

VALLEY HI COMMITTEE
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock, IL 60098

MINUTES OF THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 2 2006

Chairman Zierer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Mary Lou Zierer, Chairman; Sandra Salgado; Perry Moy; Blake Hobson and Dan Shea. Ms. Wheeler 9:18 a.m. Also in attendance: Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator – Finance; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; John Hadley, Facilities Management; Tim Wenberg, Valley Hi Administrator; Don Larson, County Board Member; and interested public.

	Mary Lou Zierer, Chairman
Blake Hobson	Vacant
Perry Moy	Sandra Salgado
Dan Shea	Barbara Wheeler

MINUTES

Mr. Moy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shea, to approve the minutes of October 5, 2006. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

PRESENTATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Wait List Policy: Committee members questioned Mr. Wenberg on the Wait List Policy for Valley Hi. They questioned how a person gets placed on the list. Mr. Wenberg noted that there are normally 8 – 10 individuals on the wait list. Since the announcement of a new facility, individuals have called requesting to be placed on the wait list for the new facility only, prompting the need for two lists. He noted that right now a total of 110 individuals are on the waiting list. Committee members questioned the application process. Mr. Wenberg noted that the social services department then interviews the prospective applicant, if eligible; an application will be presented to complete. Individual who are depressed, mentally ill or extremely overweight cannot be considered eligible. The application is 46 pages long. The waiting list can and does vary depending of the type of bed that becomes available. If a space opens up for a male and the first male is the 8th person on the list, he gets moved to the #1 position. Issues for consideration include male or female, Medicare etc. A care conference is held with the family and the social service person then goes into the home for an interview. The special needs and medications needed at that time are noted. Mr. Wenberg noted that when a person is called to let them know a spot is available for entrance into Valley Hi, some individual's state they are not ready and are moved to the bottom of the list. Doctors records are reviewed for entrance at well. If they do not qualify, letters of rejection are sent out. Committee members questioned how a person could obtain an application for entrance. Mr. Wenberg stated that the form could be forwarded on line or fax but it is preferable to have the form filled out in person since it is a very long process with a lot of technical questions involved. Mr. Wenberg noted that he will combine the lists into one, regardless of where they want to go, whether the old vs. new facility. Committee members noted this should alleviate some of the problems as they would then be able to tell a person exactly what number they are currently on the list. Committee members questioned whether information regarding costs at area nursing homes has been obtained as previously requested. It was noted that this information has not been received at this time.

Ms. Wheeler arrived at 9:18a.m.

Telephone Service and Switchboard Hours: Committee members entered into a discussion regarding the Valley Hi Switchboard hours that currently closes at 4:00p.m. They noted concern that family members could not reach anyone in cases of emergencies. They also noted they did not want nurses to become receptionists either. They questioned the need to extend the switchboard hours to 8:00p.m. Mr. Wenberg noted that additional staff could be hired to man the phones but it would take additional funding within their budget. Mr. Labaj noted there is also an issue regarding entrance to the facility after 4:00p.m. He noted that there should be someone manning the entrance area at least until 8:00p.m. He noted the door and phone policies are linked. Mr. Labaj stated he would speak to Mr. Sullivan regarding the phone system at Valley Hi. It was agreed that the switchboard should remain open until 8:00p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

None

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Transition Team Update: Mr. Labaj reported that the transition team is meeting on a weekly basis. They noted the need to keep the team in place to address issues after the residents have been moved. He noted there has been great participation by staff and they are all looking forward to the move.

Construction Update: Mr. Moy reported that there is a meeting scheduled with the contractor on Friday with hopes the keys to the facility will be turned over. He noted that there was a meeting last week where they put the contractor on notice that they would be terminating his contract and calling in the performance bond and getting a new contractor to complete the job because of a lack of commitment. He noted they have until Friday to complete the project. Funding has been held back in the amount of \$1.8 million because of the outstanding issues. He stated they are hopeful that the project will be 99.9% completed as they do not want to bring in a new contractor. It is hopeful that the inspection will commence on November 15th. Mr. Moy noted he is confident that the facility will be ready for inspection. Sub-contractors will be on site during the inspection, to make any needed repairs. He noted that life safety issues are the main concern they would be looking for. If an item cannot be repaired while the inspectors are on site, they would require an additional inspection. Mr. Labaj noted that he needs to notify the movers at least one week prior to the scheduled move. It is hopeful that the residents could be moved into the facility December 3rd.

Volunteer Update: Chairman Zierer informed committee members that volunteers will be needed for the ice cream parlor if committee members know of anyone who may be interested. Mr. Moy noted he would ask around about getting volunteers to help with this project. Mr. Wenberg noted he would contact area churches as well. It was noted that we would like the ice cream parlor to be completely run by volunteers.

Construction Update con't: Mr. Hadley reported that the valves in well house #3 have been replaced. He noted this has been a 1 year process to complete. He noted the project should work well into the future.

Mr. Hadley reported that his staff would be working on weekends in order to get the floors waxed and carpets shampooed in anticipation of the move in of the residents.

Incentive Program Update: Mr. Sarbaugh reported that staff did not reach the goals for the incentive program. He noted that if staff does not meet the goals set for next month it would show that money is not the issue. It was noted this issue would be discussed further, after the move has been completed.

Administrator's Report: Mr. Wenberg noted there is an individual in dietary that he feels needs additional money for his job. He noted he is a very good employee that goes beyond the requirements of his job and the facility would hate to lose this employee. He noted he would be brining forward a resolution to address this issue. Mr. Sarbaugh reminded committee members that there is a moratorium on reclassifications until January 1st.

Committee members raised questions regarding a benefactor program and what the committee would like to see for Valley Hi. Suggestions included plaques for walls, brick pavers, a tree of life with different areas on the tree for different donation levels. They noted this would be discussed further at a later date.

Committee members were reminded that the County Board is accepting donations to purchase a memorial plaque and bench in honor of Mr. Klasen. The bench will indicate when and how long Mr. Klasen was a county board members. \$500 is needed for this purchase.

Mr. Hobson thanked committee members for their acceptance of him as a County Board member as today would be his last Valley Hi committee meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hobson to adjourn the meeting at 10:07 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTION:

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