

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

MINUTES OF FRIDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2011

Chairman Peschke called the Public Health and Human Services Committee meeting to order at 8:15 a.m. The following members were present: Virginia Peschke, Chairman; Mary Donner; Randy Donley; Kathleen Bergan Schmidt; Donna Kurtz and Sandra Salgado. Anna May Miller was absent. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Pat McNulty, Health Department; John Labaj, Deputy County Administrator; Tom Annarella, Valley Hi; Sandy Lewis, Mental Health; Maryanne Wanaski, Planning and Development; and Mike Iwanicki, VAC.

|                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 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 November 4, 2011. Ms. Kurtz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Donley recommending approval of the minutes of November 4, 2011, as submitted. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

PRESENTATIONS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

*Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of \$7,755 in Grant Funding from the Illinois Department of Transportation and to make an Emergency Appropriation to the Health Departments FY12 Budget:* Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. Kurtz recommending approval of the above Resolution as presented. Mr. McNulty informed committee members that the department has received a grant from IDOT (Illinois Department of Transportation) to purchase, install and provide education on child safety seats. The majority of the funds would be used to purchase 105 child safety seats including boosters, convertibles and high backs for a variety of ages and weights. There is no county match required for this grant. Clients must meet a specific income requirement in order to receive these seats. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a roll call vote (Donley, Donner, Kurtz, Salgado, Schmidt, Peschke)

*Resolution Authorizing a Multiple Year Contract with RehabCare to Provide Rehabilitation Services to Valley Hi Nursing Home Residents:* Mr. Annarella informed committee members that this resolution would allow Valley Hi to enter into a multiyear contract for rehabilitation services for Valley Hi. An RFP was placed for these services and this was the lowest responsible bidder. This company is an expert in this field. The Operating Board has voted in favor of this contract. This is a three year contract, with one year options for renewal. If the rates are changed they want to have the ability to renegotiate the contract. Mr. Donley made a motion, seconded by Ms. Schmidt recommending approval of the above Resolution as presented. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

*Resolution Authorizing a Multiple Year Contract with Uvanta Pharmacy to Provide Pharmacy Services to Valley Hi Nursing Home:* Mr. Annarella informed committee members that this is national company that provides pharmaceutical services to nursing homes, hospitals, and other health care settings that can meet the needs of Valley Hi residents at competitive pricing. This company has made arrangements with other pharmacies to obtain medications if they don't have what is needed in stock. They review the medication needs monthly. Valley Hi receives stat deliveries three times a day and have cycle fills that include 30 days plus two. They replace the medication cards one month at a time. They also receive partial cards for new residents, until they are on the same cycle with the rest of the residents. Ms. Schmidt made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner recommending approval of the above Resolution as presented. Committee members asked if the residents receive generic drugs. Mr. Annarella responded that it depends on the physician, residents or if they are on public aid. Most of the public aid residents receive generic drugs. If they are self pay, it is up to the resident. Each prescription is determined on a case by case basis. Committee members asked if Valley Hi sees many long term care insurance policies being used. He stated that they see very few though a lot of the residents do have the Blue Cross Blue Shield supplement. Mr. Annarella stated he is more comfortable with these contracts since the Operating Board is

providing another level of review on the contracts. The motion carried with all members present voting aye on a voice vote.

#### OLD BUSINESS

None.

#### EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

#### REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

*Workforce Network/WIB:* Ms. Kurtz reported that there was a WIB meeting held two (2) weeks ago. They had a good turnout for this meeting. She stated that it is very important to get both employers and training organizations involved with the WIB. There was a lot of discussion about the labor report that was released. A lot of good ideas were brought forward on how to address the employment issues being seen in the County. She informed committee members that the WIB/Workforce Network is very involved with active job placements and training. She noted that she has been asked why the government should be paying for job training. She stated that the reason is that the government is more forward thinking on where the economy might be going so it is important to make this type of investment in the community.

Congressman Walsh has been very supportive of the WIB. He has staff assigned to the Workforce Network whereas other representatives have not been as supportive.

