



AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD February 28, 2023

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 28th day of February 2023, at 9:00 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board with the following members present: Board Chair J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Travis Leiviska, Bret Sample and Michael Kearney. County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Administrative Assistant Brittany Searle, Health & Human Services Director Sarah Pratt, and Administrative Assistant Paula Arimborgo. Others present included: H&HS Supervisors Carli Goble & Erin Melz, AC Advisory Committee members Cindy Chuhanic & Lynne Jacobs, H&HS Public Health Nurse Liz Short, Jeanne Schram Aitkin Age and other public guests. Joining via WebEx: H&HS Supervisor Jessi Goble, AC Economic Development Coordinator Mark Jeffers and KIN Paul Vold.

Approved Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Sample and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the February 28, 2023 Health & Human Services agenda.

Approved Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Kearney, seconded by Commissioner Leiviska and carried, all members present voting yes to approve January 24, 2023 Health & Human Services minutes.

Approved Bills

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

Approved Advisory Committee Appointment

Motion by Commissioner Kearney, seconded by Commissioner Sample and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the new appointment of Patrick Blunt to the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Advisory Committee.

Director Updates

Sarah Pratt, H&HS Director updated the board on the following:

- Cannabis Bill
- Legislative Priorities to include: Modernization, Self-sufficiency,

- Behavioral Health
- Unwinding of Public Health Emergency and the ending of the extra ESNAP benefits and the beginning of Health care Renewals.

Opioid Settlement Presentation

Liz Short, H&HS Public Health Nurse presented to the board an Opioid Settlement presentation which included:

- Understanding the OPIOD Crisis
- How the OPIOID Settlement Originated
- State of MN Statistics
- Aitkin County Statistics
- Key points in the Memorandum of Agreement
- Funds Received to date
- Guiding Principles for spending
- Areas of Mitigation
- The Road map ahead
- Opportunities and Challenges

Committee Updates

The Board discussed the Advisory Committee, AEOA, CARE Board, and JET (NEMOJT).

Adjourn

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

Next Meeting – March 28, 2023