



AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

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AITKIN COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD February 27, 2024 H&HS Board Minutes

Attendance

The Aitkin County Board of Commissioners met this 27th day of February 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 Supervisor Erin Melz, H&HS Public Health Nurse Brea Hamdorf, ACHHS Advisory Committee member representatives Cindy Chuhanic, Andrew Jergenson and Lynne Jacobs; Jeanne Schram Aitkin Age, and other public guests. Joining via WebEx: H&HS Fiscal Supervisor Carli Goble and AC Economic Development Coordinator Mark Jeffers.

1.A Approval of the Agenda

Removal of agenda item 1.D, Approval of CaseWorks Contracts; move agenda item 2.A, Director updates after current agenda item 3.A; and the addition of agenda item 2.B, Request to Set Public Hearing Date for Updated Tobacco Ordinance.

Motion by Commissioner Sample, seconded by Commissioner Leiviska and carried, all members present voting yes to approve the February 27, 2024 Health & Human Services agenda as revised.

1.B Approval of the January 23, 2024 Minutes

Motion by Commissioner Westerlund, seconded by Commissioner Kearney and carried, all members present voting yes to approve January 23, 2024 Health & Human Services minutes.

1.C Approval of Bills

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

2.A Proposed Update to Tobacco Ordinance Presentation

Brea Hamdorf, H&HS Public Health Nurse presented to the board the proposed updates to the Tobacco Ordinance. Presentation included:

- Rural communities are disproportionately affected by tobacco use
- Behavioral Health and tobacco use
- 2020 Minnesota Youth Tobacco Survey
- Sharp increase in youth vaping across all grades: MN data
- Aitkin County Minnesota Student Survey Data
- The problem:

- Flavors hook kids
 - Menthol is a “flavored product”
 - Commercial tobacco disproportionately harms youth
- Tobacco 21 (MN Stat. 609.685)
- Underage PUP penalties removed from state law
- Regulations of the sale of tobacco products in Aitkin County
 - Current ordinance last amended and adopted 2006
 - Proposed Revised Ordinance
- Several jurisdictions already have restrictions on the sale of flavored tobacco products
- The impact of restricting the sale of flavored tobacco on the community
- Economic effects of sales and flavor restrictions on retailers

2.B Request to set Public Hearing Date for updated Tobacco Ordinance

The Board of Commissioners would like to have the Proposed Updates to the Tobacco Ordinance brought to the Ordinance Committee for approval. The request to set a Public Hearing date has been deferred until after Ordinance Committee meets on said subject.

3.A Director Update

Due to time constraints, there were no Director Updates.

4.A Committee Updates

The Board discussed the following: H&HS Advisory Committee, Tri-County Health, CARE Board, and Lakes and Pines.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 10:12 a.m.

Next Meeting – March 26, 2024