The Workforce Network has a one week long internship program for at risk older kids and high school students to partner with a business to see if they could work out as an employee. This gives an opportunity for both the individual and the employer. She stated that if any of the committee members know of any businesses interested in an internship to please have them call her or the Workforce Network.

*Housing Authority:* Ms. Kurtz stated that the Housing Authority met last before the holiday. The apartment units are all filled though they do have some housing units available in Harvard. She stated that this shows that even if they are given a place to live, if it isn't near their work, they don't want to live there. She stated that they have to be smart about where these properties are located.

Ms. Kurtz stated that they had a discussion about a Federal program that focuses on energy efficiency. There is a conference being held, in New Orleans on energy efficiency. The Federal Government is providing funding in order to have individuals attend this training in New Orleans. The Board had a hard time approving an expenditure of \$3,000 to \$4,000, even if the Federal Government was paying for it. The Federal Government feels it is better to bring the people in for training than to send people all over the country in order to provide needed training to different areas of the Country.

Section 8 housing has seen a dip as some individuals are leaving the program. There is still a two year waiting list to obtain Section 8 housing in the county. There are a little less than 950 of these units in the County. Committee members stated they would like to see a breakdown of who these units are being rented to. They stated that often they are seniors.

The Federal Government has implemented a program to make all Federal Buildings, energy efficient. This creates jobs and shows that the Government is going "green".

*Board of Health:* Mr. McNulty reported the Board of Health held a joint meeting with the Mental Health Board. They discussed their operations and possible future collaboration. It was suggested that they create an intergovernmental agreement in order to work together so there is no longer a disconnect between services provided. They agreed to meet again in one year to review how services are being addressed.

New officers were elected at the Board meeting. Dr. Lorenc was elected at the new President of the Board of Health.

*Mental Health Board:* Committee members were informed that they reviewed their funding for the coming year. Extra funding was redistributed into needed areas.

Chairman Peschke questioned when the Board of Health would like to hold their joint meeting with the Public Health and Human Services Committee. It was suggested that they meet on January 23<sup>rd</sup>. Mr. McNulty stated they would be

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

December 2, 2011

Page 3

discussing the Board of Health's five year plan at that meeting and the Public Health Committee members will be able to see their goals for the next five years.

Mr. McNulty stated that the meeting would need to be held in the Administration facility as they do not have the space for both boards to meet in their facility. It was suggested that the meeting be held on January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00p.m. Chairman Peschke requested committee members let her know if they have conflict for this meeting.

Mr. Austin reminded committee members that the County Board's Strategic Planning Session has been scheduled for January 20<sup>th</sup> and questioned if the Public Health and Human Services Committee would still be meeting on that date.

Mr. McNulty informed committee members that the Pertussis outbreak continues to grow. Channel 7 was out to the County reporting on this regional outbreak. There have been over 160 cases reported. Last year there were only 9 cases seen in McHenry County. In 2004 there were 191 cases reported. He stated that Pertussis goes up and down yearly. He stated it is important to keep kids home for five days during this infection. Individuals are recommended to receive a vaccine. Clinics are being offered with prices for the vaccines at \$50. This is a good price for the vaccine. The majority of the cases have impacted those under the age of 19. They have seen very few people over the age of 19 that have been infected. He stated that those families that have infants could have tragic outcomes as infants can't fight this infection. Cary and Woodstock have seen the highest areas of infection though it is spreading outside these areas. The incubation period is one week. Mr. McNulty stated that the one of the biggest issues they are currently facing is that people are not immunizing their children. They are seeing this mostly in middle class families. They are now seeing large outbreaks because of those not getting vaccinated. That is one of the reasons you are seeing an upswing of Pertussis. Mr. McNulty stated with the holidays and families within close contact this disease is expected to spread. Next year there will be a requirement that all high school students receive this vaccine in order to minimize exposure to this disease.

It was questioned what the risk is for the older population. They were informed that if they work with children, they should all be vaccinated. Mr. McNulty again stated that the cases being seen are from individuals under the age of 19.

