



GOODHUE COUNTY MINNESOTA

TO EFFECTIVELY PROMOTE THE SAFETY, HEALTH, AND WELL-BEING OF OUR RESIDENTS

GOODHUE COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES (GCHHS) AGENDA

JUNE 16, 2020 10:30 A.M.

WEB ACCESS: [HTTPS://GLOBAL.GOTOMEETING.COM/JOIN/731862037](https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/731862037)

CALL IN NUMBER: [1 877 568 4106](tel:18775684106)

ACCESS CODE: 731-862-037

VIRTUAL MEETING NOTICE

"Due to concerns surrounding the spread of COVID-19, it has been determined that in-person meetings or meetings conducted under Minn. Stat. 13D.02 a are not practical or prudent. Therefore, meetings that are governed by the Open Meeting Law will temporarily be conducted by telephone or other electronic means pursuant to Minn. Stat. 13D.021."

Goodhue County Health and Human Services Board will be conduct a board meeting pursuant to this section on June 16, 2020 at 10:30 a.m. via GoToMeeting platform. The board and staff will attend the meeting via GoToMeeting by video or phone. The public is welcome to monitor the meeting by logging into <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/731862037> or calling [1 877 568 4106](tel:18775684106) beginning at 10:20 a.m. or any time during the meeting. Access Code: 731-862-037

New to GoToMeeting: Get the app now and be ready when your meeting starts
<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/731862037>

Tips for the Virtual Meeting

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. REVIEW AND APPROVE BOARD MEETING AGENDA:
3. REVIEW AND APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES:

Documents:

[MAY 2020 HHS BOARD MINUTES.PDF](#)

4. ACTION ITEMS:
 - a. Accounts Payable

Documents:

[ACCOUNTS PAYABLE.PDF](#)

5. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:
 - a. Mayo Clinic Health Systems COVID-19 Update
Steve Gudgell, Vice Chair of Administration
 - b. COVID-19 Update
Nina Arneson

Documents:

[6-2020 COVID-19 HHS BOARD UPDATE - OUTLINE.PDF](#)

6. FYI

a. AMC Blue Ribbon Committee- June 2020

Documents:

[AMC BLUE RIBBON COMMITTEE- JUNE 2020 HANDOUT.PDF](#)

b. AMC Letter To Governor And Legislative Leaders

Documents:

[AMC LETTER TO GOVERNOR AND LEGISLATIVE LEADERS RE WAIVERS MAY 7 2020.PDF](#)

c. Pop-Up Food Distribution- SE MN Regional Food Bank And Live Well Goodhue County

Documents:

[POP-UP FOOD DISTRIBUTION POSTER.PDF](#)

7. ANNOUNCEMENTS/COMMENTS:

8. ADJOURN

a. Annual HHS Meeting

The County has been notified about the cancellation of this year's Cannon Valley Fair, therefore, our next meeting will be on July 21, 2020 at 10:30 am via GoToMeeting.

**GOODHUE COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
MINUTES OF MAY 19, 2020**

The Goodhue County Health and Human Services Board convened their regularly scheduled meeting at 10:30 A.M., Tuesday, May 19, 2020, in the Goodhue County Board Room located in Red Wing, Minnesota.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Brad Anderson, Paul Drotos, Linda Flanders, Susan Johnson, Jason Majerus, Barney Nesseth, and Nina Pagel.

STAFF AND OTHERS PRESENT:

Nina Arneson, Mary Heckman, Lisa Woodford, Kris Johnson, Maggie Cichosz, Heather Arndt, Jessica Seide, and Brooke Hawkenson.

HHS Board Chair Drotos asked for a moment of silence in respect for the people that have been affected by COVID-19.

AGENDA:

On a motion by B. Nesseth and seconded by S. Johnson, the Board unanimously approved the May 19, 2020 Agenda with additions to 5a and 6b items.

MEETING MINUTES:

On a motion by B. Nesseth and seconded by N. Pagel, the Board unanimously approved the Minutes of the H&HS Board Meeting on April 21, 2020.

CONSENT AGENDA:

On a motion by J. Majerus and seconded by L. Flanders, the Board unanimously approved all items on the consent agenda.

ACTION ITEMS:

On a motion by B. Anderson and seconded by J. Majerus, the Board unanimously approved payment of all accounts as presented.

Goodhue County Health & Human Services Board
Meeting Minutes of May 19, 2020

On a motion by B. Anderson and seconded by L. Flanders the Board unanimously approved the Proclamation for Mental Health Month as presented by Kris Johnson and Maggie Cichosz.

