

**LA CROSSE COUNTY NOTICE OF MEETING**

<b>COMMITTEE OR BOARD:</b>	<b>VETERANS, AGING &amp; LONG-TERM CARE COMMITTEE</b>
<b>DATE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>MONDAY, November 1, 2021</b>
<b>MEETING PLACE:</b>	<b>Administrative Center, County Board Room 1700 212 6<sup>th</sup> Street N, La Crosse, WI 54601</b> <a href="#">Click here to join the meeting</a>
<b>TIME OF MEETING:</b>	<b>8:00 A.M.</b>
<b>PURPOSE OF MEETING:</b>	<b>MONTHLY MEETING</b>
1.	Roll Call/Call to Order
2.	Public Comment
3.	Approve Veterans, Aging & Long-Term Care Committee Minutes of October 11, 2021
4.	Consent Agenda (Informational): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Census</li> <li>b. Pandemic Response Update</li> <li>c. Staffing Update                 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Emergency Staffing</li> <li>2. Collaboration with Emergency Management and Hospitals</li> <li>3. Talent Acquisition and Campus Plan</li> </ul> </li> </ul>
5.	Conference/Meeting Report
6.	Hillview Planning – Site Plan Review
7.	Hillview The Oaks Update
8.	2022 Department Budgets
9.	Veterans Services Update
10.	Next Committee Meeting: December 6, 2021
11.	Future Agenda Items
12.	Adjourn

**NOTICES FAXED/MAILED TO:**

**NEWS MEDIA**

La Crosse Tribune  
Other Media

**OTHERS**

Ryan Westpfahl  
Krista Heinz/Coulee Cap  
Bryan Jostad

**DEPARTMENTS**

County Administrator  
County Board Chair  
County Clerk  
Facilities

**EMAIL:**

Wanda Plachecki  
Audra Martine  
Kelly Kramer  
Adam Flood

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Roger Plesha, Chair  
Dan Ferries  
Andrea Richmond  
Grant Mathu  
Barb Janssen

**MEMBERS:** If unable to attend, call the County Clerk's Office at 785-9581.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** The Committee may receive information from the public, but the Committee reserves the right to limit the time that the public may comment and the degree to which members of the public may participate in the meeting.

**PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES:** If you need accommodations to attend this meeting, please contact the County Clerk's Office at (608)785-9581 as soon as possible.

**DATE NOTICE FAXED/MAILED/POSTED: October 29,2021**

*This meeting may be recorded, and any such recording is subject to disclosure under the Wisconsin Open Records Law.*

**All attendees of this meeting are STRONGLY ENCOURAGED to wear a face mask!!**

**VETERANS, AGING & LONG-TERM CARE COMMITTEE**

Monday, October 11, 2021

Room 1700, County Board Room

8:00 a.m.

<b>MEMBERS PRESENT:</b>	Roger Plesha (Chair), Dan Ferries, Grant Mathu, Barb Janssen, Andrea Richmond
<b>MEMBERS EXCUSED:</b>	None
<b>MEMBERS ABSENT:</b>	None
<b>OTHERS PRESENT:</b>	Steve O'Malley, Wanda Plachecki, Kelly Kramer, Jane Klekamp, Ryan Westpfahl, Amy Simonis, Adam Flood, Erin Klar, Deb Strand, Brooke Smith, Renee Nugent, Amy Simonis, Jason Steiner

**CALL TO ORDER:** Chair Roger Plesha called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**APPROVE MINUTES:**

Veterans Aging & Long-Term Care Committee – August 9, 2021. **MOTION** by Ferries/Richmond to approve the minutes of August 9, 2021. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Census Update – included in the packet was a Census and COVID-19 Update for Lakeview, Hillview & Assisted Living Campuses and a staffing update from Wanda Plachecki. The long term care industry continues to experience great difficulty in our staffing. The Lakeview campus currently has 16 full time (over 60 hours per pay period) and 11 part time direct care positions open. The Hillview campus currently has 15 full time (over 60 hours per pay period) and 13 part time direct care positions open. A proposal has been discussed with La Crosse County administration to begin to address our direct care wages. Our goal is to provide for a starting wage of at least \$15.00/hour for our direct care staff and to provide for an overall increase to the direct care pay plans. Authorization to implement this proposal will be discussed at the County Board in November. Implementation has been requested to begin back to October 1<sup>st</sup>.

