

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY, ILLINOIS
MINUTES

NURSING HOME BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Monday, June 9, 2008

**In-service Classroom, Champaign County Nursing Home
500 S. Art Bartell, Urbana**

7:30 a.m.

DIRECTORS PRESENT: Jan Anderson, Peter Czajkowski, Jason Hirsbrunner, Mark Holley, Charles Lansford, Alan Nudo, Mary Ellen O'Shaughnessey

DIRECTORS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Carol Ammons (County Board member), Kat Bork (Administrative Secretary), Andrew Buffenbarger (Nursing Home Administrator), Deb Busey (County Administrator of Finance & HR Management), Traci Heiden (Assistant Nursing Home Administrator), Brendan McGinty (County Board member), C. Pius Weibel (County Board Chair), Darlene Kloeppel (Regional Planning Commission), Mike Scavatto (Management Performance Associates)

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Lansford called the meeting to order at 7:30 a.m.

ROLL CALL

Bork called the roll. Anderson, Czajkowski, Hirsbrunner, Lansford, Nudo, and O'Shaughnessey were present at the time of roll call.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

O'Shaughnessey requested the minutes be more of an executive summary than as detailed as the May 20, 2008 minutes. Busey explained the May 20, 2008 minutes contain the level of detail that is provided in the County Board committees' minutes. The Directors concurred that the minutes should note a discussion is held, but be condensed.

MOTION by Anderson to approve the May 5, 2008 minutes; seconded by Hirsbrunner. **Motion carried.**

MOTION by O'Shaughnessey to approve the May 12, 2008 minutes; seconded by Hirsbrunner. **Motion carried.**

MOTION by Hirsbrunner to approve the May 15, 2008 minutes; seconded by Anderson. **Motion carried.**

MOTION by Anderson to approve the May 20, 2008 minutes; seconded by Hirsbrunner. **Motion carried.**

MOTION by O'Shaughnessey to approve the closed session minutes of May 12, 2008; seconded by Hirsbrunner. **Motion carried.**

Holley entered the meeting at 7:36 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by O'Shaughnessey to approve the agenda; seconded by Anderson. **Motion carried.**

RURAL TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM

Darlene Kloepfel was present because Buffenbarger wanted to talk about working with the Regional Planning Commission to provide rural transportation to seniors. Darlene explained RPC's Rural Rider Program mainly provides transportation to seniors from rural areas into Champaign-Urbana for medical appointments. The ridership is about fifty seniors a year, but there is more demand than RPC has space. Because CCNH has a fleet of vehicles and transports Adult Day Care clients, Kloepfel proposed working out a partnership to use the empty spaces on the CCNH's vehicles when they are transporting in the morning. Buffenbarger stated CCNH has four vehicles and is hoping to obtain another through an IDOT grant. He supports working with RPC. Kloepfel explained RPC had to eliminate rides on Monday due to funding cuts. She described the funding sources for the Rural Riders Program. Buffenbarger volunteered to move forward on this proposal if it will not create any additional expense for CCNH with the Directors' authorization.

Anderson agreed the idea sounds like something worth exploring. In her experience on the Mental Health Board, transportation is always a problem on everyone's list. Lansford asked about the donations from users mentioned by Kloepfel. Kloepfel confirmed the seniors can donate money, but they are not required to nor is any fee charged. The program can pick up seniors at their homes or at central areas.

MOTION by Czajkowski to allow Buffenbarger to look into this collaboration with the Regional Planning Commission on transportation for seniors; seconded by Anderson.

Czajkowski felt acting on this type of proposal would already fall into Buffenbarger purview as the Nursing Home Administrator and he should not have to approach the Board of Directors for every initiative. Buffenbarger stated he brought it to the Directors because it is a new type of business for CCNH.

Motion carried.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE – CCNH

Buffenbarger explained CCNH has been operating at financial deficit for fifteen years and once CCNH depleted its operating and depreciation funds it began leaning on the General Corporate Fund to fund its deficits. Buffenbarger and Busey looked at other county nursing homes that are operating in the black and found the home in DeKalb County. DeKalb County employs Management Performance Associates (MPA) and Buffenbarger described their research into DeKalb County and MPA's organizational structure. He wanted to engage in discussion about the different organizational structure and how it may benefit CCNH. He is looking at any type of solution at this point.