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS:

1st Quarter 2020 Fiscal Report presented by Denise Withers.
COVID-19 update from Nina Arneson, Heather Arndt, Brooke Hawkenson, Mary Heckman, and Jessica Seide.

ADJOURN:

On a motion by L. Flanders and seconded by N. Pagel, the Board approved adjournment of this session of the Health & Human Services Board Meeting at or around 11:35 a.m.

DRAFT

**GOODHUE COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES (GCHHS)**



REQUEST FOR BOARD ACTION

Requested Board Date:	June 16, 2020	Staff Lead:	Mike Zorn
Consent Agenda:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Attachments:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Action Requested:	Approve May 2020 HHS Warrant Registers		

BACKGROUND:

This is a summary of Goodhue County Health and Human Services Warrant Registers for: May 2020

	Date of Warrant		Check No.	Series	Total Batch
IFS	May 1, 2020	ACH	30686	30766	\$66,162.19
IFS	May 1, 2020		450629	450683	\$36,167.35
IFS	May 8, 2020	ACH	30726	30738	\$18,336.40
IFS	May 8, 2020		450738	450770	\$22,577.02
IFS	May 15, 2020	ACH	30753	30765	\$25,077.11
IFS	May 15, 2020		450804	450846	\$55,415.70
IFS	May 22, 2020	ACH	30766	30773	\$3,178.21
IFS	May 22, 2020		450847	450874	\$9,158.77
IFS	May 29, 2020	ACH	30897	30917	\$4,466.18
IFS	May 29, 2020		451060	451127	\$18,295.59
SSIS	May 29, 2020	ACH	30809	30830	\$57,898.31
SSIS	May 29, 2020		450948	450989	\$170,965.36
IFS	May 29, 2020	ACH	30831	30864	\$5,028.48
IFS	May 29, 2020		450990	450991	\$589.85
				total	<u>\$493,316.52</u>

RECOMMENDATION: Goodhue County HHS Recommends Approval as Presented.

Promote, Strengthen and Protect the Health
of Individuals, Families and Communities!
Equal Opportunity Employer
www.co.goodhue.mn.us/HHS



Goodhue County Health and Human Services Board

6-16-2020 COVID-19 Update

- **COVID-19 Situation Awareness**
Nina Arneson HHS Director
- **Response Planning & Emergency Preparedness**
Heather Arndt, HHS Emergency Preparedness Coordinator
- **Response Operations**
Brooke Hawkenson, Family Health Supervisor
- **Response Communications**
Jessica Seide, Community Health Specialist / Public Information Officer
- **COOP - Agency Responsibilities**
Mary Heckman, Deputy Director



<https://www.health.state.mn.us/diseases/coronavirus/index.html>

<https://co.goodhue.mn.us/1356/COVID-19>

The COVID-19 pandemic changed the world for everyone but perhaps no one more than for our state's most vulnerable. In the days, weeks, and months since the virus hit our state, Minnesota's counties have worked closely with the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) to ensure services are delivered efficiently and safely.

Peacetime Emergency waivers and modifications issued by DHS have permitted county staff to change the delivery method of services without sacrificing service quality by doing such things as conducting client meetings via video and processing enrollment paperwork remotely. Without legislative action, these modifications expire when the state's peacetime emergency ends.

Counties simply cannot flip a switch to pre-COVID practices overnight and need flexibility. Transition time is needed to provide continuity for individuals receiving services, protect the health and safety of employees and clients, and protect the economic sustainability for providers. **We ask the Legislature to pass a "ramping down" of the COVID-19 related waivers and modifications of at least 60 days to ensure that we are transitioning our practices in a responsible way.**

Counties have learned some best practices and believe that a number of the waivers and modifications demonstrate a better, more efficient way to deliver services in a way that promotes the safety of county clients and staff and may have the added benefit of preserving limited state and county budgets. **Counties have evaluated the current COVID-19 waivers, prioritized them, and now ask the Legislature to extend these modifications. This includes:**

- Allowing the use of telepresence to augment client communications across many programs – while preserving public health, clients and staff save time and resources (related to travel) while still verifying all necessary information. This also ensures and expands access for those receiving services.
- Granting flexibility from targeted regulations in areas such as housing assistance programs – continuing this flexibility recognizes that individuals may still need to be absent from housing for extended periods of time related to quarantine or COVID-related treatments.