**Motion** by Richmond/Ferries to approve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**CONFERENCE/MEETING REPORT: NONE****APPROVAL OF CIVIL MONEY PENALTY FOR HILLVIEW**

During the pandemic the federal government under CMS imposed monetary penalties to any survey citation related to infection protection. Those citations could include denial of admission or a handwashing violation. Hillview in its annual survey did get a citation under that infection prevention tag and they were levied a fine for \$15,000. If they waive the right to appeal, they will get a 35% reduction and will also continue to be able to take CNA students. Hillview was only given ten days to make this decision. Hillview will not fight this fine and asks that this committee approve that decision. **Motion** by Richmond/Ferries to approve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**HILLVIEW STATE ONLY NURSING HOME UPDATE**

**Licensing** – Hillview is looking to implement a state only unit that consists of ten beds. Progress has been made physically and on the paperwork side. Waiting on approval of

applications. Physical changes to Hillview are moving along to accommodate this unit. Brooke Smith has been hired as the program coordinator. There are also many staff that are interested in working on this unit. Staff will be certified as dementia specialists.

**Facility Name** – The new state facility will need a name. Staff at Hillview decided between two names and “The Oaks” was chosen as the name. **Motion** by Ferries/Janssen to approve. **Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **2022 DEPARTMENT BUDGETS**

Jane Klekamp walked through the budgets for the departments that report to the VALTC committee. All information is in the 2022 Budget Book.

**NEXT COMMITTEE MEETING:** November 1, 2021

**FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:** Please direct items to Roger Plesha or Joyce McLaughlin.

**ADJOURNMENT: MOTION** by Richmond/Ferries to adjourn the meeting at 8:35 a.m. **Motion carried unanimously.**

**Disclaimer:** The above minutes may be approved, amended, or corrected at the next committee meeting. Erin Klar, Recorder



## LA CROSSE COUNTY

Exceptional services. Extraordinary place.

Long Term Services, Wanda Plachecki/Executive Director

TO: Veterans, Aging & Long-Term Care Committee  
 FROM: Wanda Plachecki, NHA  
 DATE: October 28, 2021  
 RE: Census/COVID-19 Updates/staffing update

### **CENSUS UPDATES**

#### **Lakeview Health Center & Assisted Living Campus**

Census for the Lakeview campus is:

- Lakeview Health Center
  - Census: 50
  - Licensed Beds 50
- Ravenwood
  - Census: 8
  - Licensed Beds: 10
- Maplewood
  - Census: 15
  - Licensed Beds: 15
- Neshonoc Manor
  - Census: 14
  - Licensed Beds: 15
- Monarch Manor
  - Census: 8
  - Licensed Beds: 8
- Regent Manor
  - Census: 4
  - Licensed Beds: 4

Our admissions team is currently going through our Ravenwood waiting list to identify potential admissions.



## **Hillview Health Care Center & Assisted Living Campus**

Census for the Hillview campus is

- Hillview Health Care Center
  - Census: 75 in-house
  - Licensed Beds: 110
- Carroll Heights
  - Census: 54
  - Licensed Beds: 55
- Hillview Terrace
  - Census: 28
  - Licensed Beds: 30

## **COVID-19 UPDATE**

**Vaccination:** As of this date, no guidance has been issued by CMS for the mandatory vaccination program for healthcare/long term care workers. We continue to provide information and strongly encourage vaccination and will adjust our policies after this guidance is issued. Both campuses have signed up with a pharmacy provider to begin providing the COVID booster to eligible staff and residents. Lakeview has been provided this booster and has completed the booster vaccination for all interested residents. Booster vaccinations have started for the Lakeview staff. Hillview continues to wait for a supply of the booster vaccine from its selected vendor.

**County Transmission & Positivity Rates:** County transmission rates for LaCrosse County continue to be in High (red). Because of this high county transmission rate, masking is required for all staff in the long term care setting. In addition, we are required to test all unvaccinated staff 2 times per week when not in outbreak.

## **STAFFING UPDATE**

Significant staffing challenges continue on both the Hillview and Lakeview campuses as well as at other long term care campuses across the country. Many strategies are being implemented or evaluated in order to maintain our ability to care for individuals who require long term care in our community. Strategies include:

- 1) Deferral of new admissions in order to maintain quality care to current residents
- 2) Request to adopt wage improvements for direct care staff – this request will be addressed during 2022 budget
- 3) Staff survey to gather feedback and ideas from staff. This survey was completed earlier this Fall. Over 140 staff from our campuses responded to this survey. Wages were identified as the top priority. In addition to wage adjustments, respondents gave us a long list of ideas to consider
- 4) Development of small internal workgroups comprised of direct care staff and managers to develop a list of recommendations for 2022 implementation. These strategies will focus on ways to attract new talent and to retain our staff.

- 5) Collaboration with other partner organizations to develop innovation solutions with a particular focus on assisting income eligible individuals to explore health care careers and become C.N.A. certified.

Please contact me with any questions you may have related to census, pandemic response, staffing or other long-term care issues. You may contact me at 608-612-0640 or [wplachecki@lacrossecounty.org](mailto:wplachecki@lacrossecounty.org).