

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26th day of February, 2019 at 9:01 a.m., at the Aitkin Public Library, with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, Bill Pratt, County Administrator Jessica Seibert and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham. Commissioner Laurie Westerlund was not present.

CALL TO ORDER

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried (4-0 Westerlund absent) to approve the February 26, 2019 amended agenda. Jessica Seibert, County Administrator noted that Agenda Item 6B – MnDOT Detour Agreement is a discussion item only. Agenda Items 6C – Unorganized Township Legislation Discussion, and 7.5 – Set Dangerous Dog Hearing, were added.

APPROVED AGENDA

Commissioner Westerlund arrived at 9:07 a.m.

WESTERLUND ARRIVED

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES
BOARD MEETING MINUTES
February 26, 2019**

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26th day of February, 2019, at 9:03 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Commissioners Anne Marcotte, Laurie Westerlund (arrived at 9:07am), J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, and Bill Pratt. Others present included: County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Sheriff Dan Guida, Cynthia Bennett ACH&HS Director, Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, Public Health Supervisor Erin Melz, Public Health Nurse Brea Hamdorf, Adult Social Services Supervisor Kim Larson, Assistant to the County Administrator Sue Bingham, Shawn Speed, H&HS Executive Assistant, and Guests: Joel Hoppe/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Kathy Beatty/ANGELS, and Brielle Bredsten/Aitkin Independent Age.

Agenda

There was a change to the agenda. Removal of Item VI as Jessi Schultz was unavailable to present.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the February 26, 2019 Health & Human Services Board agenda with the change.

Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to approve the January 22, 2019 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

Bills

Carli Goble noted that all of the 2018 payments were finalized.

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

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

Cynthia talked about the AMC Legislative Conference she attended February 12-14.

The sunset of the 2% provider tax or Health Care Access Fund (HCAF) at the end of 2019 was the main topic of discussion. The HCAF supports the following programs-

- SHIP
- MinnesotaCare
- Medical Assistance
- As well as grants to rural hospitals and clinics.

Without this funding source there will be a significant gap in the budget.

There has been no viable replacement suggested, as such it is being requested that the State continue this HCAF until that time that there is a replacement identified.

Commissioner Marcotte expressed her concern for the sun setting of this funding source and asked that a resolution be presented at the next Board meeting expressing support for the continuation of the HCAF.

Commissioner Niemi sought clarification around a concern about how the tax is affecting healthcare costs, specifically driving up the costs of doing business and then that is passed onto the patient.

Cynthia talked about MinnesotaCare, and a new program called ONECare MN that is designed to allow consumers, such as farmers, more options for insurance coverage that have lower costs and a smaller buy in option.

Commissioner Niemi also inquired into what each side has for reasons for continuing or not continuing the fund.

Cynthia replied that one side has indicated that the fund was created for MinnesotaCare, and that, due to a surplus has been used to fund or support many other health related programs, such as SHIP, that is not what this provider tax was originally intended to be used for.

In addition, the opposing side is saying that this provider tax is contributing to the rising cost of healthcare. However on the other side of the aisle, the group supporting the continuation claims that the provider tax is making available the needed dollars to fund prevention programs. Prevention programs ultimately contribute to healthcare costs savings as populations stay healthier to begin with.

Commissioner Niemi also inquired as to whether a document exists that we could show the legislature's the successes of these programs.

Cynthia and Erin stated that the Local Public Health Association (LPHA) has one from previous years and are working on an updated flyer. This will be shared with the commissioners when it is finished.

Cynthia went on to talk more about ONECare MN and her meeting with DHS Commissioner Tony Lourey in Carlton County at which he was promoting the Governor's new Health Care program proposal. His hope is to create an insurance plan that will offer comprehensive coverage that consumers can buy into through the general market to create better options for people when they are making their insurance coverage choices. Currently we have very expensive insurance options with no lower deductible plans offered. This new option would balance out the market and develop large purchasing pools

that would drive costs for the product itself and prescriptions down.

