

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road – Conference Room A
Woodstock, IL 60098

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 2, 2011

Chairman Peschke called the Public Health and Human Services Committee meeting to order at 8:18 a.m. The following members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Mary Donner; Kathleen Bergan Schmidt and Sandra Salgado. Anna May Miller, Randy Donley and Donna Kurtz were absent. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator-Finance; Pat McNulty, Health Department; Julie Courtney, Jeffrey Poynter Peggy Sarbaugh-McNally, Workforce Network; Jane Wacker, Sandy Lewis and Todd Schroll, Mental Health Board; Tom Annarella, Valley Hi; and Mike Iwanicki, Veteran's Assistance Commission.

	Virginia Peschke, Chairman	
Randy Donley		Mary L. Donner
Donna Kurtz		Anna May Miller
Sandra Salgado		Kathleen Bergan Schmidt

MINUTE APPROVAL:

Committee members reviewed the Public Health and Human Services Committee minutes of August 19, 2011. Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner, to recommend approval of the minutes as submitted. The minutes were approved with a unanimous voice vote of all ayes.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

PRESENTATIONS

Lake-McHenry County Veterans and Family Program: Ms. Sandy Lewis, Mental Health Board and Mr. Mike Iwanicki, Veteran's Assistance Commission joined committee members for a presentation on the Lake-McHenry County Veterans and Family Programs. This program is a joint effort by both McHenry and Lake Counties to provide free mental health and substance abuse services to Veteran's and their families. State Law only allows the VAC to help those that have left the military with an honorable discharge. This program is for all vets and their families, even those that may have received a dishonorable discharge. This program is funded by a grant from SAMHSA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration). The mission of the program is to work through a network of agencies to help military personnel, veterans and their families face challenges before, during and after deployments while transforming the delivery of services. The goal is to reduce veteran hospitalizations by 50%, reduce veteran homelessness by 75%, link veterans and families with war-related issues to services, educate and counsel families supporting veterans or military personnel and raise awareness of and competency in trauma-informed care. These services address post traumatic stress, traumatic brain injury, mood issues, suicidal thoughts, depression, anxiety, adjustment issues relating to deployment, re-deployment, discharge and reintegration issues, substance abuse, homelessness, sexual trauma and grief. The program offers screenings, clinical assessments and referrals, individual, family or group therapy, case management, links to services such as emergency housing, suicide prevention, crisis intervention, peer-to-peer support by veterans, veteran and family support groups, consumer, community and provider training and veterans drop in center. The expectations of the grant are governance and oversight that is driven by veterans and consumers. Progress reports that are independently evaluated will be provided. These reports will be evaluated by the Illinois Institute of Technology. The grant requires that project leadership partners that are trained by SAMHSA through webinars, conferences and site visits and strategies and activities that support the goals of the project. SAMHSA approved this \$3.5 million dollar, 5 year transformation grant in October 2010. This represents the first collaboration between the Lake County Health Department, McHenry County Mental Health Board and the Veterans Administration along with veterans and their families, veterans groups and providers. There were only 20 SAMHSA grants awarded nationwide. This is the only grant that was awarded that focuses specifically on Veterans and their families. Committee members were informed that the suicide rates have went up 26% from 2005 to 2007 and continues to rise for this group. Between 2005 and 2009, 1100 suicides exceeded the number of US military members killed in Afghanistan since 2001. Approximately 20% of the 30,000 suicides committed in America each year are committed by veterans. On any given night there are 107,000 veterans that are homeless. About 10% of those are women. 8% of the general population can claim veteran status, but 20% of the homeless are veterans. Roughly 56% of all homeless veterans are African American or Hispanic, despite only accounting for 12.8% and 15.4% of the US Population, respectively. Sexual assault and domestic violence are problems during and after service that need immediate attention and support. The purpose of this grant is to transform the way services are provided to veterans and their families by providing trauma informed care for Veterans, Reservists,

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 2, 2011

Page 2

Guardsmen and their families. Ms. Lewis stated that they need help and support from the community since over the next two years there will be approximately 360,000 service members that will return home because of the planned drawdown in Afghanistan and Iraq, in need of some assistance. These service personnel have demonstrated great discipline, service and values and they need help to reconnect to the world they knew and to be honored for the sacrifices they made. This is where the community can help. Many of these individuals are coming back to no jobs, fractured families and financial difficulties. They could also feel a sense of utter alienation from civilization and the life they once lead and the people they once were. For humanitarian reasons, we owe them. Committee members thanked Ms. Lewis and Mr. Iwanicki for this information.

