



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

HEALTH CARE CENTER COMMITTEE

PORTAGE COUNTY ANNEX
CONFERENCE ROOMS 1 & 2
1462 STRONGS AVENUE
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Thursday, November 30, 2023

5:00 PM

MEETING AGENDA

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial 1-872-242-7813, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 373 985 713, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Click here to join the meeting](#)

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:12 P.M. by Chair V. Miresse.

Members attending in-person: V. Miresse, D. Jankowski, M. Hemmrich, S. Przybylski

Members attending on-line: G. Hakala

Members absent: None

Members excused: None

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. October 26, 2023

A motion was made by M. Hemmrich, seconded by S. Przybylski to approve the minutes from October 26, 2023. The motion carried on a voice vote with no negative votes.

REPORTS

2. Chairperson

None.

3. Administrator

M. McDonald, NHA, said this is her 8th year as Administrator and her heart is in doing what is best for resident care. McDonald said world, national and state changes impact our local skilled nursing operations. The state regulatory arena keeps changing and the cost of quality care is increasingly challenging. It's important to stay open to all ideas for the future of PCHCC to continue success. Changes in occupancy are occurring nation-wide. The occupancy for October was 26. The trend is showing shorter length of stays in a skilled facility. PCHCC continues to face challenges over the last three years in the types of referrals, availability of health related community services, and challenges with human resources. McDonald read the County Mission Statement. McDonald said the mission statement is important because PCHCC is one part of Portage County decisions. McDonald said we need to look at the best global interest in the future of health care in our community.

4. Business Manager

- Vendor Invoice List
 - CoolSys- A/C repairs
- Financial Reports

L. Lingford, Business Manager, provided an update on the timeline for placing a referendum on the Spring Election. Lingford said the County Board held the public hearing and adopted the 2024 budget. The County Clerk has submitted the apportionment form to the

Department of Revenue (DOR). The Finance Director has submitted the levy limit form to the DOR. Lingford said thank you to both Directors for completing these forms early. Once those forms were submitted and approved by the DOR, the Finance Director could submit a draft referendum question to the DOR for their review. We are currently waiting for their response. To continue moving forward, a joint meeting with PCHCC, Space & Properties, Executive Operations and Finance would be needed before placing it on the agenda for the County Board meeting. The referendum question is due to the County Clerk on January 23, 2024.

Lingford said the telemedicine equipment would be purchased soon. This was part of a 50/50 matching grant from the Department of Health Services that was approved in October 2022. We had previously ordered personal protection equipment as part of the grant funds.

Lingford announced to the Committee that she has submitted her resignation, effective January 19, 2024.

5. County Executive

J. Pavelski, County Executive, shared options for the HCC. There are five options: seek a referendum, sell, close, self-close due to the condition of the building, or fund through the budget. Pavelski said we basically have two options: seek a referendum or sell. Portage County does not run a health care center economically. If we were to build a new health care center, we would have to ask taxpayers to fund up to \$4.5M-\$7.5M annually for the next 20 years for 32 residents. Pavelski said that COVID has changed the way that elder care is provided. Trying to run a small facility is less economical. There were 51 facilities that closed from 2016-2022. PCHCC has contracted out laundry, housekeeping and dietary services due to staffing challenges. The HCC is not a government-mandated service. PCHCC does not only accept Portage County residents. We are in competition with the private sector. Private facilities can run a 5-star facility. Building a new facility does not guarantee a 5-star facility. Pavelski said that an interested buyer contacted him months ago. Mr. Jay Hintze, SVN, presented information at a prior HCC Committee meeting. Selling is an option and recommends pursuing the option of selling the HCC because of the expertise and quality care the potential buyer would provide.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

6. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Special Meeting Attendance (Portage County Ordinance 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)

- Request for special meeting attendance
- Approval of attendance of special meetings
- Special meeting attendance reports

None.

7. Discussion/Possible Action Re: County Executive Pavelski's Request That The Portage County Health Care Center Committee Actively Pursue Sale Of The Facility

Members of the public addressed the Committee on this agenda item. A motion was made by D. Jankowski, seconded by M Hemmrich to have staff continue to research selling and simultaneously pursue the referendum. A motion was made by S. Przybylski, seconded by G. Hakala to amend the motion that action would not be taken on the sale of the health care center until such time as the referendum has occurred. The amended motion passed with 4 ayes, D. Jankowski opposed. The original motion with the amendment passed with 4 ayes, M. Hemmrich abstained.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

NEXT MEETING DATE

8. December 20, 2023, at 5:00 P.M.

ADJOURNMENT

Chair V. Miresse adjourned the meeting at 6:43 P.M.

NOTICES