

PROCEEDINGS OF THE COUNTY BOARD

State of Minnesota
County of Kanabec
Office of the County Coordinator

May 16, 2001

The Kanabec County Board of Commissioners met at 9:00am on Wednesday, May 16, 2001 pursuant to adjournment with the following Board Members present: Dennis Schulz, Stan Cooper, Kathi Ellis, Dennis McNally and Dave Ulstrom.

It was moved by Dennis Schulz, seconded by Dave Ulstrom, and carried unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

9:02am - The Board convened as the **Human Services Board**. Phil Peterson, Family Service Agency Director, presented the Human Services agenda. Items discussed included the budget, staffing, finances and other agency business.

It was moved by Dennis Schulz, seconded by Dave Ulstrom, and carried unanimously to approve five Financial Workers and a Case Aide's attendance at a Financial Worker Conference, including conference fees and lodging.

It was moved by Dave Ulstrom, seconded by Kathi Ellis, and carried unanimously to approve 357 claims totaling \$169,974.68 paid upon the Welfare Fund.

10:12am - The Board convened as the **Public Health Board**. Wendy Thompson, Public Health Director, presented the Health Board agenda. Items discussed included agency finances, contracts, staffing, equipment needs, and other agency business.

It was moved by Dennis McNally, seconded by Kathi Ellis, and carried unanimously to approve Hepatitis B agreements with Villa Health Care Center, Mora School District and Ogilvie School District.

Dave Ulstrom introduced the following resolution and its adoption:

Resolution 1-05/16/01

WHEREAS Nurse salaries are extremely below market; Kanabec County Public Health has been starting nurses at Level 8, State A - \$15.54 per hour; the surrounding counties, although the range has been similar to Kanabec's, have been starting nurses at a much higher level; Mille Lacs starts at \$18.00 per hour; Isanti starts nurses at over \$18.00 per hour; Pine starts over \$17.00 per hour and Chisago starts over \$17.00; the Local Hospital starts nurses according to their years of experience, with nurses starting at

greater than \$20.00 per hour; one of the nurses that worked for Public Health now makes \$24.00 at the Kanabec Hospital, and

WHEREAS there is a significant state-wide nursing shortage, and

WHEREAS Public Health has had no applicants for nurse positions in the past year and often only one eligible applicant, and

WHEREAS a plan to increase nurse salaries to something reasonable in proactive and hopefully will deter a crisis in the future;

BE IT RESOLVED to increase nurse salaries by three steps effective May 21, 2001 as follows:

EMPLOYEE	PRESENT STEP		NEW STEP		NEXT PAY STEP ADVANCEMENT		
	Step	Rate	Step	Rate	Date	Step	Rate
Anderson, Karen	A	15.54	D	16.69	2/16/02		
Friday, Jenny	A	15.54	D	16.69	6/19/01	E	17.09
Gabrielson, Pat	K	19.71	K	19.71	---		
Johnson, Dawn	A	15.54	D	16.69	10/16/01	E	17.09
Krueger, Louisa	B	15.92	E	17.09	10/19/01	F	17.50
MaGaard, Deb	D	16.69	G	17.93	10/11/01	H	18.36
Schroeder, Janelle	C	16.30	F	17.50	6/1/01	G	17.93
Sjodin, Roberta	C	16.30	F	17.50	6/2/01	G	17.93
Vaughan, Geneve	A	15.54	D	16.69	10/9/01	E	17.09
Voight, Jackie	D	16.69	G	17.93	4/21/02		

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly seconded by Kathi Ellis and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted:

IN FAVOR THEREOF: Dennis Schulz, Dave Ulstrom, Kathi Ellis, Stan Cooper
OPPOSED: Dennis McNally
ABSTAIN: None

whereupon the resolution was declared duly passed and adopted.

It was moved by Kathi Ellis, seconded by Dave Ulstrom, and carried unanimously to approve a Hospice Rebate Agreement with Purdue Pharma, L.P.

It was moved by Dennis Schulz, seconded by Kathi Ellis, and carried unanimously to approve the May 9, 2001 Minutes of the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners as corrected: delete the duplicate language in Resolution 9-05/09/01 and correct the spelling of 'for.'

11:00am - County Assessor Sue Kondratowicz and Information Systems Director Jessie Isham met with the County Board to discuss an employee recognition event. No action further was taken at this time.

