

**VALLEY HI COMMITTEE**  
**McHenry County Administration Building**  
**667 Ware Road**  
**Woodstock IL 60098**

MINUTES OF THURSDAY, MAY 13, 2010

Chairman Dvorak called the Valley Hi Committee meeting to order at 8:30a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Ed Dvorak; James Heisler; Marc Munaretto; Mary McCann; James Kennedy; Kathleen Bergan Schmidt and John Hammerand. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; John Smith, Revere Healthcare; Tom Annarella, Valley Hi Administrator; and the press.

Ed Dvorak, Chairman	
John Hammerand	James Heisler
James Kennedy	Mary McCann
Marc Munaretto	Kathleen Bergan Schmidt

MINUTES

Committee members reviewed the minutes of March 18, 2010. Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schmidt to recommend approval of the above minutes as submitted. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PRESENTATIONS

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

NEW BUSINESS

*Discussion – State Survey & Response:* Committee members were informed that the State came in to perform their annual survey of the facility on April 12-14<sup>th</sup>. 6 (six) tags were received, none of which were considered big life issues. These were all paper related concerns and did not concern patient care. The facility is allowed to submit the information stating that they are now in compliance. They are still waiting for the State Architect to come in for their inspection. This generally happens within seven to 10 days from when the surveyors come in. After the survey is completed, the Architect arrives for their inspection, which is a requirement of the State. A copy of the efficiency report will be provided to the Committee Members with a synopsis of an action plan for corrections as soon as it is available. Committee members were informed that when the surveyors come in it is usually with a dietician, sanitarian and two nurses. They inspect everything in the facility.

*Discussion – State Rating System:* Under the “Five Star System” which ties into the quality indicator reports, Valley Hi is making improvements overall. The facility is currently rated a 3 but once the new survey is added in this should help. Mr. Annarella stated the facility could be rated a 4 in the next couple of months.

Committee members questioned if anyone had seen the article in the newspaper regarding nursing home reform. This reform will affect all nursing homes. Because of the new laws, it is expected that some nursing homes will close because some of the smaller homes may not be able to comply. The requirement of 2.5 nurses per resident will change to 3.8 nurses per resident. This will be difficult because of the shortages of nurses and the cost to hire these additional nurses. Committee members were informed that this is not an issue at Valley Hi as they are already beyond the minimums. Fines and violations will change as well. They have placed high fines on serious violations. Illinois has more serious violations than any other State so it is expected to affect Valley Hi. Mr. Annarella stated he has read 159 pages of the new law which is very confusing. He stated that the State has great intentions, but they went beyond reason. They took away the mental facilities and a lot of these individuals were placed in nursing homes at that time. Now they want to protect the nursing homes from the mental patients they placed there.

*Discussion – Operating Board, next steps:* Committee members received a copy of the applications for the Valley Hi Operating Board. There will be five open positions to fill. Two positions will be filled by County Board Members. James Kennedy, Scott Breeden and Mary McCann have voiced interest in serving on this board. It was suggested that one member of the board come from the Valley Hi Committee and one from the Finance and Audit Committee. Mr. Austin stated that the interviews could take place at their June meeting unless the committee is interested in holding a special meeting for this purpose. Applicants generally get interviewed and the appointments take place on the same day. Committee members questioned if the application deadline should be extended in case others may show interest in applying for this board. Committee members noted that the application process could remain open until the interviews are scheduled. It was suggested that each interview be scheduled for 15 minutes each. It was noted that if the appointments are made in June the Operating Board may be able to hold their organizational meeting with the July Valley Hi Committee meeting in order to get the Operating Board up and running by August.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Annarella stated that the search for the Director of Nursing has been going on for some time. They have gone through an extensive application process without success. When Mr. Annarella started his position he saw a current 12 year employee that he thought would fit this position. She has been approached to see if she would be interested in filling out an application for this position. She has been made an offer for this position. He noted that they will try to fill her current position from within as well. The person being suggested to replace this person will be a good fit to that position as well. Committee members stated that it is good to see people with the right skills being promoted from within. Some committee members stated this position should have been filled from the outside. Other committee members stated that the previous Director of Nursing was from the outside and never fit in so they felt it would be better to fill this position with someone that has had supervisor experience at the facility and was already known by staff as a supervisor.

Committee members were informed that the Revere contract is scheduled to expire on May 22nd. At that time the County will again resume full control of the facility.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Mr. Smith joined committee members to provide a final financial report to the committee. He stated that he has enjoyed the challenges of the assignment and he looks forward to seeing the continuation of progress at the facility. Mr. Smith stated that the financial summary has changed slightly as he has excluded depreciation from indirect services. Expenses at the facility are under control though he stated he was unsure where employment benefits should be included in the report. Depreciation figured should have been higher so the February and March amounts are higher than previously shown. Last month there were 17 Medicare residents and there are currently 15 Medicare residents. Inquiries are coming in to the facility. There were four discharges and two admissions. It is hopeful to get the Medicare beds up to 20. Committee members thanked Mr. Smith for his help with the reports on the expenses and revenues at Valley Hi. They stated they are now understandable and the facility has been brought in line.

Mr. Munaretto stated that the Finance and Audit Committee has invited Mr. Annarella to their second meeting of every month to provide a finance report for Valley Hi. It was suggested that a copy of this report be provided to the Operating Board on a monthly basis as well. It was stated that the Operating Board will need the finance reports to set policy for the facility.

Committee members were informed that the Rebound Program (Medicare) will be the focus for the coming months. This is the rehabilitation program to get the patient back on their feet and back home. They are changing one wing of the facility for short term rehab to address this need. This will be for patients that will be at the facility 100 days or less. Any long term residents that are on Medicare will be treated within their rooms.

Mr. Austin questioned committee members where they would like to hold their next committee meeting. They were informed that one of the County Board Members had stated that the committee had agreed to meet at Valley Hi on a quarterly basis. Committee members stated since they would be holding interviews for the new Operating Board they felt it would be more appropriate to hold that meeting in the Administration Building. Committee members agreed that the next meeting would be held on June 10<sup>th</sup> at 8:30a.m. in the Administration Building.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Heisler made a motion, seconded by Ms. McCann to adjourn the meeting at 9:12a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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**RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTION:**