



AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

204 First Street NW
Aitkin, MN 56431

Phone: 800-328-3744/218-927-7200
Fax: 218-927-7210

COUNTY BOARD MEETING MINUTES August 23, 2022

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 23rd day of August 2022, at 9:05 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Commissioners Brian Napstad, J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, Laurie Westerlund and Anne Marcotte. Others present included: Health & Human Services Director Cynthia Bennett, Administrative Assistant to the H&HS Director Paula Arimborgo and County Administrator Jessica Seibert. Others present included: H&HS Supervisors Erin Melz and Carli Goble, H&HS Public Health Educator Hannah Colby, CARE Executive Director Lynne Jacobs, H&HS Financial Worker Janet Hatfield and other public guests. Joining via WebEx: Admin/HR Administrative Assistant Brittany Searle, H&HS Supervisors Julie Herbst and Jessi Goble, Kathy Robb, AC Economic Development Coordinator Mark Jeffers and Paul Vold-KKIN.

Approved Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Napstad, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the August 23rd, 2022 Health & Human Services Board agenda as presented.

Approved Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Marcotte, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the July 26th, 2022 Health & Human Services Board minutes.

Approved Bills

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

Building Resilient Inclusive Communities (BRIC) Grant Presentation

Hannah Colby, HHS Public Health Educator & Lynne Jacobs, CARE Executive Director gave a presentation on the BRIC (Building Resilient Inclusive Communities) Grant.

- Food & Nutrition Security
 - o Aitkin Manor & Hill City Community Gardens
 - o Aitkin Community Food Shelf "SuperShelf"
 - o Palisade One Stop – Good Food Sold Here Network
 - o Aitkin Farmers' Market Food Hub
- Safe Physical Activity Access
 - o City of Aitkin Walkable Audit
 - o City of Aitkin City Park Planning



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- Social Connectedness
 - o Magic in Music
 - o Music in the Park
 - o Rippleside Elementary Grand Friends

Director Updates

Cynthia Bennett, H&HS Director updated the board on the Health & Human Services 2021 Year End Report

- A snapshot of the work conducted in 2021
- Mental Health, Comprehensive Re-Entry, Chemical Dependency & Financial Recovery
- Prenatal, Young Children & Prevention Programs, Childcare, Child Protection, Adult Protection, People with Disabilities, Chronic Illness, Brain Injuries & Developmental Disabilities, and Aging & the Elderly
- Safety Net/Economic Support, Child Support, Food Hub, COVID-19, and Disease Prevention Control
- Initiatives Include: Suicide Prevention, Substance Misuse Awareness, Making a Change, Statewide Health Improvement Partnership, Families First Act and Local Mental Health and Wellbeing Interventions

Committee Updates

The Board discussed AEOA, Tri-County Community Health Service (CHS) Board and H&HS Advisory Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m.

Next Meeting – September 27, 2022