Counties acknowledge the potential for additional long-term innovation from evaluation of changes in service delivery during COVID-19 and we look forward to ongoing joint examination with lawmakers and agencies. AMC asks for an extension of these limited essential waivers, so safety and access to services can be maintained until they can be reviewed more thoroughly by the Minnesota legislature during the next session.

Counties developed an evaluation process and identified a list of current DHS waivers/modifications, from the over 60 temporarily granted by DHS. COVID-19 will continue to be a threat to public health into the near future and these are key changes to keep in place to protect clients and county staff.

Minnesota counties recommended extending the following waivers:

Using Technology to Support Essential Practices

Allowing county staff to provide services via video or phone has been critical during the pandemic response by guaranteeing adequate social distancing.

Case managers can significantly reduce travel time, save money, and in some cases actually increase the frequency and the amount of contact and support provided to clients. County staff are able to continue to provide service while working safely remotely.

Counties support a stronger integration of virtual visits with face-to-face visits for the longer term.

Several key program areas are:

- Mental health and substance use disorder services
- Targeted case management
- Foster care
- Waiver program services
- School-linked mental health services
- Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention services

Waivers:

Allowing video visits for, health care, mental health, substance use disorder treatment (CV30), targeted case management (CV24), foster care caseworker (CV11), waiver programs (CV15), school-linked mental health services (CV21), and Early Intensive Developmental and Behavioral Intervention services (CV50)

Maintaining Access to Housing and Economic Support

To better protect and serve individuals who may seek medical treatment or need to be isolated after an exposure to COVID-19, two housing-related policies are critical to help maintain housing stability:

- Extending the number of days individuals are allowed to be absent will allow individuals to seek treatment and maintain housing stability.
- Allowing people to move to and maintain services at an alternative setting approved by the department in order to meet social distancing guidelines without losing the needed housing support.

In addition to maintaining housing, the waivers change how Minnesotans apply for assistance through the Minnesota Family Investment Program to reduce face-to-face contact at county offices. The changes allow for interviews to be conducted by phone, which not only increases access for residents, but also improves safety and efficiency for county offices. This also limits the PPE needed for county staff and clients. Counties support only extending the change that allows for remote interviews for MFIP to align with other programs. To promote program integrity, counties recommend electronic signatures for enrollment verification.

Waivers:

Updating absence policy for individuals receiving housing support (CV27), allowing flexibility in housing services to guarantee social distancing and safety (CV38), and allowing application interviews for MFIP to be conducted over the phone (CV03)

Systemic Savings and Efficiencies

Reducing systemic barriers and prioritizing state and local resources is necessary as the state moves ahead.

COVID-19 has interrupted services and staffing for facilities and service providers throughout the state. Extending some flexibility to be sure there is a continuity of services have been needed in the following areas:

- Allowing flexibility for substance use disorder providers helps keep facilities financially solvent, open and accessible for clients.
- Making sure mental health centers are able to stay open and continue to provide services by modifying certification requirements.
- Allowing for an administrative review to determine whether counties should be held financially responsible if there are delays in discharge from state psychiatric facilities related to the pandemic and outside of county control.

Changes allowing counties to be able to prioritize resources within counties to deploy to protect the health and safety includes:

- Extending timelines for certain cases for an initial face-to-face visit would allow counties to prioritize resources around safety. This would apply only when a child has been deemed safe either by already been seen by another professional (law enforcement, hospital) or if the person alleged responsible for maltreatment has no access to the child.

Extending health care coverage for individuals throughout Minnesota is also tied to federal peacetime emergency and enhanced federal funding. We advocate to sync the timelines for preserving coverage and eligibility for enhanced federal funds.

Enrollees of public health care programs are allowed to fill a prescription for a 90-day supply instead of the regular 34-day limit. This decreases client and administrative burden, saves money, and is limited to non-controlled substances.

Waivers:

Modifying certain licensing requirements for substance use disorder treatment (CV45), modifying certain certification requirements for mental health centers (CV64), allowing waiver of county cost when COVID-19 delays discharges from DHS-operated psychiatric hospitals (CV31), modifying certain timelines for certain child protection responses (CV33), preserving health care coverage for Medical Assistance and MinnesotaCare, and allowing 90-day supply of prescription maintenance medications (CV19)

6/10/2020



Association of Minnesota Counties

May 7, 2020

Governor Tim Walz
Speaker of the House Melissa Hortman
Senate Majority Leader Paul Gazelka
House Minority Leader Kurt Daudt
Senate Minority Leader Susan Kent

RE: Continuation of State and Federal Program Waivers

Governor Walz and Legislative Leaders:

On behalf of the Association of Minnesota Counties (AMC), an organization representing Minnesota's 87 counties, we want to thank you all for your diligent work to address the COVID-19 public health emergency. Counties highly regard our partnership with the state.

