

Monday, May 9, 2022, at 5:30 p.m., Chairperson Mark Stauber called the meeting to order. The meeting was held in the Board of Commissioner's Room and was a joint meeting with the Human Services Board of the Iron County Medical Care Facility. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited. Roll call was taken with the following members present: Chairperson Mark Stauber, Commissioners Jacob Conery, Patti Peretto and Mike Stafford. Absent: Commissioner Jeff Ofsdahl.

Also present: Administrative Assistant Mary Dalpra, Civil Counsel Steve Tinti and Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle.

Also present from the Human Services Board: Joe Shubat, Board Chair; Board Members Chester Pintarelli and John Archocosky, and Administrator Rob Possanza.

Moved by Peretto, supported by Conery, to approve the agenda. Voice vote, motion carried.

Stauber called for Public Comment three times, with no comments voiced.

The only item on the agenda was "Update on Iron County Medical Care Facility Operations". Both Stauber and Conery commented that they have heard a lot of good things about Administrator Possanza. Stafford asked Possanza to compare private verses state facilities. Possanza used to own and operate a private owned facility (Iron River Care Center). Possanza said it's been a learning curve, working with a board and the financial side is different, i.e., funds and bonds. He also said it's a much bigger facility.

There was a lot of discussion on the liability the county has financially. Pintarelli said the Medical Care Facility was hit hard since Covid. There used to be 180 beds filled and 400 employees. We now have 119 beds filled, due to staffing. In order to break even, we would need to have 140 beds filled.

There was discussion on employee retention and also getting new employees to come and work at the facility, especially certified nursing assistants, LPN's and RN's.

Tinti said there are three financial obligations. One is the Maintenance of Effort millage. That is secure. The other two are bonds that equal \$973,456.80 per year. One is a bond from 2012 for 7.8 million dollars and the other bond is from 2018 for 6 million dollars. If the Medical Care Facility cannot make those payments, there are three things we can do: 1) a millage; 2) the county's general fund; or 3) do nothing and force a levy on all taxpayers in Iron County.

Possanza was asked about the facility's rating and he said that it has improved.

Shubat also said all projects have been put on hold and they are only fixing the necessities.

There was talk about Victorian Heights. All new residents have to get vaccinated and wait 14 days to get in, per the state regulations.

After more discussion, Stauber said he appreciated getting together and getting these updates. Stauber and Conery also gave thanks and praise to Possanza and staff.

Moved by Stafford, supported by Conery, to adjourn the meeting. All in favor. Meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m.

Chairperson Mark Stauber

Clerk/Register Julie Kezerle