Ms. Lewis joined committee members and informed them that the Mental Health Board passed a budget at their last meeting. Needed services seemed to get funded. They did something a little different this year. They had their board members visit the service agencies to review their services. There were no closing of the State Mental homes and the State reinstated the grant funding in total. This equated to an increase of 3.9% in contract services to the community for a total amount of \$8,784,446. This also allowed for the funding of a couple of new programs. They also instituted a different way to administer services to the addicted.

The Intergovernmental Agreement for the Family Care Grant has ended. This is the final no cost year to the agreement. Mr. Todd Schroll continues to negotiate with the State on the State wide system of care. They are reviewing what was learned at the State level.

VAC: Mr. Iwanicki reported that they finished FY2011 strong. He stated that he is unsure whether he met the goals of his department to obtain \$1,000,000 in claims for FY2011. He informed committee members they expect to see claims increase because of the reduction in the armed forces.

In 2007 the State passed a law implementing the Veteran's Conservation Corp. There currently is no funding for this group. They are currently located in McHenry County and are a part of the Department of Natural Resources. The Veteran's Assistance Commission has asked that Mr. Iwanicki find some funds within his budget to fund this group. The first project will be to have the disabled vets build blue bird nesting boxes to be placed in area parks. Kits are provided to Veteran patients to assemble. The second project the Veteran's will be involved with will be to build a fence for their "leave no child inside" program. This fence will provide a fenced enclosed area the children can go to for conservation activities.

Mr. Iwanicki informed committee members that they have run into some challenges with the State's virtual program. This is the Veteran's Information Management System. Because of the issues in the program, the VAC has refused to accept reports from this program. It is hopeful that the company that implemented the program will go away as they are not supporting these programs. Mr. Iwanicki stated he is working with the IT department to review programs to see what will work. He stated it is hard to incorporate changes from the old system into the new system. He is hopeful that they can get a grant to pay for a new program.

PUBLIC HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

December 2, 2011

Page 4

Mr. Iwanicki reported that Ms. Donner sat on her first Board of Appeals meeting. If services are denied, an individual can appeal. The appeal board includes a panel of veterans and a representative from the County Board. Ms. Donner was the County Board representative. This is the first appeal that has come forward in a long time.

Committee members asked what the effect will be because of the reduction in the armed forces. They were informed that these individuals will qualify for unemployment as well as schooling benefits. They will see veterans file and apply for unemployment benefits as well as go to school. They will apply for needed benefits immediately.

Ms. Kurtz stated that she has some contacts at the local college if there is a need to help facilitate some of the education issues. Mr. Iwanicki stated their office works with MCC on these issues. He stated the Veteran's need colleges that specialize in the GI Bill so they generally refer them to these locations.

*Valley Hi:* Ms. Schmidt informed committee members that Valley Hi is currently in the Holiday Spirit. The census at the facility is good with Medicare filling 18 of the beds. This helps their bottom line.

They will be discussing where to go in the future at their next board meeting. They stated they may need to review long term care in the State of Illinois. She stated that it is lucky that Valley Hi has a reserve.

*Senior Services Grant Commission:* Mr. Labaj stated they are in the process of closing out the current year's grant program. The contracts for FY2012 have been sent out. A meeting is being scheduled for the Senior Services Grant Commission on February 17<sup>th</sup>. This is being scheduled after the second Public Health and Human Services Committee meeting in February. They will be reviewing the accomplishments of 2011 and how to move forward to 2013. It was suggested they receive an update on the transit program by the Division of Transportation on that date as well. Committee members were informed this meeting would be scheduled for 10:00a.m. after the Public Health and Human Services Committee meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup>.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT:

Noting no further business, Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Ms. Donner to adjourn the meeting at 9:20 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote of all members present.

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**RECOMMENDED FOR BOARD/COMMITTEE ACTION:**

Resolution Authorizing Acceptance of \$7,755 in Grant Funding from the Illinois Department of Transportation and to Make an Emergency Appropriation to the Health Department FY12 Budget

Resolution Authorizing a Multiple Year Contract with RehabCare to Provide Rehabilitation Services to Valley Hi Nursing Home Residents

Resolution Authorizing a Multiple Year Contract with Uvanta Pharmacy to Provide Pharmacy Services to Valley Hi Nursing Home Residents

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