

Minutes of the Health Committee

The Health Committee of the McLean County Board met on Monday, April 2, 2018 at 4:30 p.m. at the Government Center Building, 115 E. Washington Street, Bloomington, IL.

Members Present: Chairman Susan Schafer, Members: Carlo Robustelli, Randall Martin, Laurie Wollrab and George Wendt and George Gordon, Catherine Metsker

Members Absent:

Other Members Present: John McIntyre Jim Soeldner, Jacob Beard, Ryan Scritchlow

Staff Present: Mr. Bill Wasson, County Administrator; Don Knapp, Assistant County Administrator, Jessica Woods First Assistant State's Attorney – Civil Division; Mr. Eric Schmitt, Administrative Services Director; Ms. Julie Morlock, Recording Secretary, County Administrator's Office;

Department Heads/

Elected Officials Present: Ms. Cindy Wegner, Nursing Home Director; Jason Tabb, Interim Director Juvenile Detention Center; Ms. Camille Rodriguez, Administrator Health Department

Others Present: Ms. Cathy Dryer, Ms. Cathy Coverston-Anderson Health Department; Ms. Judy Buchanan Board of Health; Nursing Home Blue Ribbon members: Sonja Reece, Barb Nathan, Doug Brown, Russ Hagan, A.J. Querciagrossa, Catherine Miller, Rose Stadel

Chairman Schafer called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. and declared a quorum.

Chairman Schafer presented the minutes from the March 5, 2018 regular meeting for approval.

Motion by Martin/Wollrab to approve the minutes from the March 5, 2018 regular meeting.
Motion carried.

Chairman Schafer indicated that next on the agenda was an update from the McLean County Nursing Home Blue Ribbon Panel. She introduced the members. Ms. Metsker joined the meeting at 4:40 p.m.

Mr. Querciagrossa thanked the Committee and the Board for putting the group together. He stated that he would be walking through their report but would focus on bigger items including quality measures so they would not be covering the history of the nursing home, background on assisted living, home health, and hospice care and national trends that were in the report. He stated that it is the panel's opinion is the Nursing Home is viable, not necessarily today, but can be sustainable in the future. He mentioned a change in

focus by Government to one that keeps elderly in their homes longer instead of utilizing nursing homes and how that has affected nursing homes in general. Mr. Querciagrossa went over the difference in skilled care and long-term care and Medicaid and Medicare coverage for each.

Mr. Querciagrossa indicated that the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services ("CMS") star rating assigns quality measures on nursing homes across the nation with the intent that families use these ratings to choose a nursing home. He indicated the McLean County Nursing Home's 4 star rating helps as it is the only 4 star in the community with only 1 five star nursing home in the community. He stated that the panel would suggest having someone on staff who focused on marketing for the Nursing Home to promote positives of the nursing home including their high patient and family satisfaction scores. Mr. Querciagrossa stated that staffing plays a big part in the satisfaction scores and usually when use agency staff you see a drop in satisfaction scores, so a testament that those scores have not declined as the Nursing Home uses agency staffing. Mr. Querciagrossa stated there are other positives factors that can contribute to the long-term success including the fact they are the only nursing home in the community to receive intergovernmental payments.

Mr. Querciagrossa stated there are also negative factors including the use of agency staff that can cost up to 30% more, the stigma that the County Nursing Home only takes poor or Medicaid patients, and the nursing home's location next to the Juvenile Detention Center and the old sanitarium and not centrally located. Mr. Querciagrossa indicated the panel feels that a major disadvantage is that the Nursing Home does not belong to an Accountable Care Organization. He pointed out that OSF, BroMenn entered into ACOs in 2013 and 2014, respectively, and after that, you see a decline in census of the McLean County nursing home. He stated that because there is a decline in the census there is a decline in revenue and reimbursement and then issues with net income.

Mr. Querciagrossa indicated the McLean County Nursing Home is the largest licensed bed facility in the County today. He stated the financial forecast for facilities for 2020 indicates the County will be over bedded by 70 beds, and if you take away the 150 then never over bedded. Mr. Querciagrossa cautioned against that as our facility has dual certified beds and other facilities are decertifying Medicaid, so taking away those beds would remove Medicaid beds that are needed in the community and not provided by other facilities. Mr. Robustelli asked Mr. Querciagrossa to confirm we would have an 81-bed shortage if we remove 150 beds. He confirmed.

Mr. Wendt provided information on private nursing home bed availability and Medicaid beds in the community. Mr. Querciagrossa stated the majority of Medicaid beds are at the McLean County Nursing Home and are dual certified. He indicated that all the other homes have dedicated beds and when they are full, patients are not allowed to utilize the home. Mr. Wendt mentioned other homes that have open Medicaid beds. Mr. Querciagrossa cautioned that some of those facilities are not even one star rated while they might be available families may not take them because of the quality of care their family would receive. Mr. Wendt stated he did not feel the name played a part in the decrease in census as there used to be a waiting list because the amenities in the County

home were better than private sector but he believes that is the other way around today. Mr. Querciagrossa stated that he combats this stigma regularly because that stigma is what it is with the discharge planners. He also provided example that Peoria County has a new facility but does not have the star rating so they have similar census challenges. Mr. Querciagrossa indicated that he and the panel felt the bigger challenge for the McLean County Nursing Home census is that they do not belong to an ACO.

Mr. Querciagrossa discussed Illinois is moving to 100% managed Medicaid. He also discussed the Affordable Care Act, which was created to try to reduce the cost of care by moving patients from the highest cost level of care, hospitals to the lowest cost level of care, home health. He stated this Act put the onus on health systems or those who participate in Medicare accountable care arrangements at risk. Historically the health system discharged and you took care of it, but now hospitals have a financial interest to reduce the length of stay at nursing homes. He also went over new models of care in the accountable care arrangement including a three-day waiver that is offered with the OSF and BroMenn Advocate ACO programs. He stated that currently to qualify for the Medicare A benefit or 100 skilled days in a nursing home, you have to stay 3 nights in the hospital, but the government is waiving 3 nights stay in hospital because cost of nursing home care or home health is less. He stated that the McLean County Nursing Home could participate in the Medicare, higher reimbursement, and 3-day waiver because they have to be a three star minimum. Ms. Nathan clarified that you have to be in the ACO before you can qualify for the 3-day waiver. Ms. Nathan stated that a Medicare patient can go to another location but OSF and BroMenn as part of their discharge planning for patients tell families who their partners are, so a benefit for the McLean County Nursing Home to be on that list. Mr. Brown stated that being part of the ACO also brings other services including an Advanced Practice Nurse and a physician in the facility to provide for patients at no cost to the facility.

Ms. Metsker asked why a hospital would have a financial interest and not use a three star facility. Mr. Querciagrossa said they can require nursing homes to do other things beyond being having a three star to be in their network including allowing hospital's advanced providers to come, do rounds, and accept their referrals in a timely manner. He stated they do a lot of Public Relations in the hospital including letting people know they will continue to see physicians from hospitals. Mr. Brown added there are things they monitor for an ACO, so not everyone participating, because they have to meet their standards.

Mr. Robustelli stated the McLean County Nursing Home is in a different situation now as they were not a three star until October of last year. Mr. Robustelli asked of the variables they studied if they felt not belonging to an ACO was the most significant variable for the drop in census over the last few years. Mr. Querciagrossa stated it was. Mr. Wendt asked how many private homes are in the ACO. Mr. Brown stated four for BroMenn. Mr. Querciagrossa that in the B/N market OSF has three. Mr. Gordon asked how they could have four and three in their ACO if we do not have that many with a three star or higher rating in the community. Mr. Querciagrossa said that at the beginning there was not a minimum criteria to be in an ACO. He reminded the Committee that you have to be in ACO and three star to be in the waiver program. Ms. Metsker asked if there would be an opportunity to pursue being in this restricted group and a reason we could not pursue it.

