

COUNTY BOARD STAFF/FINANCE COMMITTEES
July 13, 2011

Call to Order. County Board Staff Committee Chair Podzilni called the joint meeting of the County Board Staff Committee and the Finance Committee to order at 3 P.M. at the Rock Haven Nursing Home.

Committee Members Present County Board Staff Committee – Supervisors Podzilni, Arnold, Brill, Collins, Bussie, Jensen, Kraft, Peer, and Yankee. Finance Committee – Supervisors Beaver, Kraft, and Podzilni.

Committee Members Absent: Supervisors Diestler and Mawhinney (both Finance).

Other County Board Members present: Supervisor Thomas.

Staff Members Present: Craig Knutson, County Administrator; Randy Terronez and Nicholas Osborne, Assistants to the County Administrator; Jeff Smith, Finance Director; Sherry Gunderson, Nursing Home Administrator, and David Sudmeier, Controller.

Approval of Agenda. Supervisor Arnold moved approval of the agenda as presented, second by Supervisor Yankee. ADOPTED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements. Ms. Gunderson mentioned that Dave Sudmeier has been with the County for 35 years.

Approval of Minutes – June 27, 2011. Supervisor Jensen moved approval of the minutes for June 27, 2011, second by Supervisor Arnold. ADOPTED.

Review and Discussion of Preliminary 2012 Budget Projections and Program Information – Rock Haven. At this time Chair Podzilni turned the meeting over to Sherry Gunderson.

At this time Ms. Gunderson went through the history of Rock Haven:

1854: The Rock County Board purchased property at Johnstown Center for the Rock County Poor Farm and Alms House.

1881: The Rock County Asylum opened.

1893: The Rock County Board purchased the Baker Farm (present site) and built the County Hospital and Poor House. This site was more accessible to railroad service.

1894: The new County Hospital opened as the Asylum for the Chronic Insane.

1911: The Poor Farm and Asylum continued to be managed with the inmates doing the bulk of the work. The Facility was known as the County Farm, Poor House, Insane Asylum and County Hospital.

1925: The Alpha Building opened as the “Women’s Residence”. The women worked in the kitchen and laundry.

1929: The Pinehurst Tuberculosis Sanitarium opened.

- 1939: The Beta Building opened as the “Men’s Residence”. The men worked in the laundry and on the farm.
- 1942: The County Hospital had a bed capacity of 247 and the Poor House 80.
- 1944: The chief cook, matron, and wife of the superintendent, went to Pember Clinic for a two-week training course in nursing. These women were responsible for most of the care given to ill patients.
- 1957: The first nurse, a LPN was hired for the County Hospital. Physicians came from town once a week.
- 1961: There were between 42 and 50 employees at the County Hospital caring for 302 patients.
- 1963: After fifteen years of planning and numerous set backs, Rock Haven was built and opened in December 1963 as a skilled nursing home with a capacity of 248 beds.
- 1964: The Beta Building was converted to the active treatment (or “DATO unit”). In later years, it housed the Public Health Department.
- 1970: The Pinehurst Tuberculosis Sanatorium closed.
- 1971: Services expanded rapidly and by 1971, an alcoholism treatment program was established. The Janesville Guidance Clinic officially unified with the county hospital.
- 1972: The Rock County Health Care Center opened on July 3rd with a capacity of 282 beds.
- 1978: A Disturbed Developmentally Disabled Unit was introduced on the HCC’s second floor. That unit closed in November 1982.
- 1985: 31 beds at Rock Haven became Medicare certified.
- 2000: The cost of both facilities became a burden for Rock County taxpayers and on September 28, 2000 the County Board adopted resolutions to downsize Rock County Health Care Center to 180 residents and limit admissions to Rock County residents.
- 2005: Plans were made to consolidate all nursing home beds in the Rock Haven building and to work with the DD Board to transition the ICF/MR clients into the community.
- 2006: The 24-bed ICF/MR unit closed on January 25th.
- 2007: The Rock County Board resolved to reduce Rock Haven to 130 beds.
- 2009: Rock County contracted with Eppstein Uhen Architects to determine whether to renovate or to build a new facility. The County Board decision was to move forward to design a 128-bed facility.
- 2010: The schematic design phase of construction was completed.
- 2011: The design development phase of construction was completed. Currently finalizing construction documents with a goal of September groundbreaking and November 2012 completion.

At this time Ms. Gunderson went over the Rock Haven construction time line. She pointed out the new facility is broken down into four households and all the client’s rooms will be private. Ms. Gunderson informed also that they had input from the residents as far as what they would like to see in the new facility.

The Year in Review: Ms. Gunderson informed the committees that Rock Haven ended 2010 within budget. In February, they had a great annual nursing home survey. Also, at the completion of one year of a three year CMS demonstration project, Rock Haven ranked #1 of the 60 Wisconsin nursing homes in the project for their ability to prevent unnecessary hospitalizations for their residents. Ms. Gunderson credited this to excellent staff.

2012 Budget: Ms. Gunderson pointed out that over the past seven years they haven't used all their budgeted tax levy. The tax levy request for 2012 is \$5,746,483.

The 2012 Funding Projections: 1. Continue to budget to keep 128 beds full daily. Maintain current payer source ratios. 2. No Medicaid rate increase. 3. No private Pay increase. 4. No insurance rate increase. 5. Increase in Medicaid supplemental payment (\$40,000).

The 2012 Budget Plans: 1. No change in staffing patterns. 2. Evaluate all retirements and resignations, carefully before filling positions. 3. Employee contribution to Wisconsin Retirement Fund (savings = \$441,000)

A Final Glimpse of Rock Haven – one party after another: Ms. Gunderson pointed out that they try to provide some fun activities for their residents. They had a royal wedding reception and one of the Rock Haven staff made the cake. She said that every Tuesday staff brings pets in and teenagers from the MECCA Program show them to the residents. They had a dog show this year and every dog received an award of some kind.

Comments and Questions: Supervisor Yankee wondered who would be greeting people in the new facility since there wasn't going to be a receptionist. Ms. Gunderson replied visitors would be able to go to the individual households ring a doorbell and will be let in and out. Her staff would greet anyone coming to the main entrance. Ms. Gunderson mentioned also that master gardeners were growing perennials for the courtyards of the new facility.

Supervisor Jenson wondered what was being done with net assets. Mr. Smith explained that net assets were things such as this building, furniture in this building, etc. The only cash is \$3,500 in petty cash. It's all the assets minus the liabilities. Mr. Knutson explained further that years ago this was in the negative but over time the deficit has been paid off and now in the black.

Ms. Gunderson mentioned that a lot of the items in this building will be put to use in the new facility and will save close to \$1.5 million.

Supervisor Arnold wondered what would be happening with this current facility once the new facility was build. Mr. Knutson replied that it would no doubt be mothballed and see what happens in the future.

Next Meetings: On August 4, 2011 the Public Works Department will be presenting their budget and on August 15, 2011 the Sheriff's Department will be presenting their budget.

Adjournment: Supervisor Arnold moved adjournment at 3:57 p.m., second by Supervisor Bussie. ADOPTED.

Respectfully submitted,
Diane Rabe, HR Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY COMMITTEES.