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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
January 3, 2022**

The Health and Human Services Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, January 3, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the Legislative Center’s Gathertorium in Sycamore, Illinois. Madam Chair Crawford called the meeting to order. Those Members present were Mr. Scott Campbell, Mrs. Karen Cribben, Mr. Bill Cummings, Mr. Ellingsworth Webb, and Chair Rukisha Crawford. Ms. Maureen Little was absent. A quorum was established with five Members present, one absent, and one vacancy.

Others present were Brian Gregory, Deanna Cada, and Magdalen Niemi.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

It was moved by Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Cummings and it was carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Webb, seconded by Mr. Campbell and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the October 4, 2021 Committee Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

FISCAL YEAR 2023 FUNDING APPLICATION TIMELINE FOR SENIOR SERVICES TAX LEVY

Community Mental Health Board Director Deanna Cada joined the Committee to provide them with a draft of the FY2023 (July 1, 2022 - June 30, 2023) Timeline for the Senior Services Tax Levy process. The proposed timeline was as follows:

Wednesday, December 29, 2021	Funding Applications Released
Monday, February 28, 2022	Funding Applications Due
Monday, March 7, 2022	Health & Human Services Committee – First Looks
Monday, April 4, 2022	Health & Human Services Committee – Agency Hearings (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) (may be virtual)
Monday, April 11, 2022	Health & Human Services Committee – Agency Hearings (6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.) (may be virtual)
Monday, May 2, 2022	Health & Human Services Committee – Approve Funding for FY 2023 Applications
Wednesday, May 18, 2022	Full County Board – Approve Funding for FY23 Applications

Ms. Cada noted that they would be continuing on with the same online grant application that was utilized last year. It was also determined that the Committee would have a short training/refresher of the online program prior to the March Committee Meeting. The training would be open to the HHS Committee as well as any new DCCMHB Members as well.

There was a unanimous consensus from the Committee to proceed forward with the proposed timeline and the online training session in March.

DEKALB COUNTY REHAB & NURSING CENTER

Operational Introduction

County Administrator Brian Gregory reviewed that as the Board continues to look ahead at the reporting structure for the DCRNC, the plan is to have the operation report to the Health & Human Services Committee with financial updates still going to the Committee of the Whole.

Since MPA's contract has expired, members of the County's Administration Team have been meeting with DCRNC Administrator Maggie Niemi weekly to ensure the appropriate resources and support are provided to the DCRNC.

Some progress has been made on the current billing portal and should generate some cashflow at some point in the next few weeks. The Business Manager has resigned and they are working with a few longer-term employees to help fill the functions that the position should be performing. In addition, the County has executed an agreement with Jordan Healthcare Group to assist in billing issues both past and present. The company has experience in Nursing Home Management and a specialty on the finance and billing portion of the business. Even though they are making progress, another transfer, this time \$800,000, was needed for cash flow for the month of December.

Mr. Gregory additionally shared that for months the County has been told that they cannot use the space created as part of the expansion. In cutting out MPA and working directly with the architect it has been determined that the Illinois Department of Public Health is open to allowing them to finalize the Activity Center and warming kitchen spaces. A significant part of the operational model for food service depended on the warming kitchens. A target has been set for the end of January to have these areas brought on-line and usable.

The Committee dove into a deeper discussion of the RNC's Business Office and more specifically the large amount of billing issues that have presented themselves. Going forward, the County's Finance Office Team will also be overseeing the RNC's financials more as well as receive some additional training from Jordan Healthcare Group on the financial system that is in place at the facility.

Mr. Gregory stressed that with all of the issues surrounding the financials of the Nursing Home, it is important to be transparent through the good, bad, and otherwise.

It was also reminded that those individuals who are working the front lines are continuing to provide top-notch service to the residents and those who call the DCRNC their homes. With everything going on, that has to always be priority number one, Mr. Gregory expressed.

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Administrator's Report

DCRNC Administrator Maggie Niemi provided the following updates to the Committee:

1. In the process of Policy and Procedures Updates related to changes from CDC and IDPH related HealthCare Personal exposure to and or infection of COVID 19 New updates received on 12/23/21, 12/24/21, 12/30/21. Will work closely with DeKalb County Health Department and IDPH regarding the conventional, contingency and crisis response for returning to work.
2. COVID 19 outbreak-ongoing. Began 11/29/21 and will need to continue for 28 days from 1/3/21. Since 12/2/21 there has been no further positive residents. Ongoing positive healthcare workers. Current positive tests have involved HCW who are fully vaccinated with a booster, fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated and unvaccinated. 12/29/21 Positivity rate for Dekalb County was 17.93%. Transmission rate remain high. We continue with testing of all staff and residents every 3-7 days. Resident vaccination rate is 92% with 79% boosters. Staff rate is 79% with 20% boosters. Will be promoting boosters.
3. NW KCH meeting-Cross Continuum Team (CCT) meeting held 12/28/21-DCRNC's Hospital readmission rate remains under their 11% goal. Next meeting is scheduled on 1/25/22
4. Business Office-Janet George Business Manager's last day 1/1/22. Medicaid biller's last day 12/31/21. Scott Gima and MPA last day 12/31/21.
5. Jordan Healthcare billing specialist gave introductory Zoom meeting 12/23/21 and will begin working closely with DCRNC 1/1/22
6. Working with architect who is working with Life and Safety of IDPH to sign off to use new activity center and warming kitchens -Meeting 1/4/21 at 1:30 pm.
7. Emergency Planning Work with Chug for a table top exercise 2/17/22 and Full-Scale Exercise 3/16/22.
8. Safety Committee will meet 1/5/21 and will review emergency planning policies.
9. Cindy Holt RN completed Compliance training with MPA on 12/31/21. Cindy will work 20 hours a week and will help with orientation 1/6/21 and 1/20/22
10. Christmas Celebration for Staff with Pancake Bar 1/6/21; was postponed from December. Staff gifts bags handed out 12/24/21 and 12/25/21.

Emergency Planning

Ms. Niemi noted that she has been reviewing the DCRNC's emergency planning agreements. Next month she hoped to being back a one-page agreement with a neighboring facility in the County.

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ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Webb, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rukisha Crawford, Chair

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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