Mr. Querciagrossa and Mr. Brown both indicated they are pursuing relationship with the McLean County Nursing Home. Mr. Querciagrossa cautioned that Medicare only allows them to put the roster in to the system one time a year for the 3-day waiver program. He stated they have to complete paperwork by August so the McLean County Nursing Home could receive first waiver patients January 1st.

Mr. Querciagrossa went to the Financial Proforma and the four scenarios the panel put together. He stated that in the modeling you see changes to Medicare A and private pay beds and the models go up by 10 beds in each one. He said that if we can increase Medicare beds from four to eleven with current operations and turn focus from long-term care/ Medicaid population to rehabilitee and therapy care the nursing home could get those 10 patients as they do exist in the market today. He cautioned there will be the element of turn over. Mr. Querciagrossa went over top three things they felt should happen this year including preferred home with hospitals, getting key marketing person meeting with hospitals and others in the community, and plan for capital funding.

Mr. Querciagrossa stated a capital assessment is needed, as there are cosmetic things that need to be addressed including private rooms, fixing front entrance and updating nurse's stations. He stated that another phase would be a separate wing and entrance for Medicare rehabilitation. Mr. Querciagrossa stated there are other things to consider that could help the nursing home including changing the name of the facility, getting into the community more with clinical education, a medical records system that speaks to hospitals, adding a family advisory committee and an outside advisory committee. Mr. Querciagrossa reminded the Committee that this work will be ongoing and then opened it up for further questions.

Ms. Schafer stated that the State and Molena are slow to pay and owe us a lot of money and asked if there a way to get money quicker. Mr. Querciagrossa stated in their experience it is a lot of work for staff, as you have to be very active and push them to pay per contract, but you can get money from them if diligent, Ms. Schafer asked if it is the same for private pay. Mr. Querciagrossa stated that McLean County has the benefit that when patients exhaust funds through private funding they can move to public aid and remain in the McLean County Nursing Home. He cautioned that you have to be diligent to talk to families up front about cost of care and how long they will be able to pay for those services through private pay so that paper work can be completed ahead of time, so they do not become public aid pending. Mr. Querciagrossa recommended a public aid pending policy. Ms. Schafer asked him to confirm that you can get funds from Medicaid when residents pass. Mr. Querciagrossa stated that yes you can because it is based on when services were provided but you need assistance from family to get paperwork completed. Mr. Brown stated that while they are in facility for skilled care you build a relationship with them, so when they transition to long-term care you have already discussed all the stages.

Ms. Wollrab stated that they suggested that education of the County Board be increased and asked what sort of information the Committee should receive. Mr. Querciagrossa stated reports should provide information on why residents were not accepted, why or why not there are certain managed care providers that County does not participate, readmission rate, and return to ED rates. He also indicated that once you have short term

and long-term plans updates for those plans should be brought to the Committee as well as trends in the market that might affect those plans.

Mr. Wendt stated that Nursing Home stands to lose 1 million to 2 million this year and asked what it will take and how long it will take so nursing home does not lose money. Ms. Reece stated there are a lot of things that need to change including reduction in agency staffing and there will be a need to invest some money, so planning needs to happen right away to determine cost and how long.

Mr. Wendt asked if we keep 150 beds in the County does that discourage private sector from building 150 beds. Ms. Nathan stated that whether the private sector will take on more beds is questionable especially considering that many are decertifying beds. The proformas in here tell you that if you increase by 10 Medicare residents you stop losing money, but you also need to do other things including decrease the reliance on agency staff, change rooms to private rooms and join an ACO. She discussed limiting residents in a Medicare wing so 2 residents share a bath that would decrease census but it will increase revenue per resident. She stated that it has the qualities to be the preferred place but needs to keep up with the changing times. Mr. Brown agreed with Ms. Nathan.

