



PORTAGE COUNTY

PCHCC COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

STEVENS POINT POLICE DEPARTMENT
COMMUNITY ROOM-933 MICHIGAN
AVE

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2020

5:00 PM

STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

1. REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone: dial 1-312-626-6799, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number 842 5057 1729, passcode 724752.

To attend this meeting by video: go to

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84250571729?pwd=eGNkL3NTYTAA0QUFVWFdKRnpWd0d1UT09>. Meeting ID: 842 5057 1729, passcode 724752.

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.

Face coverings are required for in-person attendance unless an exemption applies.

2. CALL TO ORDER (5:00 PM)

Members Present: D. RAABE, M. JOHNSON, M. NEVILLE AND R. RESER

Members Absent: N. MOUA

D. Raabe, M. Johnson, M. Neville present in person. R. Reser present virtually. N. Moua absent.

3. 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.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

5. **20-2309** REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM 9-16-20.

Documents: [2020.09.16 DRAFT.PDF](#)

A motion was made by Member D. Raabe, seconded by Member M. Neville, to approve.

6. **DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION REGARDING SPECIAL MEETINGS (PORTAGE COUNTY ORDINANCE 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)**

- REQUEST FOR SPECIAL MEETING ATTENDANCE
- APPROVAL OF ATTENDANCE OF SPECIAL MEETINGS
- SPECIAL MEETING ATTENDANCE REPORTS

No action.

7. CORRESPONDENCE



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No action.

8. **20-2328**

UPDATE ON HEALTH CARE CENTER ANALYSIS REPORT BY MICHAEL PEER, PRINCIPAL AT CLIFTON, LARSON, ALLEN

- Michael Loy, Chief Executive Officer, from North Central Health Care Center offering information on possible collaboration with Marathon County, WI.

Michael Loy, Chief Executive Officer, from North Central Health Care Center (NCHCC), provided information on the possible collaboration with Marathon County. Marathon County faced a similar situation as that of Portage County. Marathon County had to decide if they should remain in the skilled nursing business, close the business, or sell the business. They had an aging facility, decreasing census and a financial deficit. Marathon County reaffirmed their role and importance in providing skilled care. The decision was to remain in business and provide investment into a new facility. Marathon County created a regionalization plan, currently with Langlade and Lincoln Counties. The intent is to keep County facilities financially viable, create opportunities to share resources and to have a strong market presence. NCHCC is owned by the three Counties but is a separate legal entity from County government.

Pinecrest Nursing Home, in Lincoln County, recently joined the regionalization. M. Loy said 200 employees were transitioned during the regionalization along with 160 beds. They worked with the employees with wages and benefits. Technology issues were addressed. Electronic medical record transitions occurred, and email accounts were created for employees. Pharmacy services were transitioned along with laundry services. The budget deficit was eliminated in the first year. M. Loy said the transition has been successful.

M. Loy shared his perspective on the future of skilled nursing home services. Nursing homes are seeing an increase in medical acuity, people are staying in their homes if possible, and changes in regulatory requirements. M. Loy said that the COVID pandemic has accelerated these trends. The pandemic will likely change regulatory requirements, such as disallowing shared rooms and bathrooms, in order to keep residents safe in future pandemic situations. M. Loy said long-term care is changing. Care needs are becoming more acute. It will be important to consider adding behavioral services and end of life services. M. Loy stated that one in five health care positions remain unfilled. Staffing will remain challenging. Marathon County remains interested in working with Portage County to see if regionalization is possible both operationally and financially.

M. Loy answered several questions. What is the tax levy of each of the Counties? Lincoln County's levy is \$400,000, Marathon is \$1.5 million. Pinecrest borrowed \$10M for renovations and the bond payments are being funded through operations. Will the tax levy continue to be needed in the future? The ability to maintain a stable census, strong payer mix, attract people to the facility, and change how we operate will make us viable in the future. Were the employees able to maintain their benefits? Employees remain eligible for the Wisconsin Retirement System. We tried to make whole with the employees' sick leave balances. We retained 97% of the employees. How do you respond to critics who say you are taking services that could be provided privately? We want to do things that others are unable to do. We care for more intensive needs, people with higher financial risks and higher pharmacy costs. Counties will probably be responsible in the future for this population because the



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private sector may be unable to care for them. What is the scope of the analysis that is needed to work with us? You are already working with CLA for the analysis. We already have a lot of what is needed, and we need to look at the data. It is not time intensive.

