

Note: These minutes are not official until approved by the Health and Human Services Committee at a subsequent meeting. Please refer to the meeting minutes when these minutes are approved to obtain any changes to these minutes.

DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
January 4, 2016**

The Health and Human Services Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, January 4, 2015 at 6:30 p.m. in the Administration Building's Conference Room East. Chairperson Haji-Sheikh called the meeting to order and those Committee Members present were Mr. Askins, Ms. Little, Mr. Porterfield, Mr. Reid, Mr. Whelan, and Chairperson Haji-Sheikh. All Committee Members were present.

Others present were Gary Hanson, Mark Pietrowski, Donna Moulton, Bart Becker, and Michael Haji-Sheikh.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Whelan, seconded by Ms. Askins and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the November 2, 2015 meeting.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Ms. Askins, seconded by Mr. Whelan and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments made.

CHAIR'S COMMENTS

Chairperson Haji-Sheikh welcomed her Committee into the New Year and noted that the Committee did not meeting last month nor has the State Budget crisis changed any. She also encouraged Members to think of any topics or agencies that they may want to hear from the in month's head to invite to their meetings.

DEKALB COUNTY REHAB & NURSING CENTER UPDATE

DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center (DCRNC) Administrator Bart Becker joined the Committee to introduce himself and provide an update of the facility. Mr. Becker briefly shared his personal and professional background with the Committee. He shared that he is really happy to be a part of the DCRNC and it is a really great facility. Mr. Becker's goals and focus are to continue to raise the bar, make the facility better and enhance the environment for residents and visitors. He also shared that the success of the facility is due to the long-term management team and staff members.

Mr. Becker shared that there are many positive changes underway for the DCRNC. As of today, a new full-time maintenance worker was hired so now there is a total of three. This new hire will help in aiding some of the preventative maintenance projects in order to keep the aging facility up-to-date and functioning properly. The facility is also little by little ordering new furniture for throughout the entire building.

Mr. Becker continued the discussion by describing the layout of the facility and how many rooms are in each wing. There are a total of 112 rooms in the Rehab & Nursing Center for residents. 89 of those rooms are semi-private (double occupancy rooms) and 13 rooms are private. The entire building is Dual-Certified, which means they can provide residency for Public Aid or Medicare covered individuals. Additionally, there are 19 semi-private rooms in the Dementia Care Unit, 7 private and 19 semi-private rooms are dedicated to the Medicare Unit, and the rest of the building is considered Intermediate Care with 51 semi-private rooms and 6 private rooms.

Mr. Becker also informed the Committee that the DCRNC has 228 full and part-time employees and 25 of those are Registered Nurses (RN), 7 are Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN), 84 Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA), 40 individuals in Dietary, 13 in Activities, 5 in the Business Office, 3 in Maintenance, and he noted the list goes on.

Mr. Becker also noted he wanted to bring up the Illinois State Budget impasse and how it is effecting the DCRNC. Realistically there is no direct impact on the nursing home as of right now, but anything can change from moment to moment. He noted that at any time the State could give the facility a reduction. When the FY 2016 Budget was created for the nursing home there was a planned 5% reduction in the revenue side from Public Aid as a just-in-case measure.

The Committee and Mr. Becker continued to discuss the rates for the residents as well as the payments from Townships and the current occupancy of the facility. Mr. Pietrowski inquired about any interests the nursing home may have in operating an Adult Daycare. Mr. Becker noted that hosting a program like that takes more space than anything and that is something that don't quite have yet but he would be open to the possibly opportunity in the future. Lastly, the group discussed intern agreements the DCRNC had with NIU and Kishwaukee College. The Committee thanked Mr. Becker for meeting with them and providing his update.

COMMUNITY ACTION UPDATE

Community Action Director Donna Moulton joined the Committee to provide an update on Community Action and other programs and agencies she is involved with. Ms. Moulton began by distributing her CDBG 2015 Report and her Work Programs Services Report to the Committee to review.

Community Action has scheduled a strategic planning session for January 21st from 10am – 2pm and lunch will be provided. Ms. Moulton noted that there will be an outside consultant present but they will be reviewing possible new mission-driven nonprofit revenue generators and exploring new avenues for the upcoming year.

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Ms. Moulton additionally shared that she will be attending the Exploration of Youth Unmet Needs that is being hosted by both the Community Foundation and the 708 Board on January 14th.

Additionally on January 27th there will be a Continuum of Care: Looking at Homeless Needs meeting at 10:30am at the Community Outreach Building in Conference Room West. The purpose is to look at the needs of the homeless in hopes to prevent homelessness.

Ms. Moulton noted that her department is really working on networking and meeting with other outside agencies. She additionally provided an update on Fairdale and the Long-Term Recovery Corporation to the Committee. Ms. Moulton also shared information on future transportation connections, Community Gardens, and reminded everyone that Community Action's Fee Tax Preparation and E-Filing services begin February 4th at the Community Outreach Building in DeKalb. Lastly, Ms. Moulton provided an update regarding the Senior Service Tax Levy allocations. The Committee thanked Ms. Moulton for her updates.

Mr. Pietrowski shared that he and Administration are currently working on inviting KishHealth/Northwestern to a public meeting prior to the full County Board Meeting at 6pm on Wednesday, January 20th.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Porterfield, seconded by Mr. Whelan, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,


Misty Haji-Sheikh, Chairperson


Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary