

MINUTES

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present. Commissioners Williams, Fenby, and Tillotson

Also Present: Marsha Kreucher, Tom Houghtby, Gratia Karmes, and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to approve the minutes of the December 15, 1999 meeting Motion carried

II Review Community Action Agency programs

Marsha Kreucher, Executive Director of the Community Action Agency, reviewed the programs and operations of her agency She explained that the Community Action Agency covers Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee Counties They are currently under contract to provide services through the Work First program which is designed to put welfare recipients to work The Work First program has helped 317 adults find a job She reviewed a cooperative program through the Dominican Sisters and the TLC Credit Union to provide automobiles and financing for individuals who are entering the work force Ms Kreucher also reviewed programs offered through the Community Action Agency assisting migrants with training and health care

The Community Action Agency is working with area townships to assist with improving the water system through grant applications and financial aid for tap- in fees

Ms Kreucher also reviewed the food programs and emergency services offered through the Community Action Agency She explained that there are a number of partnerships with other agencies which allow program dollars to be used to their maximum extent.

Ms Kreucher reviewed the individual development account which is designed to provide matching funds for the purchase of a home, business start ups, education and retirement She also explained that child care remains a major issue with assisting individuals in gaining employment

Ms Kreucher distributed copies of a booklet prepared in Jackson County for "Building a Self Determined Community. Checklist for Self-Sufficiency". The booklet developed a community consensus about self-sufficiency to assist the Community Action Agency in evaluating the impact of its programs.

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Ms Kreucher explained that new laws being implemented this year will provide more flexibility to the Community Action Agency on how its funds can be allocated to improve employment opportunities

Tom Houghtby, Administrator for Community Action Agency in Adrian, is scheduled to deliver the agency's annual report to the County Board of Commissioners at the meeting on February 16, 2000 at 1.35 P M Marsha Kreucher is scheduled to review the community needs assessment for Lenawee at the Personnel/Ways and Means Committee on Tuesday, April 11, 2000 at 10.00 A M

III Human Services Council report

Commissioner Williams reported that the Laura Haviland award had been given to Norma Dell, former director of the Lenawee Emergency and Affordable Housing Coalition. Tom MacNaughton gave a presentation at the meeting on the aging population. Also, materials were distributed on dementia issues. A report was given from the basic needs task force regarding housing, food and energy concerns

Tom MacNaughton was scheduled for the next Human Services Committee meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2000 to review issues affecting the aging

IV Adjournment

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to adjourn the meeting at 11.00 A M. Motion carried

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONERS COMMITTEE ROOM

Present. Commissioners Williams, Fenby and Tillotson

Also Present. Tom MacNaughton, Kathy Betzoldt and Bill Bacon

I. Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby, supported by Williams to approve the minutes of the January 19, 2000 meeting. Motion carried.

II. Review Dementia Issues Group

Tom MacNaughton distributed copies of a letter that was recently sent to the Michigan Office of Services to the Aging citing inequities in funding for the medicaid waiver program. The average allocation per region is \$82.13 however, the range varies from \$35.26 to \$220.49. Region 2 which includes Lenawee is at \$44.12. As a result of the very low allocation amount, service providers are very difficult to locate for the medicaid waiver.

Mr. MacNaughton cited statistics in the growth of the over 75 population which has the highest incidence of dementia. Problems are continuing to worsen in dealing with treatment for dementia victims.

Kathi Betzoldt, social worker from the Lenawee Health Alliance, distributed a listing of 21 issues affecting dementia in Lenawee County. She reviewed problems with low incomes, lack of family support and difficulties with insurance reimbursements. She reported that elderly individuals with dementia are being left abandoned at hospital emergency rooms. It is extremely difficult to place dementia victims in nursing homes, adult foster care facilities or with other family members.

Mr. MacNaughton and Ms. Betzoldt explained that the dementia issues group will continue to meet and make the public aware of the growing concerns with dealing with dementia patients.

III. Human Services Council Report

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Tom MacNaughton reported that Gratia Karmes gave a presentation at the last meeting of the Human Services Council on the proposals to bid out mental health services

IV. Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11.00 A.M

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Fenby and Eisenmann

Also Present: Eloise Hosken, Suzanne Keenan, Sharon Hudson, Jenny Wood, and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby, supported by Eisenmann to approve the minutes of February 16, 2000 meeting. Motion carried.

II Review housing grant applications for LEAHC and Family Counseling and Children's Services

Sharon Hudson, Executive Director for Family Counseling and Children's Services, distributed a summary of her agency's grant application to the Michigan State Housing Development Authority (MSHDA) to fund services of the domestic violence program. The grant application includes \$5,000 for the prevention of homelessness and \$26,000 for essential services covering case management. The total grant application to MSHDA is for \$31,000.

Ms. Hudson explained that the Salvation Army is currently conducting a market study to explore possible means of increasing shelters for low income and homeless individuals and families.

Suzanne Keenan, Executive Director of LEAHC, explained that the grant application for her agency includes \$20,000 for the prevention of homelessness and \$11,000 for essential services. The grant applications for Family Counseling and Children's Services and LEAHC total \$62,000. Ms. Hudson and Ms. Keenan explained that the signature of the highest elected official in the County is needed indicating support of the County for their grant applications.

Motion by Fenby, supported by Eisenmann to fully support the housing grant applications of Family Counseling and Children's Services and LEAHC and to authorize Chairperson Eisenmann to sign the applications on behalf of the County. Motion carried.

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III Review services and programs of American Red Cross

Eloise Hosken of the Lenawee Chapter of the American Red Cross explained that March is National Red Cross month. She reviewed the efforts of the Lenawee Chapter to conduct a local fund raiser for its projects. She explained that the United Way funding for the Red Cross has been cut by approximately \$11,000 from last year. Approximately 31% of the Red Cross budget is received from United Way with the balance being raised locally from community donations.

Ms. Hosken reviewed programs offered by the Red Cross including CPR training, HIV/Aids education, first aid training, and babysitting classes.

Ms. Hosken also reviewed the services that are offered to military families stressing that the final decision on the release of servicemen and women is up to the United States military. She explained that the Red Cross does not accept government funding so that it can remain objective and impartial.

Ms. Hosken reviewed the disaster services available through the Red Cross including assistance to individuals and families affected by house fires. She stated that 114 people in the County received assistance during the past year for food, shelter and clothing needs.

The total annual budget for the Lenawee Chapter of the Red Cross is approximately \$350,000. Ms. Hosken distributed literature on a new program being offered by the Red Cross concerning workplace first aid and safety training. Ms. Hosken also explained that the Lenawee Chapter received an award from the state for a 38% increase in the total units of blood that were collected last year.

IV Human Service Council Report

Commissioner Williams explained that the program at the last Human Services Council meeting was delivered by the Salvation Army regarding their survey of the need for an additional homeless shelter in the County.

They also received a report on services offered through private agencies for nursing.

V Other Business

Ms. Keenan explained that LEAHC is conducting a fund raiser on Saturday, June 3 concerning a tour of various historic structures in the County. They are currently seeking

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participants for the fund raising effort. Ms. Hosken announced that disaster training classes will be conducted at the Red Cross on March 30 from 6:00 P.M. until 9:00 P.M.

VI Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 A.M.

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Fenby, Tillotson and Eisenmann

Also Present: Rita Tyler, Ann Hinsdale Knisel and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Tillotson, supported by Fenby to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2000 meeting.
Motion carried.

II Review Project Zero

Rita Tyler, Project Zero Coordinator for Lenawee County, distributed information concerning Michigan's initiatives to encourage and support employment. Project Zero is run through the Family Independence Agency and is part of the state's welfare reform effort. The goal is to reduce to zero the number of target Family Independence program families without earned income.

Ms. Tyler reported that Lenawee County has reached this goal for the past three months. A major objective of Project Zero is that each individual that is not disabled or responsible for young children should have earned income within the past 60 days. As part of their efforts to achieve this goal, the Family Independence Agency has been working on improving opportunities for day care within the County.

Ms. Tyler explained that additional state funding has been authorized for mentors through the Michigan Works program and for additional drivers through the Lenawee Transportation Corporation.

Project Zero also been assisting with automobile repairs and insurance. When necessary, they also assist with the purchase of work clothes and tools.

Ms. Tyler explained that Project Zero is a change in the emphasis for welfare programs away from being considered an entitlement. If individuals quit a job without just cause, they are suspended from receiving any further assistance for a minimum period of 30 days. The objective of Project Zero is to assist individuals to become self sufficient rather than enabling them to remain on welfare rolls.

III Review proposal to transfer MSU Extension 4-H Program Associate position from County to MSU employment

Ann Hinsdale-Knisel distributed a memo regarding a proposal to move the 4-H Program Associate position from County to MSU employment. She explained that they recently received a grant in the amount of \$10,000 from Community Mental Health to provide additional funding for this position. She explained that the change would result in more flexibility in terms of work time with the position being considered salaried rather than hourly. With the additional grant funding, there would be no increase in funding needed from the County for this change.

Motion by Tillotson, supported by Fenby to recommend to the Personnel/Ways and Means Committee that the MSU Extension 4-H Program Associate position be transferred from County to MSU employment. Motion carried.

Ann Hinsdale-Knisel stated that Gordon Wheaton left his position with MSU Extension on April 13, 2000. She requested authorization to lift the hiring freeze to seek a replacement.

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to recommend to the Personnel/Ways and Means Committee that the hiring freeze be lifted for the replacement of a receptionist/technology coordinator position at the MSU Extension Office. Motion carried.

IV Human Services Council Report

Commissioner Williams reviewed the minutes of the Human Services Council meeting held April 13, 2000. Kelly Whitehouse from Lenawee Health Alliance reviewed gaps in services in the area of behavioral health. Ron Hadden also presented information on disabilities sensitivity training. Various committee reports were also presented. The next meeting of the Human Services Council will be May 11, 2000.

V Adjournment

Motion by Tillotson, supported by Fenby to adjourn the meeting at 11:00 A.M. Motion carried.

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, MAY 17, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Tillotson, Fenby, and Eisenmann

Also Present: William Hogg, Kathy Hogg, and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Tillotson, supported by Fenby to approve the minutes of April 19, 2000 meeting.
Motion carried.

II Review operations of Salvation Army

William and Kathy Hogg, captains for the Salvation Army, explained that the Salvation Army began in Adrian in 1896. Salvation Army is best known for its red kettle drive during the Christmas season. Their mission is to provide social, economic and spiritual assistance to those in need. Their primary focus is to help the hurting and hungry. The Salvation Army conducts church services each Sunday and also provides evening meals on Monday and Wednesday.

Other assistance provided by the Salvation Army includes a food pantry, assistance with utility bills, rent and supplying food during emergencies. They are currently conducting a feasibility study of possibly opening an emergency shelter in the County. The study hopes to determine how much a shelter would cost and whether there is public support for the facility. Ms. Hogg explained that grants are available for the construction of a shelter, however funding the annual operating costs is more uncertain. Currently there are no over night emergency sleeping facilities in the County.

William Hogg reviewed the financing of Salvation Army programs. The Christmas fund raising program provides approximately one half to three quarters of the organization's revenue. They will be participating in lawn mower races at the County fair this year as part of an additional fund raising effort.

III Human Services Council report

Commissioner Williams reported on the May 11, 2000 Human Services Council meeting. The program was delivered by Kathy Goetz and Gratia Karmes regarding the Lenawee

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County youth crisis team. Various committee reports were given including basic needs, inter-agency training and community awareness. It was reported that a group has collaborated to write a grant proposal to expand the local health clinic.

IV Adjournment

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 A.M. Motion carried.

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Fenby, Tillotson and Eisenmann

Also Present: Kate Martin, Tom Houghtby, Gratia Karmes, Susann Keenan and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Tillotson, supported by Fenby to approve the minutes of the May 17, 2000 meeting.
Motion carried.

II Review Community Needs Assessment

Kate Martin from the Community Action Agency distributed a packet of information concerning the 2000 Community Needs Assessment conducted by the Community Action Agency in March 2000. She reviewed some of the results of the needs assessment and covered areas such as housing, transportation and income. Ms. Martin explained that 80% of clients seen by Community Action Agency and the Work First Program are females. The age of clients is progressively getting younger.

Some of the issues reviewed by Ms. Martin included health insurance coverage, home ownership and employment difficulties. The top five problems were identified as follows:

- housing
- unemployment
- high cost of groceries
- high cost of utilities
- alcohol and drug abuse

The Community Needs Assessment surveyed Jackson, Hillsdale and Lenawee Counties and comparable data was provided for each county. High rents were identified as a major problem in Lenawee County as well as access to transportation. Other barriers to success that were identified included lack of child care, bad credit, and a lack of job training.

The Committee reviewed the difficulties of maintaining health insurance coverage through medicaid due to income restrictions mandated by the government. Currently individuals face restrictions on earnings and possibly loss of their health insurance should their income increase through their employment.

III Review jail diversion programs

Gratia Karmes from the Community Mental Health Authority distributed the annual report for Community Mental Health. She explained that a task force has recently been established to study possible programs designed to divert individuals with mental illness away from the jail. The task force will study various problems in this area and will provide a series of recommendations to the courts and criminal justice system.

Ms. Karmes explained that one of the contractors used by Community Mental Health had recently applied for a grant that would fund a staff person to help develop jail diversion programs.

IV Human Services Council Report

Commissioner Williams reviewed the Human Services Council meeting held on June 8, 2000. The main program was presented by the Lenawee Intermediate School District concerning the Vo Tech millage. Committee reports were given at the meeting including finance, membership and basic needs. The next meeting of the Human Services Council will be September 14, 2000.

V Lenawee Emergency Affordable Housing Corporation (LEAHC) certification

Susann Keenan explained that LEAHC needed the support of the County Commission in order to apply for a grant for the support of their housing programs.

Motion by Fenby, supported by Eisenmann to authorize chairperson, Lowell Eisenmann, to sign the certification supporting efforts by LEAHC to obtain a grant for their housing programs in the County. Motion carried.

VI Adjournment

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 11:15 A.M.

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, JULY 19, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioner Williams, Tillotson, Fenby and Eisenmann

Also Present: Bill Green, Dick Baily, Dr. Mike Nelson and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to approve the minutes of the June 21, 2000 meeting.
Motion carried.

II Review Emergency Medical Services

Dr. Mike Nelson, EMS Medical Director for Lenawee County, reviewed the current status of providing emergency services within the County. He explained that some areas are served by a private ambulance company, Lenawee Community Ambulance (LCA). LCA serves primarily higher density areas including the City of Adrian, City of Tecumseh, and Cambridge Township. LCA is a nonprofit organization which provides a range of emergency services including advanced life support (ALS) and paramedics. LCA is funded through fees collected for ambulance services. Dr. Nelson stated that approximately 550 calls on an annual basis are needed as a minimum in order for a private firm to provide emergency services in an economical manner.

Some communities within the County have emergency services provided through their fire departments. The Village of Addison and Madison and Raisin Township staff full time fire departments with paramedics that are shared with other units of government. Some of the funding for the fire departments' EMS units are received from public funds.

Approximately twenty fire departments within the County are staffed on a part time basis and provide limited advanced or basic life support services. Dr. Nelson stressed that it is important that a short response time be provided when responding to an emergency.

Dr. Nelson discussed some of the challenges currently facing the emergency medical system in the County. It is becoming more difficult to recruit volunteers to serve in local fire departments. Pay rates are quite low for employees. Various areas of the County are underserved. Dr. Nelson explained that the southeast corner of the County including Riga Township and the Villages of Blissfield and Deerfield could probably generate enough call volume to adequately staff an ALS unit.

Dr. Nelson stated that he would like to see EMS providers within the County follow a "closest unit" concept when responding to needs for assistance. By having the closest available EMS unit respond to an emergency, response times can be kept to a minimum which is crucial when attempting to save lives. He also explained that he would like to see a re-valuation of current dispatch protocols. Dr. Nelson stated that subscriptions provided by EMS providers are becoming obsolete due to Medicare regulations which prohibit their use.

Following review of the County EMS system, Dr. Nelson responded to various questions concerning the operation of the emergency room at Bixby Medical Center. The difficulties experienced with long waiting times in ER rooms were discussed as well as providing adequate staffing levels. Various medical policies and procedures that have led to an increase in the use of emergency rooms were also reviewed.

III Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:35 A.M.

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Fenby, and Eisenmann

Also Present: Christine MacNaughton and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby, supported by Eisenmann to approve the minutes of the July 19, 2000 meeting.
Motion carried.

II Review Communities in Schools Program

Christine MacNaughton, Director of the Lenawee Communities in Schools Program, explained that their organization was incorporated as a non-profit in 1996. She explained that Communities in Schools is a national organization that was started originally in Harlem as a means of using community resources to assist students to stay in school and further their education. Ms. MacNaughton stated that Communities in Schools connects community resources with the schools to provide opportunities for children in Lenawee County to succeed.

Ms. MacNaughton explained that the initial efforts of Communities in Schools was focused on the Madison School District. Family therapy programs were brought into the school to function during the school day. Family counselors and representatives from the Family Independence Agency were present at the school over a six to eight week period. Counselors worked with individuals and groups in areas of self esteem, anger management, and conflict resolution.