NEW BUSINESS:

FY11-12 Budget Reviews (not in packet) Health Department: Mr. McNulty joined committee members for presentation of the Health Departments FY11-12 budget for review. The Health Department is funded through the general fund. Mr. Sarbaugh reported that these are the last of the budgets that will be reviewed by the Public Health Committee. The department has done a great job in getting grant funding for the department, which funds a lot of their operations. They also have some special funds. The TB program is funded by a tax levy fund. The amount to this fund could change if the County Board elects to make some changes to the levy numbers. There continues to be TB cases in the County. These funds are used for testing and follow-up of these cases. They address approximately 12 cases of TB yearly, with some of the cases being difficult to treat. A past case resulted in the department having to take them to court in order to provide needed treatment. The department had to "babysit" this individual to make sure they were being treated. Kane County has spent millions of dollars addressing TB cases within the homeless community. Mr. McNulty noted they have to stay on top of this issue in order to keep TB under control. He stated they only spend what is necessary for the program. Mr. Sarbaugh noted that they are trying to make this account healthy again after spending additional amounts on this difficult case. Revenues and expenditures for the budgets were reviewed by the committee. The Health Department is receiving some funds for tipping fees from the new waste transfer station that is located in Crystal Lake. These types of funds were previously used to fund the McSEEP program, which is the recycling program that is taught in the schools. The General Fund picked up the cost of this program in order fund this program when the previous program went away. Mr. Sarbaugh noted the amount for this program may need to be adjusted as we still do not know how much will be received yearly from the tipping fees. It was stated that this is a voluntary arrangement with the waste hauler where they are donating a portion of their fees back to the city and the county. This facility is regulated by the City of Crystal Lake. Mr. McNulty stated that the recycling program may be able to be expanded to include more electronic waste programs and drug drop off program (prescription drug program) as well. Mr. Sarbaugh noted that the tipping fees have not been added to the budget yet. Committee members were reminded that volunteers are a valuable component to the Health Department. It was stated that the department needs to be recognized for this valuable service to the community. The department has put forward two supplemental requests. The first request is for \$3,000 for the cost of storage of supplies that are needed to set up off site clinics for dispensing of medication in the event of a Public Health Emergency. These items were previously stored at the old Valley Hi facility. These items do not fit in the new archive facility so additional storage space had to be secured for these items. The cost of this rental will be \$3,000 per year. The additional request is to be used to hire a consultant for an update to the Solid Waste Plan. This plan must be updated and adopted by the County Board in 2012. The planning consultant would greatly expand the quality and usability of the final report. McHenry County was previously a leader in this program and the department would like to provide professional input to this report.

Committee members recessed at 9:20a.m.

The committee resumed their meeting at 9:25a.m.

FY11-12 Budget Reviews: Mental Health Board: Committee members resumed their meeting and entered into review of the FY11-12 Budget for the Mental Health Board. The Mental Health Board is tax levy supported. There is additional information included in this budget as requested. The numbers are based on changes with the State and Federal budgets. The only supplemental request received from this department is to unfreeze one of their positions. They have requested that the director position for the child care grant be closed and moved into Youth and Family Services area. Ms. Lewis stated that they have the potential of receiving a State System of Care, statewide program grant, if awarded they would want to continue with this project director for one more year. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to move the budget for the Mental Health Board forward through the budget process. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to recommend the budgets for the Health Department be moved forward through the budget process. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Approved 09 16 11

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

September 2, 2011

Page 3

Ms. Lewis reported that they are moving forward with the construction on the facility. The building is scheduled to be completed by the end of September with move-in being scheduled for the middle of October. The September meeting of the Mental Health Board is a joint meeting with the Board of Health. Committee members thanked Ms. Lewis for this information.

