



PORTAGE COUNTY

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

MEETING MINUTES

HEALTH CARE CENTER COMMITTEE

Wednesday, April 21, 2021

5:00 PM

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial 1-608-338-1399, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 843 836 522, then press #

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

Due to COVID-19 and the potential risk to members of the public who attend meetings in-person, any person who plans to attend the meeting remotely, but wishes to comment on an agenda item can send their comments via email to lingforl@co.portage.wi.us. The deadline for sending comments by email is 48 hours prior to the start of the meeting. Emailed comments will be delivered to committee members at least 24 hours prior to the meeting. Remote comment by the public during the meeting will be at the discretion of the Chair.

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:51 p.m. due to technical difficulties.

Members present: M. Johnson, M. Neville, D. Raabe. D. Raabe excused at 6:50 p.m.

Members remote: R. Reser, N. Moua.

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.

Mary Ann Laszewski registered to speak.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. MARCH 17, 2021 MEETING MINUTES

A motion was made by Member Raabe, Seconded by Member Neville to approve the minutes from March 17, 2021. All approved.

CORRESPONDENCE

None.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION

2. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Regarding 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.

3. INFORMATION FROM NORTH CENTRAL HEALTH CARE CENTER: NO LONGER A COLLABORATION OPPORTUNITY

Chair M. Johnson received an email from Michael Loy, Chief Executive Officer, at North Central Health Care Center (NCHCC). Regionalization with NCHCC is no longer a viable financial option. If NCHCC is going to be part of any future discussions, four significant commitments would be required: 1) the County would need to ensure there is fully funded reserve of 90 days cash on-hand plus a risk reserve of \$250,000 and would have to commit to funding operational losses that would take the fund balance under these targets; 2) the County would have to be committed to and build a new facility to be operational by January 1, 2023; 3) the County would need to provide Maintenance services on an in-kind basis; 4) the County would have to fund or maintain the liability for legacy employee benefits that don't map to NCHCC's benefits.

4. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION RE: NEXT STEPS CONCEPTUAL THINKING

Chair M. Johnson shared a PowerPoint, A Bridge to The Future. The Health Care Center has a unique opportunity in challenging times. Portage County passed a 4-year referendum that will end in 2022. COVID slowed and complicated the work of Clifton Larson Allen (CLA) strategic analysis of the HCC. The hopes for collaboration with NCHCC faded and is no longer an opportunity. The core competencies of the HCC are the staff and operational culture, our bed licenses, and the land on which the facilities sit. There would be a need for a recurring referendum. The 2022 election dates and filing deadline information was shown. A community-based hybrid approach may be needed to pivot to the changing world of skilled nursing.

Executive C. Holman shared a PowerPoint, Next Steps: An Introductory Concept. Structural deficits within the industry affect both the public and private sectors and will continue until meaningful changes are realized. Deficits can be reduced through wage and benefits adjustments, but our approach is one that is not willing to reduce structural deficits on the backs of employees. We stand a better chance if we work together with the Community to provide services. A hybrid model would be similar to an Inpatient Rehabilitation Facility and similar to a Long-Term Acute Care Hospital. We could move away from a traditional Skilled-Nursing Facility and toward a Community Based Residential Facility with a specific set of services that will complement the local market. This approach would not be competitive, as it would be complementary. The County would need to ask for public support for a building referendum and an operations referendum.

Several comments were made. Administrator M. McDonald said this would be a complementary service, not competitive with the local market. Hospitals are trying to reduce readmission rates and insurance companies are decreasing length of stay periods. This hybrid model would be a win-win for the community and HCC. D. Raabe said this has a lot of promise. R. Reser said this is the most exciting concept yet, pragmatic and workable. M. Neville agreed. C. Moua said the concept aligns with our values. J. Dodge said this would serve a segment of the population not currently served and does not compete with the private sector. N. Roppe said it is worth pursuing. The PowerPoints are included with the minutes.

5. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION RE: APPROVAL TO SEEK CONSULTING SERVICES FOR CONCEPT DEVELOPMENT AND PUBLIC INFORMATION CAMPAIGN

A motion was made by Member Raabe, Seconded by Member Neville to seek consulting services for concept development and public information campaign, up to \$8,000 for concept development and up to \$8,000 for public information campaign. R. Reser asked if we need to work on the concept more before we bring in outside consultants. D. Raabe clarified that the concept would be defined more clearly internally but when the time comes the funding for the consulting services would be approved and available. Chair M. Johnson called for a vote. All approved.

6. DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION RE: REQUEST FOR SINGLE SOURCE EMERGENCY PURCHASE FOR OUTSIDE VISITATION SHELTER BUILDING

A motion was made by Member Reser, Seconded by Member Neville to approve the construction of the outdoor visitation shelter building. The City of Stevens Point requires a conditional use permit. This will be on the May 3, 2021 Plan Commission agenda. There will be a special Council meeting at the Plan Commission meeting on May 3, 2021, to expedite the process. Chair M. Johnson called for a vote. All approved.

REPORTS

7. CHAIRPERSON REPORT

None.

8. ADMINISTRATOR REPORT

M. McDonald said the current census is holding around 35. The HCC remains COVID free with no current positive cases. We are in the window for our state survey. In-person visitations have begun, and the process is going well. We are looking for to outdoor visitations. The HCC has not needed to use PRN temporary staffing, which is a common trend in the industry. We continue to collaborate with Community resources for referrals.

9. BUSINESS MANAGER REPORT
Vendor Invoice List

- Ahern Fire Protection- sprinkler heads for window visit room
- Direct Supply- isolation carts
- Per Mar Security- alarm system repair
- Ron's Refrigeration- motor and steam coil repair

Financial Report

L. Lingford answered questions related to the vendor invoice list. L. Lingford provided some highlights of the 2020 budget. The December census was 33.8 with a year-to-date census of 45.7. The budget census was 58. There are approximately \$278,000 of COVID funds that will carry over to 2021, to be used by June 30, 2021. The cost per day is \$408. There were 128 admissions and 120 discharges in 2020. Approximately 4,000 hours were COVID related. The biggest change in payer source was with Medicare Advantage. The decreased admissions impacted this payer source.

10. COUNTY EXECUTIVE REPORT

None

NEXT MEETING DATE: May 19, 2021 at 5:00 p.m. in Annex Conference Room 1 & 2.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Member Neville, Seconded by Member Reser to adjourn at 7:07 p.m. All approved.

NOTICES

Notice: Any person who has special needs and plans on attending this meeting in-person or remotely should contact the Facilities Office at 715-346-1598 as soon as possible to ensure that reasonable accommodations can be made.

Notice: A quorum of the Portage County Board of Supervisors, or any committee thereof, may be present at this meeting.