Mr. Wendt again asked how long it would take and asked them to confirm several million loss in addition to capital expenditures. Mr. Brown stated that within a few years he felt you could get to break even phase, but agreed they would need to invest time and capital. Mr. Brown stated that no other facility is going to pick up patients currently in the home as that is not the market other facilities are focused on. Mr. Brown stated that accomplishments this year are going to be limited because you are already in April, but you have to put building blocks in place now so that next year you can start to see the change. Mr. Brown said we are at tipping point because if we do nothing it cannot remain sustainable, however community wants it to exist as it meets a need in the community and panel feels it can be successful. Mr. Wendt questioned that the community would support subsidizing the nursing home, especially if it means raising taxes. Ms. Stadel reminded them that the situation did not happen in a short period of time, but over several years, so it would take time to turn it around. She stated that the private sector is decertifying beds and may not put Medicaid beds in, so we need to consider our responsibility to the frail population.

Ms. Wollrab asked them to confirm that the private sector does not have incentive to put Medicaid beds in place and asked if there is a minimum number of beds, they would have to have. Mr. Brown stated that from a hospital stand point it is difficult to place a patient that will go from a Medicare A to an public aid status because facilities want to turn a patient around and do not want to house for long periods of time. Ms. Wollrab asked what would happen to those individuals who need Medicaid beds if the McLean County Nursing Home is not there. Ms. Nathan said that is a good question because private sector is not going to increase unless payment situation changes. Ms. Wollrab asked where the care for Alzheimer's patients currently stand. Ms. Nathan stated that many assisted living facilities take these residents, and in our community currently has two facilities on the skilled side.

Ms. Schafer stated that she would like to close at this point. She agreed with the suggestion of an advisory committee in 2019 and hoped they would be willing to serve. She stated that she and the Committee appreciated all of the work they had done.

Ms. Cindy Wegner, Director of the Nursing Home presented her monthly reports. Ms. Schafer asked her if she had anything to add from the panel's presentation. Ms. Wegner thanked them and stated that she appreciated all of the work the panel had done and she looked forward to continuing to work with them. Ms. Wollrab thanked her for her efforts with the Blue Ribbon. She asked for clarification on the Admissions chart under reasons for not admitting and if that is because we do not have contracts with some of the insurance companies or because people do not have insurance. Ms. Wegner said the Nursing Home does not have contracts with those insurance companies but are pursuing them. Ms. Schafer asked for reasons that insurers turn down contracting with us. Ms. Wegner stated that two of them have told the nursing home that they have enough providers in town. She said that some of that goes with the belonging to an ACO, so hoping that as we move forward with ACO that will change.

Mr. Martin stated that they do not take convicted felons and asked if it is all felonies or certain ones. Ms. Wegner went over those that would not be accepted, reasons including private rooms, evaluations, pay source and extensive reporting that would be required. Mr. Robustelli thanked her for the work she and the staff had done to provide good care to the people in the nursing home that helped get us to the four star rating which in turn has put us in the position to consider sustaining a nursing home that provides critical care to the most vulnerable population in our community. Chairman Schafer asked if there were any other questions or comments from the Committee on Ms. Wegner's reports; hearing none, she thanked her.

Ms. Michelle Welch, Jail Medical, presented her report for the Adult Detention Center. Mr. Jason Tabb, Director for Juvenile Detention Center presented his report for the Juvenile Detention Center. Ms. Metsker asked about a positive reactor form under TB. Mr. Tabb indicated it is a form they send to the Health Department to indicate someone tested positive for TB. Chairman Schafer asked if there were further questions for either Ms. Welch or Mr. Tabb, hearing none, she thanked them.

Ms. Rodriguez presented the monthly reports for the Health Department. Ms. Metsker said that paper today and a couple of weeks ago had an article regarding scorecard on health in our community. She stated appreciates the Health Department's efforts to improve making the public aware. Ms. Rodriguez stated they have had some opportunities to talk with the press and appreciated her noticing. Ms. Schafer stated that Ms. Wegner has been working with the Health Department on marketing and asked if that could continue. Ms. Rodriguez stated that with the support of Board of Health they would be happy to partner with Ms. Wegner to provide prevention education, visiting for dental visits and several other things to help fill gaps. Ms. Rodriguez reminded the Committee that it is National Public Health week. She also said they should have received the annual report. Chairman Schafer asked if there were any further questions for Ms. Rodriguez, hearing none, she thanked her.

