

AGING & LONG TERM CARE COMMITTEE

Monday, August 9, 2010

Administrative Center – Room 3220

10:15 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Roger Plesha, Dan Ferries, Monica Kruse, John Medinger, Andrea Richmond, Jerry Sebranek

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Tara Johnson

MEMBERS ABSENT: Audrey Kader

STAFF & GUESTS: Pete Eide, Noreen Holmes, Jim Gausmann, Pam Semb, Kelly Kramer, Margaret Norden, Steve O'Malley, Nick Nichols, David Tauscher, Bryan Jostad, Jim Speropulos, Sharon Hampson, Brian Fukuda

ROLL CALL/CALL TO ORDER

Chair Roger Plesha called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.

APPROVE MINUTES OF JUNE 21, 2010

CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION by Sebranek/Richmond to approve the minutes of June 21, 2010, and to receive and file the following Consent Agenda item:

- a. Commission on Aging Minutes – June 1, 2010

Motion carried unanimously. Johnson excused; Kader absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None requested.

CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORT

None reported.

UPDATE ON POLICY REGARDING POLITICIANS VISITING SENIOR HOUSING AND MEAL SITES

Noreen Holmes distributed copies of a memo she sent to meal site managers to clarify that candidate visits are coordinated through the Aging Department. She stated that candidates are encouraged to speak one-on-one at dining tables, cannot give speeches of more than five minutes, and cannot interrupt the meal. Discussion was held regarding elected politicians visiting at times other than during campaigns; Holmes stated that those visits are also coordinated through her office.

NOTE: With the Committee's agreement, the Chair took the following agenda items out of order.

RESOLUTION RE: APPROVAL OF BID FOR SOLAR HOT WATER SYSTEMS IN THE LAW ENFORCEMENT CENTER AND LAKEVIEW HEALTH CENTER

The Resolution states that the Wisconsin Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, was awarded to La Crosse County for solar hot water systems at the Law Enforcement Center and Lakeview Health Center. Bids were received as follows:

Hooper Corp.	\$315,850.00
Schwickerts, Inc.	\$389,100.00
Badger State, Inc.	\$505,260.00

The Resolution calls for approval of Hooper Corp. with the low bid of \$315,850 to install both systems. **MOTION** by Richmond/Kruse to approve the Resolution Re: Approval of Bid for Solar Hot Water Systems in the Law Enforcement Center and Lakeview Health Center. **Motion carried unanimously.** Johnson excused; Kader absent.

RESOLUTION RE: COUNTY NURSING HOMES AND THE 2011-2013 STATE BIENNIAL BUDGET

The Resolution states that revenue from Supplemental Payment and Certified Public Expenditure Programs is derived from county nursing home losses, but only \$38.1 million is allocated in payment to counties, even though the Department of Health Services receives an estimated \$96.2

million in federal matching funds. The bed tax increased from \$32 per month per bed to \$170 per month per bed, and a majority of those funds were utilized to offset the state's Medicaid deficit. The Resolution calls for a statutory change to distribute a minimum of \$39.1 million to nursing homes and care management organizations each fiscal year, to require the state to share federal match dollars, to use bed assessment funds and federal matching funds for nursing home rate increases and not to supplement the MA Trust Fund, and to exempt county owned and state licensed facilities from a bed tax. **MOTION** by Richmond/Kruse to approve the Resolution Re: County Nursing Homes and the 2011-2013 State Biennial Budget. **Motion carried unanimously.** Johnson excused; Kader absent.

DISCUSS INCORPORATING VETERANS INTO COMMITTEE NAME

The item was placed on the agenda at the request of Supervisor Medinger, who stated that Veterans should be included to show the Committee's concern and attention. Steve O'Malley stated a name change would require an ordinance. **MOTION** by Medinger/Ferries to draft an ordinance to name the Aging & Long-Term Care Committee the Aging, Long-Term Care & Veterans Committee. **Motion carried unanimously.** Johnson excused; Kader absent.

APPROVE PURCHASE OF CARE TRACKER SOFTWARE

Bryan Jostad reported that Care Tracker software will provide integration with the current software to allow Lakeview staff to track supplies, and will also interface with the current patient care documentation system. Pam Semb stated that this will provide more accurate supply usage information, and better documentation for the Minimum Data Set (MDS 3.0) system. The MDS 3.0 system is a federal reimbursement requirement for Medicare and Medicaid that goes into effect October 1, 2010. Better documentation of supplies used and cares provided will help capture more reimbursement funds. The cost of the software, plus hosting service, support, and upgrades totals \$34,000. Funds are available in the Lakeview budget. Semb provided further explanation of the kiosks that will be in each wing, and answered questions regarding placement of the kiosks and log-in procedures to protect resident privacy. **MOTION** by Richmond/Ferries to approve purchase of Care Tracker Software. **Motion carried unanimously.** Johnson excused; Kader absent.

ASSISTED LIVING UPDATE

Pete Eide provided an update on the proposed assisted living facility on the Hillview campus. He stated that the architect has almost finished the drawings. Construction bid documents will go out on August 19, 2010. Local construction companies will have until September 9, 2010, to submit bids. The Committee will have bids to approve at its next meeting on September 13, 2010. The full County Board will have approval of bids on its September 16, 2010, agenda. Steve O'Malley reported it will require a 2/3's vote of those present at the full Board meeting. Construction companies will be aware that, if approved, they will need to break ground shortly thereafter to have a May 1, 2011, target opening date. Discussion followed regarding the need for assisted living, and public concern regarding competition with the private sector. Eide pointed out that only one assisted living provider in the community is a for-profit company; all others are church-affiliated non-profits that do not pay taxes. He also stated that Hillview will be one of only a few facilities at present that will admit MCO recipients, and is thus filling a community need. Kelly Kramer added that current residents of Hillview and Carroll Heights can be given priority. Further discussion was held regarding other options for Hillview expansion, e.g. an Alzheimer's unit or hospice care; the need for more assisted living as Baby Boomers age; and improving overall standards and level of care that will benefit all La Crosse County residents. Discussion was also held regarding sustainability factors in the design, and the decision not to pursue LEED certification due to the expense of commissioning and documentation. Nick Nichols stated that he will apply for grants for sustainable technology whenever possible.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE AGENDAS

None requested.

NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING AND CONFLICT WITH LABOR DAY HOLIDAY

Committee consensus was to hold the next regular meeting on September 13, 2010, at Lakeview Health Center.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Kruse/Richmond to adjourn. **Motion carried unanimously.** Johnson excused; Kader absent. The meeting adjourned at 11:07 a.m.

Approved, September 13, 2010, Margaret Norden, Recorder