

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018 at 9:01 a.m., at the Aitkin Library, with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners J. Mark Wedel, Laurie Westerlund, Don Niemi, Bill Pratt, County Administrator Jessica Seibert and Administrative Assistant Sue Bingham.

**CALL TO ORDER**

Motion by Commissioner Niemi, seconded by Commissioner Wedel and carried, all members voting yes to approve the September 25, 2018 amended agenda. Agenda Item 3C – Approve Personnel Committee Recommendation to hire Rich Courtemanche as the new Land Commissioner, was added to the agenda.

**APPROVED  
AGENDA**

**AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES  
September 25, 2018**

**HEALTH & HUMAN  
SERVICES BOARD**

**Attendance**

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 25<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2018, at 9:02 a.m. as the Aitkin County Health & Human Services Board, with the following members present: Board Chair Anne Marcotte, Commissioners Laurie Westerlund, J. Mark Wedel, Don Niemi, and Bill Pratt. Others present included: County Administrator Jessica Seibert, Accounting Supervisor Carli Goble, Public Health Supervisor Erin Melz, Financial Assistant Supervisor Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Worker Jen Rikila, Assistant to the County Administrator Sue Bingham, and Guests: Robert Marcum/H&HS Advisory Committee Member, Carole Holten and Roberta Elvecrog/H&HS Advisory Committee Members, Brielle Bredsten/Aitkin Independent Age, and Bob Harwarth/Citizen.

**Agenda**

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to approve the September 25, 2018 Health & Human Services Board agenda with the addition.

**Minutes**

Motion by Commissioner Pratt, seconded by Commissioner Westerlund and carried, all members voting yes to approve the August 28, 2018 Health and Human Services Board minutes.

**Bills**

Carli Goble noted there was nothing unusual or noteworthy in this month's bills.

Commissioner Marcotte asked about an amount to the Dept. of Human Services. Carli noted that was our maintenance of effort, which is our percentage we have to pay to get CCDTF funding.

Commissioner Marcotte also inquired about a payment to Lakes and Pines and whether that was for pay to the family resource specialist who was hired to provide in home services and Carli noted that it was.

Commissioner Marcotte also reiterated that something needs to be done, by the state, about us bearing the burden to pay for people who are in treatment facilities.

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

**Health & Human Services Director Report, Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor**

In Cynthia's absence Jessi Goble provided the directors report.

1. Cynthia attended the AMC Fall Policy Conference Sept. 12-14.
  - a. Great discussion at the HHS Policy Committee meeting.
  - b. Multitude of issues that Counties are concerned with.
2. AMC will develop platform positions on a variety of topics and will prioritize 3 areas.
3. The platform topics are-
  - a. Child safety and well being
  - b. Chemical use and abuse
  - c. Children and Family health
  - d. Community Health
  - e. Economic self-sufficiency
  - f. Disease prevention and health protection
  - g. Health care financing, access, and quality
  - h. Mental health
  - i. Vulnerable people
4. She hopes to have a document from AMC by the next Board meeting to be able to share more details on all of it.

**PDM (Periodic Data Match) Update, Jessi Goble, Financial Assistance Supervisor**

Jessi and Jen Rikila went through their handout and spoke about PDM and what it is.

Was approved by the MN Legislature in 2015. Its purpose is to compare data across many different systems for enrollees of MA or Minnesota Care to ensure that all data matches and that people are indeed eligible for public programs or have had a change in their eligibility status. Process runs six months after a person is enrolled in MA or Minnesota Care.

If a discrepancy is found, the system notifies the enrollee about it and instructs them to contact their financial worker to get it corrected. The system does not redetermine eligibility, the financial worker still must process any of the changes.

PDM process is working better throughout the state than was anticipated for the group that was selected to be tested on.

No concrete date, right now, as to when the process will be turned on completely.

There was a question from Commissioner Niemi, unrelated to PDM, about MTM (Medical Transportation Management) Services and Jessi spoke that they have just begun discussions on the subject, within the region, and that when she has more solid information she will bring it to the board.

**Committee Reports**

**H&HS Advisory Committee Update – Carole Holten/Roberta Elvecrog**

Met on September 5<sup>th</sup>.

- Roberta talked about the Suicide Prevention presentation that was given by Brea Hamdorf and Stephanie Downey and how it gave a good

representation of how our area does not recognize that suicide is a concern and that it really needs to be addressed. We are at the denial/resistance level of community readiness.