Mr. Wasson presented information on the recent employment activities under the purview of the Health Committee. Mr. Robustelli asked what happens next with the Blue Ribbon report. Mr. Wasson indicated information would go to Board for approval and placement on file. Mr. Wasson stated then Staff would discuss restraints of the budget and actions that Committee and Board could recommend based on that. Mr. Wasson stated they will continue to work with Ms. Wegner to bring things to the Committee and Board for consideration.

Ms. Schafer stated that next month the Committee could look at the direction we want to go, first steps and if those steps would involve discussions in other Committees. Mr. Wasson stated that staff could put together outline of report recommendations that would provide the Committee with some guidance on steps they can take. Mr. Gordon stated that they were going to have to look at the fiscal and administration implications. Mr. Wasson agreed that each element or recommendation may have fiscal consequences, but from a fiscal standpoint, doing nothing is unsustainable. Ms. Metsker asked if they could provide an analysis of current nursing staff salary to determine where we might be able to save agency costs. Mr. Wasson stated they are in the process of obtaining salary survey information but unfortunately, compensation is a challenge seen in the entire community regarding nursing personnel. He stated we need to come up with different strategies to meet current market and work force requirements. He stated that the challenges are not unique but meeting this need in a public sector work plan is

Chairman Schafer asked if there was any other business to consider. She thanked Mr. Schmitt for his help with the Blue Ribbon panel. Ms. Schafer reminded the Committee that the next meeting is Monday, April 30th.

Chairman Schafer presented for approval transfers and bills with a prepaid and fund total of \$812,563.43 for the Nursing Home.

MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT

AS OF 4/1/2018

EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

Health Committee - Nursing Home

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0401	NURSING HOME		\$812,313.43	\$812,313.43
0403	NURSING HOME CRAFT FUND		\$250.00	\$250.00
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			\$812,563.43	\$812,563.43


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Metsker/Gordon to approve bills for the Nursing Home as presented.

Motion carried.

Chairman Schafer presented the bills for the Developmental Disability Board with a prepaid and fund total of \$60,045.35.

MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT
AS OF 4/1/2018
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

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Health Committee - Dev. Disability Board

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0110	PERSONS/DEV.DISABILITY		\$80,045.35	\$80,045.35
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			\$60,045.35	\$60,045.35


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Robustelli/Martin to approve bills for the Developmental Disability Board as presented.
Motion carried.

Chairman Schafer presented for approval bills for Jail Medical and JDC Medical with a prepaid and fund total of \$82,650.72.

MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT
AS OF 4/1/2018
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

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Health Committee - Jail Med & JDC Med

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0135	TORT JUDGEMENT		\$82,650.72	\$82,650.72
			<hr/>	<hr/>
			\$82,650.72	\$82,650.72


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Martin/Metsker to approve bills for Jail Medical and JDC Medical as presented.
Motion carried.

Chairman Schafer presented for approval bills for the Board of Health with a prepaid and fund total of \$433,639.44.

MCLEAN COUNTY BOARD COMMITTEE REPORT
AS OF 4/1/2018
EXPENDITURE SUMMARY BY FUND

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Health Committee - Board of Health

FUND	FUND TITLE	PENDING TOTAL	PREPAID TOTAL	FUND TOTAL
0102	DENTAL SEALANT GRANT		\$26,625.19	\$26,625.19
0103	HEALTH DEPT. - WIC		\$12,318.60	\$12,318.60
0105	PREVENTIVE HEALTH PROGRAM		\$4,510.13	\$4,510.13
0106	FAMILY CASE MANAGEMENT		\$35,232.00	\$35,232.00
0107	AIDS/COMM.DISEASE CONTROL		\$4,748.71	\$4,748.71
0112	HEALTH DEPARTMENT		\$350,204.81	\$350,204.81
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			\$433,639.44	\$433,639.44


COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN

Motion by Martin/Wollrab to approve bills for the Board of Health as presented.
Motion carried.

Chairman Schafer asked if there was any additional business to come before the Committee; hearing nothing, she adjourned the meeting at 6:19 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Julie A. Morlock
Recording Secretary