

HEALTH SERVICES COMMITTEE

March 2, 2010

PRESENT: Supervisors Bussie, Joiner, Kuznacic, Fizzell, and Johnson

ABSENT: None

ALSO PRESENT: Sherry Gunderson, Ginger Katzman, David Hayes, Brent Sutherland, Diane Higbee, Cathy Hinds, Tom Berner, Ross Jacobson, Lynn Schyvinck, Carolyn Wagner, Sue Lewiston, Josh Smith,

CALL TO ORDER/APPROVAL OF AGENDA - Chair Bussie called the meeting of the Rock County Health Services Committee to order at 3 p.m. in the Rock Haven classroom. Supervisors Fizzell and Johnson moved to approve the agenda with the following change: Item 8B, Plans for County Board Presentation, will be moved to follow Item 9.5 Finance - Dave Sudmeier. The agenda was ADOPTED as revised. (A typing error was noticed after the meeting: Item 2(b) should read: "Fire Drill Training - Brent Sutherland, Facilities Manager, will present mandatory annual inservice.")

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - Supervisors Joiner and Fizzell moved to approve the minutes of February 8, 2010. ADOPTED.

INTRODUCTION OF CITIZENS, COMMUNICATIONS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - R. Russell Podzilni, County Board Chair; Terry Thomas, County Board, Jim Haseman, Ombudsman; Warren Rudolph, Resident Council.

Mr. Haseman has heard misinformation in the community about the Rock Haven study and the facility's future. Chair Bussie has also heard inaccurate comments about what is transpiring with the nursing home. She stressed the fact that nothing has even been presented to the County Board yet. Ms. Gunderson said there has been some confusion because of the article in area papers about Jefferson County's nursing home closing. Ms. Gunderson distributed a copy of her February 25 memo to staff addressing the rumors.

BILLS - Supervisors Fizzell and Johnson moved to pay the bills totaling \$8,753.36. ADOPTED.

BUDGET TRANSFERS - None

PRE-APPROVED ENCUMBRANCES/ENCUMBRANCES - None

OLD BUSINESS

Fire Stop Project - The County Board approved the resolution awarding the contract to Superl, Inc.

NEW BUSINESS

WAHSA Conference Update – Family Care was a focus of the conference.

REPORTS

Census - The current census is 129.

Activities - The Senior Management Team is conducting QA audits.

Staff Education - Ms. Gunderson summarized March's staff development programming.

Resident Council - The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 9, at 10:15 a.m. The Ombudsman Program will be highlighted.

Conferences - Ms. Gunderson summarized conferences staff will be attending.

Finance - Mr. Sudmeier is on vacation. Ms. Gunderson referred to the report included with the agenda.

Plans For County Board Presentation - Ms. Gunderson previewed the Board presentation with the committee. The purpose of the presentation is to provide information to the County Board to assist the Board in making a decision about Rock Haven's future. Plans must be made to renovate or build a new facility in order to be in compliance with the Federal mandate requiring that all nursing homes be fully sprinkled by August 13, 2013.

Committee Comments

Supervisor Fizzell suggested integrating the PowerPoint presentation into the handout. Ms. Gunderson will consider a different presentation format.

Supervisor Joiner suggested data be included as to whether or not it is practical for Rock County to continue operating a nursing home. He also requested additional information to assist the Board in deciding the size of the facility.

Chair Bussie requested additional information related to the cost of caring for Rock County citizens at Mendota or Winnebago Health Institutes and potential savings if these citizens were served at Rock Haven.

Citizen Comments

Mr. Haseman feels "it really must be emphasized that Family Care, at this point, is a fiasco. That it is not even viable."

Ms. Hinds, who has worked at the facility for 31 years, hopes the process can move forward in a timely fashion. Looking back at decisions made in the past, some of which turned out more costly than anticipated, she just wants to make

sure "the best decision is made, " adding "I weigh in on the side of a new nursing home because this community needs it...We need it to stay at 128."

Supervisor Joiner said he respects and honors Ms. Hinds' passion and appreciates her service at the facility. "Our obligation is to try to ask questions that get us to that decision." With regard to the timeliness, he said the Committee and the County Board are being forced to make a decision because of the sprinkler system mandate.

Mr. Thomas asked how a determination is made to send an individual to Mendota or Winnebago. Ms. Gunderson said that most emergency admissions to the State Institutes are coordinated through Rock County Crisis workers. The individual needs to be psychiatrically evaluated and stabilized first. It would be unusual that Rock Haven would be able to care for such an individual from day one. The individual would need to be sent to Mendota or Winnebago for stabilization first and then, perhaps, after a month or so might be appropriate for admission to the nursing home.

Chair Bussie thanked Supervisor Thomas for coming to the meeting and his continued interest in the nursing home's operations.

Ms. Gunderson asked the committee for feedback regarding the presentation and the handout. She will be revising the presentation to focus on the decisions that the Board must make. Those revisions will be shared with the committee prior to the next meeting.

NEXT MEETING DATE - The next regular meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 6, at 3 p.m. in the Rock Haven 4th Floor Classroom.

ADJOURNMENT - Supervisors Fizzell and Joiner moved to adjourn the meeting. ADOPTED. The meeting adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Terri Fena

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