Human Services

Ed Boettcher	*Brenda Ricksgers, Chairman*	*Bernie Blackmore*

Minutes
October 27, 2011

Members Present: Brenda Ricksgers, Ed Boettcher, and Bernie Blackmore
Members Absent:
Others: Joe Meyers and Laura Stanek

1. **Meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m.**

2. **Public Comment**

   Leslie Meyers joined the meeting on behalf of the Antrim County Habitat for Humanity requesting that the County sponsor a grant from the Tribe to reroof the "Re-store" in Mancelona. Ms. Meyers indicated that if they could get the grant to reroof, they would also be able to refinish the outside of the building and have a year-round facility instead of a partial year facility.

   Motion by Bernie Blackmore, supported by Ed Boettcher, to recommend the Board of Commissioners support being the sponsor for the Antrim County Habitat for Humanity's 2% Grant to the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians. Motion carried – unanimous.

3. **Probate Court Update**

   Bill Hefferan updated the Committee on the Child Care Fund (attached). Mr. Hefferan indicated that he felt that the costs have seemed to stabilize at around $300,000 per year.

   Mr. Hefferan spoke on the state of the economy and how that relates to the fees that are collected. Discussion ensued over the number of children that are under Probates' supervision.

4. **Commission on Aging**

   Mike Neubecker updated the Committee on the activities at the Commission on Aging. Mr. Neubecker indicated that he was looking at changing the fee schedule for the Homemaker Program. Mr. Neubecker indicated that the seniors that are living at the poverty line would pay the same but the seniors that are living over the poverty line would be charged on a sliding scale. Discussion ensued over the snow plowing for the seniors and the issues that Legal Counsel found with the bid.

5. **Housing Program**

   Patty Lowery gave an update on the Housing Program.

   Discussion ensued over the correspondence from the Jordan Development Company asking us to release our claim for mineral rights. The Committee indicated that they were not in favor of signing this agreement. Bernie Blackmore indicated that they would discuss this proposal at the Housing Committee.

Ms. Lowery spoke on the Property Improvement Program (PIP) and presented the agreement (attached) with MSHDA and First Federal of Northern Michigan.

Ms. Lowery indicated that this program would not cost the County any money and it would provide administration dollars to help fund the Housing Program.

Motion by Bernie Blackmore, supported by Ed Boettcher, to recommend the Board of Commissioners approve the Property Improvement Program pending Legal Counsel review. Motion carried – unanimous.

Ms. Lowery spoke on the PIP program and the benefits to the Counties' residents.

6. Meadowbrook and Meadowview

Discussion ensued over the East Jordan Health Clinic's location in Bellaire and how they had outgrown their facility. They requested that they be able to lease a piece of property on the Meadowbrook site, similar to the ambulance barn.

The Committee viewed a map of the property and indicated that they would be willing to lease a piece similar to the size of the ambulance barn. Laura Stanek indicated that she would bring it up to the Board of Commissioners at their next meeting.

Discussion ensued over the renovations at Meadowbrook. The Committee discussed the potential to be slightly scaled back if the budget does not allow for it.

Discussion ensued over the year to date Meadowbrook and Meadowview budget (attached).

Discussion ensued over the Defined Benefit Plan vs. the Defined Contribution Retirement Plans.

7. Veterans Affairs

Discussion ensued over the Veterans Affairs Board and veterans funeral benefits. Mr. Boettcher indicated that according to state law, the County should only pay the relief when the veteran has a net worth of less than $40,000.

Motion by Bernie Blackmore, supported by Ed Boettcher, to direct the Veterans Affairs Committee act 235 of 1911 for Veterans Burial Relief. Motion carried – unanimous.

Meeting adjourned at 11:40 a.m.