The Board of Directors discussed the organizational problems at CCNH and problems in recruiting private pay residents. Mike Scavatto of MPA spoke about the decrease in private pay for skilled care across the market and the change in focus to develop areas such as dementia care. The Directors acknowledged that CCNH's mission has been to care for those elderly in the greatest need, but a home like CCNH has to attract

enough private pay residents to offset the costs of the Medicaid residents to keep CCNH from being forced to close its doors. Scavatto and the Directors discussed what MPA provides to a nursing home and how the problems at CCNH could be addressed. Scavatto said when MPA works with a client they always look at market demographics and what they can expect for the service area. There are a lot of choices for the aging population depending on how much money they have. Assisted living facilities have increased and it is difficult to assess the strength of the Medicare referral pattern. Scavatto stressed the importance of maintaining contact with hospitals for Medicare referrals. Discussion continued over demographics and CCNH's status. Hirsbrunner acknowledged Medicaid reimbursement is very low and woefully underfunded by the state, so taking private pay and Medicare clients allows CCNH to continue with its mission. Scavatto added there is no question that the State of Illinois will continue with Supportive Living, which is the Medicaid version of assisted living because the state is looking to pay less by paying supportive living expenses instead for skilled care expenses. Czajkowski said there is often a point reached where a person cannot live in an assisted living facility any longer and then may need to move to a facility for memory care. Discussion continued on supportive living and memory care.

The Board of Directors and Scavatto discussed what services and expertise MPA would bring to help CCNH as well as the various issues CCNH is facing including a lack of nurses, accounting problems, and the resident pay mix. Scavatto encouraged the Directors to expeditiously make use of the pro forma that was provided even if they did not enter into a contract with MPA. Anderson asked if CCNH had received MPA's final report on the most recent audit. Scavatto said he gave it to Buffenbarger this morning. Buffenbarger also had a sample management contract from MPA. The Directors requested to look at both documents.

MOTION by Czajkowski to consider a contract with MPA at the next Board of Directors meeting; seconded by O'Shaughnessey.

The Directors agreed that they would consider the information on whether or not to recommend MPA be engaged by the County Board. The Directors discussed having sufficient notice for the next meeting.

Motion carried. The next Board of Directors meeting was scheduled for 7:30 a.m. on Thursday, June 12, 2008. Scavatto exited the meeting after the discussion was completed.

TALKING POINTS FOR JULY BOARD REPORT

The Directors discussed presenting recommendations to the County Board. Nudo explained the resolution approving the \$592,000 loan to the Nursing Home in June has a condition for the Nursing Home Administrator to identify \$300,000 in net operating improvements by August. The County Board Finance Committee wants the operating improvements identified, programmed, and set with an effective date of action. Hirsbrunner said the Board of Directors needed to have definite numbers to the County Board on fixed costs and what effect increasing census would have. Anderson asked if the operating improvements had to be changed this year or next year. Nudo said it was not tied to this year, but was a \$300,000 change over a fiscal year as a goal to work towards. There is a realization that it will not occur overnight. The Directors continued to discuss the MPA proposal.

REGULATORY UPDATE

Buffenbarger stated the Chief of the Illinois Department of Public has agreed to personally review CCNH's appeal at the request of CCNH's attorney in Springfield.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following individuals made comments about CCNH or provided written comments that were read by another person: Joyce Wilkey, James Campbell, Carol Ammons, Nora Stewart, Bob Ward, Marvis Rhodes, Tara McCauley, Rachel Schwartz, Brendan McGinty, Dallas Libka, Tressa Porter, and Sherry Adams. Following public participation, Lansford declared a break from 9:31 a.m. to 9:40 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO 5 ILCS 120/2(C)6 FOR SETTING OF A PRICE FOR LEASE OF PROPERTY OWNED BY THE PUBLIC BODY

MOTION by Holley to enter into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)6 for setting of a price for lease of property owned by the public body. He further moved the following individuals remain present: the Recording Secretary, the Nursing Home Administrator, the Assistant Nursing Home Administrator, the County Administrator of Finance & HR Management, and any County Board members. The motion was seconded by Hirsbrunner. **Motion carried with a roll call vote of 7 to 0.** Anderson, Czajkowski, Hirsbrunner, Holley, Lansford, Nudo, and O'Shaughnessey voted in favor of the motion. The Board of Directors entered into closed session at 9:43 a.m. The Board of Directors resumed open session at 10:05 a.m.

CLOSED SESSION PURSUANT TO 5 ILCS 120/2(C)2 TO CONSIDER COLLECTIVE NEGOTATING MATTERS BETWEEN CHAMAPIGN COUNTY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES

MOTION by Holley to enter into closed session pursuant to 5 ILCS 120/2(c)2 for to consider collective negotiating matters between Champaign County and its employees or their representatives. He further moved the following individuals remain present: the Recording Secretary, the Nursing Home Administrator, the Assistant Nursing Home Administrator, the County Administrator of Finance & HR Management, and any County Board members. The motion was seconded by Hirsbrunner. **Motion carried with a roll call vote of 7 to 0.** Anderson, Czajkowski, Hirsbrunner, Holley, Lansford, Nudo, and O'Shaughnessey voted in favor of the motion. The Board of Directors entered into closed session at 10:06 a.m. The Board of Directors resumed open session at 10:27 a.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 10:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Administrative Secretary

Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.