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DeKalb County Government
Sycamore, Illinois

**Health & Human Services Committee Minutes
March 7, 2022**

The Health and Human Services Committee of the DeKalb County Board met on Monday, March 7, 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, Maureen Little, Ms. Michelle Pickett, Mr. Ellingsworth Webb, and Chair Rukisha Crawford. A quorum was established with all seven Members present.

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

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES

It was moved by Mr. Cummings, seconded by Mr. Campbell and it was carried unanimously to approve the minutes from the February 7, 2021 Committee Meeting.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

PUBLIC HEARING FOR SECTION 5311 OF THE FEDERAL TRANSIT ACT

Madam Chair Crawford Opened the Public Hearing at 6:31 p.m.

Mr. Nate Kloster of the Voluntary Action Center shared that the purpose of this Public Hearing was to obtain public comment and consider the economic, social, and environmental effects of the application for Public Transportation Financial Assistance under Section 5311 of the Federal Transit Act of 1991, as amended (49 U.S.C §5311). The purpose of the assistance is to continue to provide demand response transportation services within DeKalb County, commonly known as 'TransVAC'.

Hearing no public comments, Madam Chair Crawford Closed the Public Hearing at 6:34 p.m.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A FEDERAL 5311 GRANT AGREEMENT

The Voluntary Action Center, in conjunction with DeKalb County Administration, is preparing an application on behalf of the TransVAC program to secure up to \$372,475 in Federal and \$884,300 in State of Illinois transit operating assistance for the State Fiscal Year 2023. As part of the process, IDOT requires a Public Hearing on the project and to pass a Resolution that authorizes the submittal of an application for the project.

This grant, under the auspices of the Federal Transit Administration's 5311 program, offers transit operators in rural counties the ability to receive reimbursement for the costs involved in providing transportation for public ridership in the TransVAC service area.

It was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Cummings and approved unanimously to forward the Resolution to authorize and execute a Federal 5311 Grant Agreement for the Voluntary Action Center to the full County Board recommending its approval.

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND EXECUTING REBUILD CAPITAL GRANT AGREEMENT

Additionally, as part of the Voluntary Action Center's recent \$1 Million facility construction award under the Rebuild Illinois program, IDOT is requesting a Resolution authorizing execution of that agreement.

It was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Cummings and approved unanimously to forward the Resolution to the full County Board recommending its approval.

A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN UPDATED STATEMENT OF POLICY ON PROVIDING NON-DISCRIMINATORY SERVICES PER TITLE VI OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964

Finally, as part of ongoing IDOT compliance, the Voluntary Action Center is requesting the approval of an updated Title VI non-discrimination policy. Federal regulations require transit programs to update this policy on a periodic basis. This policy was last updated by the County Board on May 16, 2018.

It was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Webb and approved unanimously to forward the Resolution updating the County's Title VI Policy to the full County Board recommending its approval.

SENIOR SERVICES TAX LEVY APPLICATION UPDATE

Community Mental Health Board Director Ms. Deanna Cada briefly shared that the same ten agencies as last year have applied for funding this year through the online portal for the Senior Services Tax Levy Annual Allocations.

She reminded the Committee that there will be two meetings next month on April 4th and April 11th for in-person Hearings. Prior to the HHS Committee Meeting this evening, the group was able to get refresher training on the online Foundant Program that the agencies applied through.

Ms. Cada lastly noted that the Committee has initially \$433,400 to allocate with \$525,615 being requested. There are some reserves on hand and utilizing those reserves can be part of their allocation discussions following both evenings of Hearings.

DEKALB COUNTY REHAB & NURSING CENTER ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Ms. Niemi provided the following updates to the Committee:

1. IDPH-Annual Life and Safety inspection conducted 1/20/22 -1/21/22-Received final report and plan of correction was submitted and accepted.
2. IDPH did approve use of New Activity Center and Kitchen Warming Centers. IDPH wishes to be notified when the ICU is ready for occupancy and they will visit.
3. 3. COVID 19 outbreak-ongoing. Began 11/29/21 and will need to go 28 days from 2.24.22 to end outbreak. The positivity rate has decreased for DeKalb County. No recent positive cases in staff or residents.

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4. NW KCH meeting-Cross Continuum Team (CCT) meeting held 2/22/22-DCRNC readmission rate remains good. Next meeting 3/22/22
5. Business Office-In need of a Business Office Manager. Ongoing support and training from Jordan Healthcare. Advancements have been made with Medicaid Billing. County Comptroller helping with Cost Report. Ongoing weekly conference calls with County Finance.
6. Emergency Planning -Had Mock Disaster Exercise on 2/17/22 with Full-Scale Exercise 3/16/22. Spoke with Lisa Gonzales and may use MPR rooms during a disaster. Need to consult with Brian Gregory regarding any use of the COB building. Completed Emergency Transfer Agreements with Oakcrest and Aperia of DeKalb. Looking to explore use of the campus for shelter in place or closer areas for evacuation or staging for evacuation.
7. Staffing-Ongoing PIPS for Staffing with goal to decrease use of Agency Staff. Recent orientation had 9 new hires. Looking to post banner-near Annie Glidden. Flyers. Indeed-free posting. Working with Nursing Students from Kishwaukee Community College and will be exploring working with NIU for next Semester.
8. Ongoing regulatory updates with Infection Control. 3/15/22 All staff who are not up to date with vaccinations must complete twice weekly testing.
9. Recent retirement of 3 nurses, 1 restorative aide and 1 Housekeeper/Laundry Director. ADON has decreased to PRN status. Moved up Case Manager Coordinator to ADON. Hired a Case Manager Coordinator. Moved up a Unit Assistant to Housekeeping/Laundry Director.

The DCRNC's census was reported to be 124 residents with 3 in the hospital. Those 124 residents broke down to be 9 Medicare A, 48 Private Pay, and 65 Medicaid with 2 more pending. Ms. Niemi and the Committee further discussed the staffing issues at the Nursing Home along with the pay breakdown of the residents.

As discussions ensued, Mr. Gregory wanted to reiterate that the County is currently working with two separate consultants on two very different issues for the DCRNC. They are working with Jordan Healthcare, to work through past due receivables and get the DCRNC's Business Office back in a better spot for the day-to-day operation of the facility. While that is happening, the County is also working with Ray Giannini of Marcus & Millichap who is providing consulting on the various options the County Board may consider when deciding on the future direction they would like to see the DeKalb County Rehab & Nursing Center go.

ADJOURNMENT

It was moved by Mr. Campbell, seconded by Mr. Webb, and it was carried unanimously to adjourn the meeting at 7:21 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rukisha Crawford, Chair

Tasha Sims, Recording Secretary

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