- H&HS has gathered key stakeholders from Aitkin County and formed CAPS, the Committee for Awareness and Prevention of Suicide.
- Need more community leadership involvement with this issue.
- Roberta commented how disheartening it is how blasé people are about it in our county.

**Lakes and Pines Update – Commissioner Niemi**

They discussed fuel assistance and weatherization.

- Fuel assistance starts October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Income guidelines are that a family of four can only make \$12,490 over three months in gross income to qualify for the program.
- Allowed amount is based on the type of heat.
- If a person has winterization help after September 30, 1994, they cannot request it again. Commissioner Niemi noted that seemed like a long time to go back and will be checking into that date.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 a.m.

Next Meeting – October 23, 2018

Break: 9:46 a.m. to 9:54 a.m.

Motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve the Consent Agenda as follows: A) Correspondence File: September 11, 2018 to September 24, 2018; B) Approve County Board Minutes: September 11, 2018; C) Approve Personnel Committee Recommendation; D) Set Unorganized Township Levies for 2019 – 1. Adopt Resolution: 2019 Unorganized Road & Bridge, 2. Adopt Resolution: 2019 Unorganized Fire Protection, 3. Adopt Resolution: 2019 Unorganized Cemetery; E) Approve Electronic Funds Transfers: \$677,574.96; F) Approve Commissioner Warrants: General Fund \$89,345.80, Road & Bridge \$138,261.14, Health & Human Services \$10,868.04, Debt Service \$6,052.90, State \$900.00, Trust \$6,126.79, Forest Development \$6,389.43, Long Lake Conservation Center \$3,273.89, Parks \$36,974.76 for a total of \$298,192.75; G) Approve Auditor Warrants – Sales & Use Tax: General Fund \$701.27, Road & Bridge \$1,404.45, Health & Human Services \$0.58, State \$7,709.50, Trust \$59.90, Long Lake Conservation Center \$19.00, Parks \$260.38 for a total of \$10,155.08

Under the consent agenda, motion by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to approve hiring Kristi Kunz as a non-union temporary office assistant in the Environmental Services Department at an hourly rate equivalent to Grade 5, Step D on the County’s uniform wage scale, as recommended by the Personnel Committee.

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2019 Unorganized Road & Bridge:

**HHS BOARD  
ADJOURNS**

**BREAK**

**CONSENT  
AGENDA**

**TEMPORARY  
OFFICE ASST.  
ENVIRONMENTAL  
SERVICES**

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following sums of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2019 for Road and Bridge purposes:

Unorg Township	
52-22	\$3000
45-24	\$2000
47-24	\$11000
52-24	\$1500
50-25	\$4000
51-25	\$0
52-25	\$4500
50-26	\$2000
48-27	\$5500
49-27	\$9000
50-27	\$0
51-27	\$0
52-27	\$3500

**RESOLUTION  
20180925-062  
2019  
UNORGANIZED  
ROAD & BRIDGE**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2019 Unorganized Fire Protection:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following sums of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2019 for Fire Protection purposes:

Unorg Township	
52-22	\$15000
51-22	\$150
45-25	\$650
47-25	\$2000
52-26	\$1400
50-28	\$1600
51-26	\$300
52-27	\$2700
50-29	\$1600
48-28	\$5000
49-28	\$5500
50-30	\$350
51-27	\$1200
52-27	\$4600

**RESOLUTION  
20180925-063  
2019  
UNORGANIZED  
FIRE PROTECTION**

Under the consent agenda, motion for a resolution by Commissioner Wedel, seconded by Commissioner Pratt and carried, all members voting yes to adopt resolution – 2019 Unorganized Cemetery:

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that the following sums of money be levied against the tax capacity of the Unorganized Townships of Aitkin County, for the year collectible 2019 for Cemetery (Revenue):

**RESOLUTION  
20180925-064  
2019**





Motion by Commissioner Wedel seconded by Commissioner Niemi and carried, all members voting yes to adjourn the meeting at 12:19 p.m. until Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 9:00 a.m. at the Aitkin Public Library.

**ADJOURN**

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Anne Marcotte, Board Chair  
Aitkin County Board of Commissioners

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Jessica Seibert, County Administrator