McHenry County Workforce Network/WIA: Ms. Courtney and Mr. Poynter joined committee members for presentation of the budgets for the Workforce Network and WIA. These departments are totally grant funded and they are not allowed to maintain a fund balance. The numbers within the department can fluctuate based on grants being brought forward. The expenditures and revenues for the department are in balance. Their fund did decrease by \$400,000 from the previous year. They do have a corporate fund that is from rents collected at the facility and is build into their overall budget. An additional grant was received by meeting or exceeding their goals for the year. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to recommend the budget for the Workforce Network be forwarded through the budget process. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Ms. Salgado stated that she would much rather see the County spend money out of their General Fund to fund programs in the Workforce Network instead of the EDC. She stated that this way they can see results of having our money working for us.

Committee members reviewed the budget for the Workforce Investment Board (WIB). This is a self funded department that is funded through the Workforce Network. This budget has been reduced and they are still working in Washington DC in trying to keep this program alive. Talks have stalled in the House and Senate on this issue. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schmidt to recommend the budget for the WIB be forwarded through the budget process. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Valley Hi Nursing Home: Mr. Annarella joined committee members for presentation of the budget for Valley Hi Nursing Home. This budget has been reviewed by the Operating Board. The Nurse Liaison has been placed in the appropriate area in the Organization Chart. The facility is tax levy supported and is a self contained/enterprise fund. Committee members were informed that Valley Hi is due for a rate increase and it was suggested this request be forwarded directly to the Finance and Audit Committee for consideration. The project budget will be closed out as this fund was created for the construction of the facility. The County Board has essentially approved the pay off of the debt certificates that were used to build the facility. A Resolution will be brought forward for this process. These funds have already been allocated for that purpose. Mr. Sarbaugh reminded committee members that some of the supplemental requests are required. They are shown so the committee members can see where changes to the budgets are made. They have put forward request for two new lifts, equipment for an "alternatives therapy room" and \$280,000 for a Bed Registration Fee. This amount is due to the State mandated increase in the bed tax. The remaining request is for a fall protection system (guardrail) for the skylights/roof hatch on the facility. Ms. Donner made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to recommend the budget for Valley Hi Nursing Home forwarded through the budget process. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

Committee members were informed that Valley Hi is currently owed \$1 million dollars by the State. They will not receive payment for 6 months. They previously had been paid on a 30 day payment cycle. The facility was informed that they won't see July's payment until January. This may require Valley Hi to hit their reserves in order to maintain services at the facility.

Committee members were informed that the Valley Hi picnic will take place on September 10th from 12:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m.

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Board of Health: Committee members were informed that they provided a presentation about sexually transmitted diseases. Chairman Peschke requested committee members to let her know if they would like to see a specific presentation and she would let the Board of Health know so the same presentation could be provided to the committee.

Mental Health Board: See above.

Senior Services Grant Commission: Ms. Salgado thanked committee members for attending the Senior Services Grant Commission allocation meeting. She stated that the program ran well and they were able to complete the allocation process in the time allotted.

VAC: Mr. Iwanicki joined committee members and informed them that the office is receiving approximately 2 referrals per

day for services. The office has gone through special security training. This is only the second VAC office in Illinois to receive access to the VA's regional office. Lake and McHenry County are the only two offices to receive this training. The Regional office has voiced how well this program is run and has stated they think this is a great program.

The mobile office is almost completed and should be ready for use in the near future. The office still has one person that needs to go through General Assistance program training.

Mr. Iwanicki stated that he continues to take some continuing education programs, he teaches some of the classes as well. He notified the committee members that he is the Chairman of the State Standards Committee. Committee members were informed that claims presentations and prosecutions are up 68% putting some stress on the office staff.

Ms. Donner stated that she would like to see the VAC moved into the Regional Office of Education office space to address these space needs for the VAC. Committee members were informed that this request will go before the Management Services Committee for consideration.

Committee members questioned if the County will be holding some type of event in commemoration of 9-11. They were informed that the Chiefs of Police Association and the City of McHenry will be holding a ceremony at Veteran's Park at 9:00a.m. for those interested in attending.

Mr. Iwanicki reminded committee members that the VAC meetings are being held in the Administration Building on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 7:00p.m.

OLD BUSINESS

None

OTHER BUSINESS

None

ADJOURNMENT:

Noting no further business, Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner to adjourn the meeting at 10:35 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of all members present.

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RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTION:

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