Legislative Issues we are watching-

- Children and Adult Mental Health Services
- Bill to stop with holds for Child Protection
- Telemedicine in regards to MA reimbursements
- Substance Use Disorder reforms
- Regional Treatment Centers including Competency Restoration

Commissioner Marcotte asked about the new Substance Use Disorder requirements. Supervisor Kim Larson indicated that there were new licensing requirements for those who conduct CD Evaluations. In 2020 the requirement will be that whomever conducts the evaluation must be a licensed drug/alcohol counselor. Most counties will not meet these requirements as they will not have personnel who are qualified to that standard.

Related to Competency Restoration there is a need to clarify who is responsible to conduct this service. There is legislation in process to clarify the language in the State statutes.

Cynthia then turned it over to Erin, Brea, and Sheriff Guida to talk about the new effort to educate our tobacco retailers on how to spot and stop sales of tobacco and tobacco products, including vaping supplies to youth.

Public Health will be conducting random education and congratulation checks at 19 of the counties 26 tobacco retailers. These checks will only be educational in nature and not an actual compliance check by law enforcement, so no fines or penalties will be incurred by a failure. They are only to help educate the retailers and their staff.

Review Approval of Contracts/Agreements/Appointments

Service Agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS and Lutheran Social Services.

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

Service Agreement for January 1, 2019 through December 31, 2019 between ACH&HS & Riverwood HealthCare Center.

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

Committee Reports

Joint Powers Board Update – Tri-County Community Health Services Board

Erin informed the board that at the last meeting they reviewed their by-laws, elected officers, to which Commissioner Westerlund was elected Chairperson, reviewed their Quality Improvement Programs. All three counties involved presented their current work that is being done to combat tobacco usage.

H&HS Advisory Committee Update

Joel briefed the Board that this month was the first meeting of the year for the Advisory Committee and at it they-

- Selected Carole Holten as the new Chairperson
- Selected Joel as the Vice-Chair
- Selected Commissioner Wedel as the Parliamentarian
- Reviewed and approved the by-laws
- Were given a report, from HHS Director Bennett, on Chappy's Golden Shores

AEOA Committee Update

Commissioner Westerlund reported that it was a normal meeting and mentioned that she was very impressed with Ivy Manor in Virginia and how they took an old building and made it so nice and useable for housing the less fortunate.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

Next Meeting – March 26, 2019

Break: 9:58 a.m. to 10:05 a.m.

Kathy Beatty, McGregor ANGELS Co-Chair briefly discussed the meetings being held with ANGELS, CARE and Propel, and some of the questions she has about the situation.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: February 12, 2019 to February 25, 2019; B) Approve County Board Minutes: February 12, 2019; C) Approve Electronic Funds Transfers: \$665,760.08; D) Approve Auditor Warrants – January 2019 Sales Tax: General Fund \$522.30, Road & Bridge \$1,423.93, Health & Human Services \$0.13, State \$5,581.00, Long Lake Conservation Center \$134.15, Parks \$81.37 for a total of \$7,742.88; E) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$96,650.93, Road & Bridge \$65,127.61, Health & Human Services \$9,703.11, State \$270.00, Trust \$6,111.57, Forest Development \$16,246.88, Long Lake Conservation Center \$5,721.41, Parks \$112,316.11 for a total of \$312,147.62; F) Authorize Board Chair Signature on Letter of Authorization for Central Planes Aviation; G) Approve Extension Committee Reappointments; H) Adopt Resolution: Federal Recreational Trail Program Grant Application; I) Adopt Resolution: Snake River Watershed; J) Adopt Resolution: Local Road Improvement Program

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the following reappointments to the Extension Committee:

- Sharon Dotzler, District 1
- Roberta Elvecrog, District 3
- Bonnie Mickelson, At Large

All three terms end December 31, 2021.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Federal Recreational Trail Program Grant Application:

WHEREAS, Aitkin County supports the grant application made to the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources for the Federal Recreational Trail Program. The application is to purchase snowmobile grooming equipment for the Aitkin County Cross Country Ski Trail System. The trail systems to be groomed include Long Lake Conservation Center, Vispo, and No Achen, and

**HHS BOARD
ADJOURNS**

BREAK

**CITIZEN'S
PUBLIC
COMMENT**

**CONSENT
AGENDA**

**EXTENSION
COMMITTEE**

**RESOLUTION
20190226-015
FEDERAL
RECREATIONAL
TRAIL
PROGRAM**

WHEREAS, Aitkin County recognizes the twenty-five (25) percent match requirement for the Federal Recreational Trail Program, and has secured the matching funds

GRANT APPLICATION

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, if Aitkin County is awarded a grant by the Minnesota Department of Natural resources, Aitkin County agrees to accept the grant award, and may enter into an agreement with the State of Minnesota for the above referenced project. Aitkin County will comply with all applicable laws, environmental requirements and regulations as stated in the grant agreement, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the applicant has read the Conflict of Interest Policy contained in the Trail Program Grant Manual and certifies it will report any actual, potential, perceived, or organizational conflicts of interest upon discovery to the state related to the application or grant award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the Aitkin County names the fiscal agent for the Aitkin County for this project as:

Beth Haasken, Clerk
Aitkin County Land Department
502 Minnesota Ave N.
Aitkin, MN 56431

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, Aitkin County hereby assures the grooming equipment acquired through this grant will be maintained for no less than twenty (20) years as required by the Federal Recreational Trail Grant Program or until such time as appropriate disposition actions are approved by the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Support Snake River Watershed – One Watershed, One Plan Project:

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Board of Water and Soil Resources has developed policies for coordination and development of comprehensive watershed management plans, also known as One Watershed, One Plan, consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, Comprehensive Watershed Management Planning Program; and

**RESOLUTION
20190226-016
SUPPORT
SNAKE RIVER
WATERSHED –
ONE
WATERSHED,
ONE PLAN
PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.301, Comprehensive Local Water Management Act, authorizes Minnesota Counties to develop and implement a local water management plan; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103C.331, subdivision 11, Comprehensive Plan, authorizes Minnesota Soil and Water Conservation Districts to develop and implement a comprehensive plan; and,

WHEREAS, the counties, soil and water conservation districts and the Snake River Watershed Management Board within the Snake River Watershed (HUC 8-0703004), as delineated in the attached One Watershed, One Plan Suggested Boundary Map, have interest in developing a comprehensive watershed management plan for this area.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County recognizes and supports watershed-scale planning efforts consistent with Minnesota Statutes, Chapter 103B.801, also known as One Watershed, One Plan; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Aitkin County welcomes the opportunity to collaborate with the counties, soil and water conservation districts and the Snake River Watershed Management Board within the Snake River Watershed for watershed-scale planning efforts in the future; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Aitkin County supports a 2019 application to the Board of Water and Soil Resources for a planning grant to develop a comprehensive watershed management plan and anticipates entering into a Memorandum of Agreement with the counties, soil and water conservation districts, and the Snake River Watershed Management Board within the Snake River Watershed, to collaborate on this effort, pending selection as a recipient of a planning grant.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – Local Road Improvement Program:

WHEREAS, grant applications are currently being solicited by the Minnesota Department of Transportation for eligible local projects for the Local Road Improvement Program, and

WHEREAS, SAP 01-640-003 and SAP 001-617-004 are eligible local projects.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Aitkin County hereby supports the submission of SAP 01-640-003 and SAP 001-617-004 for consideration of future Local Road Improvement Program funding.