Michael Peer, Principal at Clifton, Larson, Allen was available to address any questions on the CLA analysis of PCHCC. Chair M. Johnson asked how we move from phase three to phase four, referring to page 4 Strategic Planning Approach, in the CLA analysis report. M. Peer said CLA provided several recommendations, including renovation, replacement, adding assisted living, capacity levels, regionalization. The Committee needs to make recommendations on which strategy to pursue or eliminate. Do we remain in the market? If yes, do we build new, what amenities should be included? If no, do we sell or close? When we narrow down the options then CLA will provide financial details. R. Reser asked what the disadvantage is to listing regionalization as an action item on the next agenda.

9. **20-2310** **DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION RE: RESOLUTION APPROVING OUT OF SEQUENCE RECLASSIFICATION REQUEST FOR CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANTS**

Documents: [CNA PAY GRADE INCREASE PACKET.PDF](#)

Motion Neville/Raabe to approve the out of sequence reclassification request for certified nursing assistants. L. Belanger said that reclassifications are due July 1st. This request was not submitted in that time frame. There is a provision that allows for out of sequence request. It still goes through Committees, County Executive and County Board for approvals. It will be put into the budget with funding for the reclassification, but it needs to go through the approval process. D. Raabe supports the reclassification.

10. **20-2329** **UPDATE RE: HAZARD PAY FOR DIRECTOR OF NURSING, RN MANAGER, MDS COORDINATOR, REGISTERED NURSE, LICENSED PRACTICAL NURSE, CERTIFIED NURSING ASSISTANT, UNIT CLERK**

A motion was made by Member M. Neville, seconded by Member D. Raabe, to approve.

Executive C. Holman provided updated information on hazard pay. They are following grant guidance, working to narrowly define the definition for qualification and reviewing multiple options of hazard pay. There are concerns on the impact of hazard pay on the County budget. Executive C. Holman said some of the state and federal COVID funds have deadlines for usage. The deadlines may possibly be extended. Executive C. Holman said the County is working to set up COVID testing several days per week. HCC staff may possibly be integrated into this testing, which currently costs \$7,000 per week for twice weekly testing. Hazard pay will be on the next PCHCC Committee agenda.

11. **REPORTS**

- Chairperson
- Administrator
- Business Manager
- County Executive



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Administrator:

M. McDonald provided the administrator report. M. McDonald said that we are operating two wings currently. Sunrise Garden is temporarily closed. The resident transition to the other units went very smoothly. We had a fourth employee test positive for COVID. The situation was mitigated quickly with no impact on residents. M. McDonald said that COVID testing is being conducted twice weekly for staff and residents. Family window visits continue. We are planning to "winterize" the window visits with a small remodeling project of that area. She said the regulatory arena is changing. Shared rooms will probably be regulatorily eliminated. Facilities have been working to fix the front entrance door. The boiler has been started for winter heating. M. McDonald offered a virtual tour of the facility and is available for questions.

Business Manager:

L. Lingford provided an overview of the 2020 and 2021 budgets. The tax levy for the 2020 is approximately \$996,000. We have received \$124,000 in unbudgeted state funding and \$483,000 in federal funding. The deficit for 2020 without those funds would be estimated at \$1.6M. The budget for 2021 is estimated to have a \$1.8M deficit. The budget for 2021 is based on a census of 50. Some of the projected increased costs are related to information technology, medical supplies and depreciation. L. Lingford reiterated the costs of the COVID testing, approximately \$7,000 per week for 300 tests. L. Lingford provided details on the extraordinary expenses on the monthly vendor list.

12. [20-2311](#) FINANCIAL REPORT

Documents: [093020 FINANCIAL PACKET.PDF](#)

13. [20-2312](#) VENDOR INVOICE LIST

- Emmons Business Interiors - office chairs
- General Parts - boiler leak repair
- Per Mar - fire alarm installed on COVID wing
- Ron's Refrigeration - replace air conditioning unit, replace compressor, repair freezer

Documents: [HEALTH CARE CENTER VENDOR INVOICE LIST 08.31.20.PDF](#)

14. NEXT MEETING DATE

October 21, 2020 at 5:00 p.m. in Annex Conference Room 1 & 2.

15. ADJOURNMENT (6:07 PM)

A motion was made by Member D. Raabe, seconded by Member M. Neville, to approve adjournment.

16. NOTICES

Notice: Any person who has special needs planning on attending this meeting in-person or remotely should contact 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.