

**MINUTES OF THE
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2012

At a meeting of the **Health & Human Services Committee**, held Tuesday, October 9, 2012, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mount Clemens, the following members were present:

Moceri-Chair, Flynn, Frascchetti, Miller, Tocco and Vosburg (ex-officio).

Other Commissioners Also Present:

Brown, Carabelli, DiMaria, Gralewski, Sabatini and Sauger.

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Moceri called the meeting to order at 9:38 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Tocco, to adopt the agenda, as presented. **The Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by Tocco, supported by Frascchetti, to approve the August 14 and August 28, 2012 (special meeting) minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The following individual addressed the Board:

Joseph Hunt, 8306 Stanley, Warren

VETERANS

a) Veterans' Services Department Monthly Report for September

Kermit Harris gave an overview of his monthly report. He then briefly overviewed the following events:

- Michigan Veterans Stand Down
- Veterans' Summit
- Fall Conference
- Retiree Appreciation Day at Selfridge Air National Guard Base
- POW/MIA Ceremony at Oakland Hills Memorial Gardens
- Meeting in Lansing which dealt with VA, Medicaid and long-term care
- Informational Outreach
- VA Vets' Day of Fun at Wolverine Harley-Davidson on October 20th
- Macomb County Council of Veterans meeting on October 30th

Kermit Harris reported that an employee was injured in the office and will be returning today, but on a reduced work schedule. He further reported he is still working with the IT Department on Google issues.

Kermit Harris informed commissioners about House Bills 5251, 5252 and 5253. He went to Lansing and testified; pointing out some problems in the bills. As he understood it, the necessary changes are being corrected.

- House Bill 5251 dealt with burial benefits
- House Bill 5252 dealt with Michigan Veterans Trust Fund
- House Bill 5253 dealt with the definition of a veteran in the State of Michigan

Commissioners Flynn, Miller and Mocerri directed questions to Kermit Harris. Key topics discussed consisted of the following:

- Appreciation of the Veterans' Affairs Commission meeting minutes being included in the Veterans' Services Department monthly report.
- The advertisement billboard located at 12 Mile & Gratiot and discussion about moving it out to I-94, and this being another tool to get the word out to Macomb County veterans about their benefits.
- The progress on installing bulletproof glass in the front office at the Veterans' Services Department.

- Long-term care being crucial and issues the county is going to have to deal with over the next 20 years and having a strong home care program to provide services to veterans.
- Keeping this committee updated on legislation in making sure veterans' needs are being met.
- The possibility of keeping track of how many veterans come in to the Veterans' Services Department once the letter about their available benefits is sent out and it being interesting to see the rate of response and to close the gap on it.
- The possibility of sending another letter or making a follow-up telephone call notifying Macomb County veterans about their available benefits.

MOTION

A motion was made by Tocco, supported by Frascchetti, to receive and file the monthly status report for September 2012, as submitted by Kermit Harris, Director of Veterans' Services Department. **The Motion Carried.**

UPCOMING EVENTS

a) Receive and File Update on Upcoming Events

MOTION

A motion was made by Miller, supported by Frascchetti, to receive and file the update on upcoming events. **The Motion Carried.**

DISCUSSION ON 2013 GENERAL BUDGET FOR DEPARTMENTS THAT FALL UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Chair Mocerri indicated she wants to request from departments a breakdown of their goal success indicators, what plans they have to address opportunities, et cetera. She intends on reviewing each department's proposed budget that fall under the jurisdiction of this committee.

The following departments fall under the jurisdiction of the Health & Human Services Committee:

- Department of Health & Community Services
- Health Department
- Community Services Agency
- Senior Citizen Services Department

- Department of Human Services
- Martha T. Berry
- Veterans' Services Department
- Prosecutor's Environmental Unit
- Community Mental Health Department and Office of Substance Abuse
- MSU Extension grants
- Health grants

Commissioner Flynn suggested using committee meeting reserve dates to bring in the departments and have them give a presentation. He inquired if the Office of County Executive (OCE) intends to be present. Chair Mocerri said she has not reached out to them yet. Commissioner Miller felt the OCE should be contacted as soon as possible.

Commissioner Vosburg said she met with Commissioner Brown and they would like to send a request for information to be provided by a date certain, so it will allow sufficient time to get answers. She thought other committee chairs may want to ask those departments falling under their committee's jurisdiction to present at a scheduled meeting to discuss their department's proposed budget.

NEW BUSINESS

Chair Mocerri noted the Board proclaimed October 24, 2012 as Food Day in Macomb County. She indicated that some of the local farmers markets will be setting up displays before the October 11th Full Board meeting. The Board will be presenting tributes to the owners and operators of the local farmers markets at the Full Board meeting.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

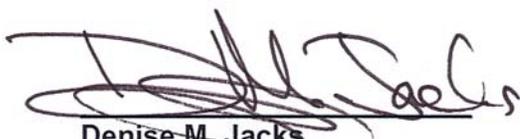
The following individual addressed the Board:

Joseph Hunt, 8306 Stanley, Warren

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Tocco, supported by Frascchetti, to adjourn the meeting at 10:10 a.m. **The Motion Carried.**



Denise M. Jacks
Committee Reporter