunity for the Blandin Grant and were awarded \$50,000. Will be using the money to educate people on telemedicine and all of the other technology available to them.
- c. He also will be moving into a position on the Board at Angels.
- d. Kari gave an update on the Salvation Army bell ringing and kettle donations.
  - i. Last year we raised about \$13,000 and are hoping to raise that much this year.
  - ii. Bell ringers have been spearheaded by the Birchstreet Center and all the slots that were open are filled.
  - iii. Funds help individuals who need a helping hand for emergency shelter, utilities, bus fares, etc.
  - iv. Joy added that the Aitkin Lions would be donating \$500 to the kettle fund. They also gave \$500 to each of the three local food shelves and \$1500 to the Crosby food shelf also.
- e. Joy talked about Operation Christmas and that she registered 61 families herself in one day of working.
  - i. Store opens December 10 at the 40 Club Convention Center.
- f. Kristine mentioned that Riverwood would be getting a da Vinci robot the end of December to offer robotic surgery within a few months.
  - i. It allows for better control of the cameras and to work on the patient more effectively.
  - ii. Has shown to be less painful for the patients, better recovery.
  - iii. Will be showing it off during an open house in February or March.
- g. Bob talked about his trip to Washington D.C. to speak at the National Association of Medicaid Directors conference.
  - i. Alex Azar was their opening speaker.
  - ii. Spoke to the directors about what was important to them.
  - iii. Talked about keeping Senior's living in their homes.
  - iv. Talked to them about the need to partner with our volunteer organizations such as Aitkin County CARE and Angles.
  - v. Spoke to them about children's dental health and how the reimbursement rate, in Minnesota, is so low that provider's don't want to see children.
  - vi. Lastly Bob talked about how valuable everything we do as the Advisory Board is so very important and that higher up people actually do listen and want to know what your concerns are.
- h. Bob added that the Robert Lloyd Johnson foundation would like to come do some filming of an Advisory Meeting possibly in the future and would be in touch with us to let us know more when he knows.

**V. Looking ahead to 2019 – Cynthia Bennett**

- a. Went over the Subcommittee meeting summary from their meeting on September 5, 2018.
- b. Talked about the HHS Advisory Board Meeting Summary Template and how to use it to your advantage during the Board meeting.
  - i. Kari thanked Cynthia for developing the summary and said it will help.

- ii. Bill commented that it will increase the comfort level for the members who are presenting to the Board each month and help them answer the other Commissioners questions who are not here.
- c. Discussed the addition of the HHS Mission, Vision, and Values onto the Advisory board agenda and how we came up with them as a whole department.
- d. Brought up the possibility of not having an organized meeting every month, rather every other month and the months we do not have meetings we would do a project work meeting to work on whatever projects HHS wants help with.
  - i. Would need to identify projects to be done.
  - ii. Need to develop timeline for projects so that they actually get accomplished.
  - iii. Carole noted that it will help the Committee members better understand the workings of HHS and what they can do more to help.
  - iv. Steve added that it goes more away from just being a “rubber stamp” for the County to actually helping with projects.
  - v. Commissioner Wedel suggested starting the meetings at 3 to allow more time as we are then only meeting half the time and it was agreed.
  - vi. A motion was made by Carole to change to meeting every other month from 3-5pm and the months between would be for work sessions on projects, seconded by Kari, all members voting yes.

**VI. Comments:**

- a. Feedback from the HHS Board Meeting –
  - i. Penny – November 27, 2018
    - 1. Talked about MTM and the new Clubhouse that is coming.
    - 2. She also spoke to personal experience with transportation problems.
    - 3. Minutes from that meeting are attached.
- b. Committee Members scheduled to attend upcoming HHS Board meetings in 2018:

**December 18**

Bob Marcum

Kristine Layne

**VII. Adjournment**

- a. Motion by Kari to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Steve, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 4:38pm.

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Robert Marcum, Chairperson

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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 December 5, 2018 meeting.
- Copy of the minutes from the November 7, 2018 meeting.
- Copy of the November 27, 2018 H&HS Board meeting minutes.