11:30am - Information Systems Director Jessie Isham presented the results of the systems analysis by Midwest and ACS on the county computer architecture, operating systems and practices.

It was moved by Dennis McNally, seconded by Kathi Ellis, and carried unanimously to authorize the Information Systems Director to proceed with a firewall system and replace hubs and switches at a cost of not to exceed \$37,000.00.

12:15pm - The Board considered the health insurance proposals presented at the last board meeting. Also present were Michael Arbisi with Medica and Pam Lovas with Blue Cross/Blue Shield.

Dennis Schulz introduced the following resolution and its adoption:

Resolution 2-05/16/01

WHEREAS the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners has been presented with health insurance bids for the 12 month time period beginning July 1, 2001, and

WHEREAS Medica appears to be the lowest responsible bidder;

BE IT RESOLVED to accept the Medica proposal for the 12 month time period beginning July 1, 2001.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly seconded by Dave Ulstrom and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted:

IN FAVOR THEREOF: Dennis Schulz, Dave Ulstrom, Kathi Ellis, Stan Cooper
OPPOSED: None
ABSTAIN: Dennis McNally

Dave Ulstrom introduced the following resolution and its adoption:

Resolution 3-05/16/01

WHEREAS the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners has been presented with a choice of the Ochs Agency and the Holmstrom Agency as local agents for the Medica Health Insurance Plan;

BE IT RESOLVED to select the Holmstrom Agency in Mora, MN as the county's designated local agents for Medica.

The motion for the adoption of the foregoing Resolution was duly seconded by Dennis Schulz and upon a vote being taken thereon, the following voted:

IN FAVOR THEREOF: Dennis Schulz, Dave Ulstrom, Kathi Ellis, Stan Cooper
OPPOSED: None
ABSTAIN: Dennis McNally

It was moved by Kathi Ellis, seconded by Dave Ulstrom, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution 4-05/16/01

WHEREAS the statistical rates for the county health insurance for the 12 month time period beginning July 1, 2001 will be:

TYPE	\$100 Deductible	\$250 Deductible	\$1,000 Deductible
Individual	\$378.00	---	---
Family	\$850.00	\$790.00	\$660.00

BE IT RESOLVED to continue the county contribution of 100% of single coverage + \$40.00 towards family coverage if elected which results in employee contributions of:

TYPE	\$100 Deductible	\$250 Deductible	\$1,000 Deductible

Individual	\$0.00	n/a	n/a
Family	\$432.00	\$372.00	\$242.00

Each commissioner gave a report of the activities of the Boards and Committees in which they participate.

It was moved by Dennis Schulz, seconded by Dennis McNally, and carried unanimously to amend previous orders of the board regarding Per Diems to say that the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners' representative to the South Country Health Alliance may accept a Per Diem from the South Country Health Alliance.

It was moved by Dennis McNally, seconded by Kathi Ellis, and carried unanimously to reject all bids for used equipment--air conditioners, furnaces and a water heater-- as presented at the April 25, 2001 board meeting.

It was moved by Dave Ulstrom, seconded by Dennis Schulz, and carried unanimously to approve payment of the following claims: Ramada Inn at \$233.55, Best Western at \$137.98 and Eveleth Inn at \$147.84.

It was moved by Dennis Schulz, seconded by Dave Ulstrom, and carried unanimously to approve the following resolution:

Resolution 5-05/16/01

WHEREAS it is the contention of Irene Harthan that she was made a Class 5 employee by virtue of the Release executed by her July 1, 1992, and

WHEREAS it is the contention of the County Board that Irene Harthan was a Class 4 employee and the 1992 matter was union related; the whole matter has been superceded by Irene Harthan's departure from the union, and

WHEREAS it is the contention of Irene Harthan that she should now be a Level 5, Step K, and back pay is owed for the amounts she has been paid in the past at rates less than the appropriate grid;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: It is agreed that effective 5/16/01 Irene Harthan shall be recognized by the County Board as Class 5, Step K employee. Irene Harthan acknowledges that she withdraws any claim for back pay, and is not entitled to it.

It was moved by Kathi Ellis, and seconded by Dennis Schulz, and **carried** unanimously at 2:02pm to adjourn to meet in regular session on Wednesday, May 23, 2001 at 9:00am.

Signed _____

Chairperson of the Kanabec County Board of Commissioners,
Kanabec County, Minnesota

Attest: _____

Kanabec County Coordinator