

**COUNTY HOME ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2005**

Call Meeting to Order

Chair Ken Miller called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. at the County Home with the following Council members present:

Present: Ken Miller, Brian Feron, Randy Bing, Randy Schmidt, Emily Muscatello, Cheryl Scheck, Jo Becks, Craig Enoch, and Phebe Simpson

Absent: Skip Sipos

The following Ex-officio member was present: Lynn Remington - County Home Administrator

Review and Approval of Minutes for 8/31/05

The minutes were emailed out in advance. Ken asked if there were any additions or corrections to the minutes. Emily Muscatello commented that on the top of page three, "It has been stated" should be added to the beginning of the sentence "Many nursing home operators turn their heads, or terminate the employee for some other reason, and these people may go to work at another facility" because she was talking about something she heard in the press. Ken Miller pointed out that the word "addition" on the top of page two should be "additional". With these corrections, Emily Muscatello moved to approve the minutes and Phebe Simpson seconded the motion. All voted AYE and the minutes were approved.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee – Next Meeting November 30, 6:30 p.m.

Ken Miller said the committee has asked Chris Jakab, Finance Director, to attend their next meeting to discuss CH finances.

Policies & Procedures Committee

Emily Muscatello reported that they met earlier. She said the Commissioners' Personnel Manual for all county employees is very thorough. The committee recommended coming up with a County Home supplement to this manual that would cover things unique to the Home such as dress code. They will review other manuals to get samples of wording for Lynn Remington to assess. This would need approval by the Commissioners to coincide with what they already have.

Brian Feron asked Emily to clarify if it would include everything in the county's manual plus the addendum.

Emily said yes, and they could call it the Medina County Home Supplemental Personnel Manual. They would need to have it approved by Gary Berkowitz, Human Resources Director, and the Prosecutor's Office. Policies and Procedures also needed to be updated to cover areas such as maintenance, dietary, etc. She also said the subject of evacuation policies was discussed at a meeting of Ohio Healthcare that she attended. Due to the recent hurricane catastrophe in

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Louisiana and Texas this issue is being pushed very rapidly by the federal government. They are trying to make an evacuation drill mandatory in nursing homes, assisted living facilities, and group homes in Ohio. She is revamping the policies at her work and offered to share any ideas and information with Council.

Brian asked Lynn how she and the bus driver would communicate in the absence of cell phone coverage. He asked if there was any means to contact the driver or if there was a standing rule that they meet somewhere when the tornado siren goes off.

Lynn said their alarm system goes directly to Southeast, which goes to the fire department. They do not have a means to reach the bus driver in the event phone coverage goes out. They do have three vehicles on the premises and could start transporting some of the residents right away to the nearby fire station.

Emily said the FEMA branch is going to do a seminar in late October or early November and she is planning to attend it. She will see what advice they have to offer. She brought up the fact that the places that Lynn has to take the residents to are in the same locale. She suggested that Lynn find backup shelters.

Brian suggested they contact the Wayne County Home and Holmes County Home, which would be out of harm's way and could serve the same population's needs. They could perhaps form a partnership agreement.

Emily said the family members should have prior knowledge of the location where the County Home residents would be taken in the event of an evacuation.

Brian asked about the possibility of residents wearing ankle or wrist bracelets for identification purposes, and Lynn said it is coming to that.

Emily said some places keep identification tags in a box or envelope for residents to use in case of a disaster because residents don't want to wear them on a daily basis.

Lynn said they could come up with something on their computer similar to a state ID with a picture and emergency medical information on it. One of the first things they would grab in an evacuation would be the drug cart. They also have a backup up with the pharmaceutical company and could get medication within 11 hours. Jo Becks arrived during this discussion.

Finance Report

Council reviewed and discussed the financial report provided by Chris Jakab, Finance Director. Cheryl Scheck asked about the higher than usual amount in the Contract Services/Utilities line item. Lynn said it worked out that they paid Ohio Edison two times in the same month. Cheryl commented that they needed more residents to keep the costs down. Ken asked where most

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residents were from and Lynn said most lived close by – mostly from Medina. Ken said the figures show a \$22,000 annual cost per resident.

Administrator’s Report

Lynn Remington said they had five inquiries, two new residents, and one release; the present resident count is 52. They are working with the Lodi Community Hospital’s dietician with menus. They had their annual fire inspection and received no citations. They had the County Auditor’s scale inspection and it was good. They are taking bids to seal the old part of the driveway. From the proceeds of the horse show, Kids Care donated three 13” TV’s, clock radios, DVD/CD players, clothing, watches, hats, t-shirts, a guitar strap, electric razors, a ceiling fan, and a new table setting and flatware for 75. She said the kids asked the residents what they wanted in advance so it was just like Christmas. Kids Care also provided the “Roller Coaster” for the County Home’s BBQ. The 4-H Livestock Sale provided 12 turkeys, 20 chickens, 15 rabbits, one lamb, and one goat. Baker Sand & Gravel provided gravel. Medina Supply provided concrete for the sidewalk to the baseball field. Repairs are still being done due to the lightning storm last summer. They have a volunteer who is a professional painter and he has been doing a lot of work. The yard, the flower gardens, and landscaping in the parking lot area have all been maintained. There were 219 hours of volunteer time donated in August. Some of the residents’ activities this month were attending the fair, billiards, a country drive, bowling, the Litchfield band concert, two fishing parties, the Cleveland Brown’s training camp, a Rotary Club Picnic, Sharon Women’s Club luncheon, backyard bonfire, and church.

There was a discussion about different ways to get a stronger presence in the community in order to get the numbers up. Some new suggestions were an article in the Fabulous Mimi magazine and a sign out front of the Home saying they are accepting residents.

Terms of Office for Members

Ken Miller said in July he proposed a method of dividing up the members into a three-year reappointment cycle. His suggestion was assigning terms by taking the listing as it appears in the Commissioners’ resolution and assigning one, two, and three numbers for the years, but when there are two people for the same group, assigning them to different years. He proposed dividing up the eleven-person Council as follows:

One-Year Term (4 people): Mental Health or Health Care Profession
Job & Family Services
Ministerial Association
General Public

Two-Year Term (4 people): Mental Health or Health Care Profession
Medina Metropolitan Housing Authority
Senior Citizen
County Home Resident

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Three-Year Term (3 people): Non-Profit Agency
General Public
Veterans Services Commission

He said Brian Feron proposed a random drawing and no other ideas were brought in for discussion. Council needed to make a decision tonight about how they would like to fill the three-year slots. The group reviewed and discussed the options. Randy Schmidt motioned to approve the method proposed by Ken and Emily Muscatello seconded the motion. There was no discussion. All voted AYE and the motion carried.

Public Input - none

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:28 p.m. NEXT MEETING = October 26, 2005 – Marketing & Technology 6:00 p.m., Finance 6:30 p.m. (in the regular meeting).

Respectfully submitted,
Pam Vereb, Secretary