As we have moved through this public health emergency, counties have adapted our services to protect our employees and our communities, while at the same time balancing the need of residents to access services. We appreciate the flexibility we received in numerous program areas as a result of legislative action and the Governor's Executive Orders. Using this new flexibility, we tailored services to ensure that we were able to meet our residents' needs. These flexibilities will be critically important for months into the future as we continue to respond to the pandemic, even as more businesses and services begin to reopen.

It is not in the best interest of Minnesotans to simply “flip a switch” and return to county business as usual when the peacetime emergency declaration ends. As we transition to the end of the peacetime emergency, county staff will also be required to reduce backlogs in a number of program areas that were rightfully delayed during the emergency. We ask for thoughtful planning to incorporate an extension of all waivers during this transition. Most urgently, we ask that you maintain the waivers in public health and human services.

We see an important opportunity to learn from this experience and provide more effective and efficient services to Minnesotans into the future. We believe these new flexibilities should be carefully examined and some be made permanent. We ask for your partnership in the weeks and months ahead to allow counties to continue operating under these waivers, and then work with us to make the appropriate ones permanent through statute change, rule change, or changes in administrative process. In some cases, we will need your partnership to seek permanent federal waivers.

To this end, AMC has convened a Blue Ribbon Committee on County Government Operations that is reviewing the waivers and other changes in county operations. We will share our recommendations with you on a rolling basis, as we work quickly toward a final report. I have included more information about this committee as an attachment.

We look forward to your ongoing partnership as we all work to provide efficient and effective public services to Minnesotans. Please contact me at 218-343-6153 or rich.sve@co.lake.mn.us or AMC Executive Director Julie Ring at 651-247-9418 or ring@mncounties.org if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rich Sve", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Rich Sve, Lake County Commissioner
President, Association of Minnesota Counties



Blue Ribbon Committee on County Government Operations

Charge

Examine the lessons learned about county government operations during the COVID-19 emergency and recommend continuation of state and federal waivers and county operational changes that provide more effective and efficient service to Minnesotans.

Key Questions

1. What new processes did counties try? What worked and should continue? What didn't work?
2. What work didn't get done during the emergency? What were the ramifications of not doing that work? Are there things counties could/should stop doing because they weren't critical during the pandemic?
3. What did we learn about emergency operations? What can we improve in our emergency plans?
4. Who has authority to make any recommended changes permanent? Do we need state or federal waivers or law changes and/or best practice recommendations for county boards?

Work Plan

The Blue Ribbon Committee will ask AMC's affiliate organizations to review their area of practice and bring lessons learned to the committee for discussion and consideration. The Blue Ribbon Committee will meet one to two times per week through May using video meeting technology to develop a preliminary list of recommendations and actions to accomplish them. The committee's workplan will be organized to first address the most urgent issues that require continuation of state and federal waivers. The committee may continue to meet throughout the summer on a less frequent basis.

Blue Ribbon Committee Members

Rich Sve, AMC President & Lake County Commissioner, Chair
Ben DeNucci, Itasca County Commissioner
Lisa Fobbe, Sherburne County Commissioner
Marion Greene, Hennepin County Commissioner
Stephen Hallan, Pine County Commissioner
Gary Hendrickx, Swift County Commissioner
Sheila Kiscaden, Olmsted County Commissioner
Colleen Landkamer, Blue Earth County Commissioner
Jim McDonough, Ramsey County Commissioner
Susan Morris, Isanti County Commissioner
Lee Rogness, Otter Tail County Commissioner
Scott Schulte, Anoka County Commissioner
Mike Slavik, Dakota County Commissioner
Jack Swanson, Roseau County Commissioner
Dan Wildermuth, Pipestone County Commissioner

Staff Support

Julie Ring, Executive Director
Ryan Erdmann, Member Engagement Coordinator
Becky Accettura, Project Manager



Supported by the Statewide Health Improvement Partnership, Minnesota Department of Health

Southeast MN Regional Food Bank
& Live Well Goodhue County

POP-UP FOOD DISTRIBUTION

FRIDAY, JUNE 19
9:00-11:00AM

You will receive boxes filled with items such as:
produce,
dairy,
protein,
and more!

Twin Bluff Middle School
2120 Twin Bluff Road
Red Wing, MN 55066

Free to anyone experiencing challenges during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information contact David Anderson at 651-385-6148 or david.anderson@co.goodhue.mn.us