Cynthia Bennett, Health & Human Services Director introduced to the Board the first Cohort group to attend and complete the Leadership Leverage training course offered by Aitkin County, and presented them with their certifications of completion:

- Christian Sutch
- Courtney Dowell
- Jessi Goble
- Kim Larson
- Lori Tibbetts
- Michele Motherway
- Peter Gansen
- Rich Courtemanche
- Wendie Carlson

Ross Wagner, Economic Development & Forest Industry Coordinator discussed and shared with the Board the winners of the Aitkin County Walleye Tank:

- 1) \$1,000.00 Forester Pontoons, Hill City
- 2) \$ 500.00 Aitkin Health Services
- 3) \$ 250.00 Butler Building/Sylvia Allen

**RESOLUTION
20190226-017
LOCAL ROAD
IMPROVEMENT
PROGRAM**

**LEADERSHIP
LEVERAGE
TRAINING**

**AITKIN COUNTY
WALLEYE TANK**

Honorable Mentions:

- Start a Flea Market at the County Fairgrounds
- A.R.E.A. Rental Homes
- New Products for DAC

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to approve holding a residential waste electronics event on June 8, 2019 with a fee of \$5.00 per screened item (TV, computer monitors, etc.). This includes approval of startup funds from the Auditor's Office.

**RESIDENTIAL
WASTE
ELECTRONICS
COLLECTION
EVENT**

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to assemble an Ordinance Review Committee to review proposed amendments to the zoning ordinance and review proposed new solid waste ordinance. This committee will consist of the following members:

**ORDINANCE
REVIEW
COMMITTEE**

- Commissioner Marcotte
- Commissioner Pratt
- Board of Adjustment Representative
- Planning Commission Representative
- Garrison Disposal Representative
- Lakes Sanitation Representation
- Environmental Services Director

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve budgeted Road & Bridge purchase of New Holland TS6.120 tractor from Timmer Implement at a cost of \$46,696, including trade-in.

**EQUIPMENT
PURCHASE –
ROAD & BRIDGE**

John Welle, County Engineer discussed a proposed detour agreement between MnDOT and Aitkin County for Trunk Highway No. 18 & 47 Detour. No action was taken at this time.

**PROPOSED
MnDOT DETOUR
AGREEMENT**

John Welle, County Engineer updated the Board on an Unorganized Township Legislation bill Representative Dale Lueck is bringing forward which could potentially allow combining Aitkin County's 13 separate Ditch Fund accounts into one account.

**UNORGANIZED
TOWNSHIP
LEGISLATION**

The Board recognized the following employee for his years of service with Aitkin County:

- Kirk Peysar, 30 years of service, County Auditor in the Auditor's Office

**EMPLOYEE
RECOGNITION**

Bobbie Danielson, Human Resources Director presented Personnel Committee recommendations to the Board.

**PERSONNEL
COMMITTEE**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve creating and filling a new temporary (67 day per calendar year) Licensed Court Bailiff position, Grade 4, non-union, as presented.

**LICENSED
COURT BAILIFF**

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve creating and filling a new Sr. Forester position, Grade 7, AFSCME Courthouse union position, as presented.

SR. FORESTER

Jessica Seibert, County Administrator discussed the need to schedule a Dangerous Dog Hearing with the Board. The Board agreed to hold a Dangerous Dog Hearing March 8, 2019. Commissioners Wedel and Pratt volunteered to be the County Board representatives. This Dangerous Dog Hearing will be held in the Jury Deliberation Room of the Aitkin County Courthouse, time yet to be determined.

**SET
DANGEROUS
DOG HEARING**

The Board discussed: ARDC phone conference, MRC, AMC Legislative Conference, Snake River Watershed, Mille Lacs Fisheries, CARE, TZD, and NCLUCB.

**BOARD
DISCUSSION**

Commissioner Wedel left at 12:12 p.m.

WEDEL LEFT

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried (4-0 Wedel absent) to adjourn the meeting at 12:27 p.m. until Tuesday, March 12, 2019 at the Aitkin Public Library.

ADJOURN



Anne Marcotte, Board Chair
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners



Jessica Seibert, County Administrator