MINUTES
OF THE
PINE COUNTY BOARD SPECIAL MEETING
Tuesday, August 8, 2017 – 12 Noon
Royalton Township Hall
6052 Royalton Road
Braham, Minnesota

Chair Ludwig called the meeting to order. Present were Commissioners Steve Hallan, Josh Mohr, Steve Chaffee and John Mikrot, Jr. Also present were County Administrator David Minke, Health and Human Services Director Becky Foss, Public Health Nurse Supervisor Lori Fore, Registered Nurse and Family Health Team Leader Jessica Fehlen, Adult Services Supervisor Barb Schmidt, Income Maintenance Supervisor Peggy Brackenbury, Child Support Supervisor Jodi Blesener and Children’s Services Supervisor Beth Jarvis.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Commissioner Hallan moved to approve the Agenda. Second by Commissioner Mohr. Motion carried 5-0.

Those present introduced themselves.

The following presented to the county board:

Therapeutic Services Agency (TSA),
Cheryl McHugh, Executive Director

Canvas Health
Laura Weber, MA, LMFT Crisis Connection Manager

Lighthouse Child and Family Services
Sara Scherer, MHP, ARMHS/CSP Program Director

Pine County Public Health
Jessica Fehlen, RN, Pine County Public Health Family Health Team Leader

Lakes & Pines Community Action Council
Bob Benes, Executive Director

Central MN Council on Aging
Emma Shepard, Community Development

Pine City Act on Alzheimers
Cathy Gilmore, Pine City Area Act on Alzheimers Grant Coordinator

Each of the representatives from the organizations described their mission statements, their collaboration with other community partners, and their funding sources. Each agency also had the opportunity to discuss any issues or concerns. TSA, Canvas Health, and Lighthouse Child
and Family Services identified that on-going funding was a concern. TSA and Lighthouse Child and Family services also shared that Medicare has very specific requirements for reimbursement to agencies who serve the elderly population. In order to be reimbursed by Medicare, organizations need to have an LICSW (Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker) or Doctorate Level Psychologist, working with Medicare recipients. Both agencies noted that it is very difficult to secure employees with those credentials.

Jessica Fehlen, RN, Pine County Public Health Family Health Team Leader, spoke to the County Board about family home visiting. She discussed the need for continued investment in the growth and infrastructure in Public Health. She expressed gratitude to the County Board for their support and investment. One issue that RN Fehlen discussed was HFA (Healthy Families America) accreditation. The process for accreditation is very time-consuming and continued investment in the public health infrastructure will be needed in order to allow for timely accreditation.

Cathy Gilmore, Pine City Area Act on Alzheimers Grant Coordinator, and Emma Shepard, Community Development, shared the upcoming trainings that are being provided to community members so that the Pine City Area can continue in the process of becoming a dementia friendly community. Ms. Gilmore also expressed that the Act on Alzheimer’s Team wants to incorporate the entire county into this process in the future. The Act on Alzheimer’s Team will be approaching county leaders in the future to share more about how the entire county can become a dementia-friendly community.

Chair Ludwig thanked all those who presented.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 2:43 p.m.

Matthew W. Ludwig
Chair

David J. Minne
County Administrator