



AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD November 26, 2024 H&HS Board Minutes

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 26th day of November 2024, at 9:00 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board with the following members present: Board Chair, Commissioner J. Mark Wedel, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, Travis Leiviska, Bret Sample and Michael Kearney. County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Health & Human Services Director Sarah Pratt, and Administrative Assistant Paula Arimborgo. Others present included: H&HS Supervisors Erin Melz, Kim Larson, Jessi Goble and Rebecca Person; H&HS staff members Brea Hamdorf, Naomi Larson, Janet Hatfield, and Liz Short; ACHHS Advisory Committee member representative Cindy Chuhanic, Jeanne Schram Aitkin Age, and other public guests and H&HS staff members. Joining via WebEx: AC Economic Development Coordinator Mark Jeffers.

1.A Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Kearney and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the November 26, 2024, Health & Human Services agenda.

1.B Approval of the October 22, 2024, Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Leiviska, seconded by Commissioner Sample and carried, all members present voting yes to approve October 22, 2024, Health & Human Services minutes.

1.C Approval of Bills

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

2.A Director Updates

Sarah Pratt, H&HS Director used her time to celebrate various employee recognitions.

- Janet Hatfield – received the Financial Worker of the Year Award. Jessi Goble spoke about the many accomplishments of Janet throughout the years and announced Janet's upcoming retirement next week. Janet expressed her thanks.
- Liz Short – retiring January 10th. Erin Melz spoke about the many accomplishments of Liz and how she will be missed. Liz expressed her thanks.
- Kim Larson & Rebecca Person – awarded Region III Outstanding Supervisor Award. Jon Moen & Reina Irvine spoke about why they nominated the two supervisors and their leadership qualities. Kim & Becca expressed their thanks.

One update, H&HS will not be filling Janet's position when she retires but they will be

backfilling Liz's position and interview have already taken place.

3.A Family Home Visits

Brea Hamdorf & Naomi Larson, H&HS Public Health Nurses, presented to the board Healthy Beginnings Home Visiting to include:

- Family home visiting is a voluntary, home-based service ideally delivered prenatally through the early years of a child's life.
- Benefits of Home Visits
- What do families receive during a family home visit
- Initial Mom & Baby visit
- Visit Frequency
- Referral Sources
- Collaborations
- Families served by home visiting in Aitkin County
- Funding
- Insurance Reimbursement
- Foundational Areas & Capabilities

4.A Committee Updates

The Board discussed the H&HS Advisory Committee, Tri-County Community Health Services, CARE Board, JET, Lakes & Pines, and ARDC/AAAA.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

Next Meeting – December 23, 2024