Ms. MacNaughton stated that the intent of Communities in Schools is to collaborate with existing agencies and offer resources of the community to assist with educational efforts in schools. For the upcoming school year, they are focusing on the Britton school district. An after school program is being developed that will provide enhanced educational opportunities for students.

Ms. MacNaughton stated that Communities in Schools is more of a process as opposed to a formal program. She hopes to assist schools and agencies to obtain grants to assist them in supporting their own Community in Schools program. She distributed information on Communities in Schools of Lenawee and answered several questions from the committee.

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III Adjournment

Motion by Eisenmann, supported by Fenby to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 A.M. Motion carried

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Tillotson, Fenby and Eisenmann

Also Present: Howard Brooket, Bill Green and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to approve the minutes of the August 16, 2000 meeting.
Motion carried.

II Review Veteran's Affairs programs

Howard Brooket, Veteran's Affairs Director, distributed information concerning services available to veterans in Lenawee County. He explained that the primary function of the County Department of Veteran's Affairs is to assist veterans and/or dependents in obtaining various federal, state and county benefits. Mr. Brooket explained that in fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, veterans and their families in the County received \$5,130,117 in benefits through various programs. The total number of veterans in the County is 8,066.

Mr. Brooket reviewed the timetable established to provide veterans benefits and also covered various provisions of the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund. He provided an overview of disability pension benefits that are available to veterans.

Educational benefits available to eligible veterans were discussed. Other veterans programs reviewed were vocational rehabilitation benefits, survivors and dependents' educational assistance and benefits for incarcerated veterans.

Mr. Brooket explained the transportation network set up through the Disabled American Veterans(DAV). The van that was recently purchased provides free transportation to the Veterans Administration Medical Center. Appointments need to be between the hours of 10:00 A.M. and 2:00 P.M. Mr. Brooket explained that the DAV is storing the van behind the State Police post on M 52.

Mr. Brooket distributed a booklet provided by the state explaining eligibility for veterans benefits and various offices and officials that can be contacted for further information.

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III Human Services Council report

Commissioner Williams explained that the Human Services Council met on September 14, 2000. Programs were provided by JoAnn Norman from Head Start and Deb Wade from Adrian Community Nursery. Various committee reports were given and plans were discussed for displays at the upcoming Expo to be held in October.

IV Other Business

Commissioner Williams read a note received from Christine MacNaughton thanking the committee for allowing her to give a presentation on the Communities in Schools program at last month's committee meeting.

V Adjournment

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to adjourn the meeting at 10:50 A.M. Motion carried.

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 18, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Fenby, Tillotson and Eisenmann

Also Present: Andy Kator, Bill Green and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2000 meeting. Motion carried.

II Review operations of Social Security Administration

Andy Kator, District Manager for the Social Security Administration in Adrian, reviewed benefit provisions of social security programs. He reported that social security benefits are scheduled to increase 3.5% effective January 2001.

Mr. Kator explained that there are eleven employees working out of the Adrian office. There are approximately 11,000 retirees receiving benefits in the County plus an additional 1,200 dependents of retirees who also receive benefits. Survivor's benefits are received by 2,675 individuals within the County. There are approximately 1,800 recipients of Social Security disability benefits.

Mr. Kator explained that it takes less than ten days to process claims for retiree and survivor's payments. The average amount of time to process disability claims is four months. Mr. Kator reviewed the requirements for supplemental security income (SSI) benefits. These are provided to individuals with low incomes. There are 125 individuals 65 years and over receiving benefits plus an additional 1,500 disabled individuals. Recipients of SSI payments must have an income of \$512 or less per month.

Mr. Kator reviewed the change in the social security law effective April 2000 which removes the penalty for earnings for social security recipients who have reached regular retirement age which is currently 65. At the present time the average monthly social security benefit is approximately \$800 with a maximum benefit of \$1,400.

Mr. Kator explained that the Social Security Administration is making more use of the internet to file claims and keep participant statements up to date. They are currently in the process of sending statements out to all participants in the social security system.

Mr. Kator reviewed training programs that are conducted for social security employees

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via interactive satellite broadcasts. He also reported that the Social Security Administration is currently conducting a review of all disability claims.

III Human Services Council report

Commissioner Williams reported on the meeting held October 12, 2000. Sue Courtright from the Lenawee United Way and Volunteer Center reviewed the programs and operations of her agency. Items covered included the Youth Council, Make a Difference Day, and Project Ramp. Committee reports were also received. An inter-agency training session is scheduled for Thursday, December 14, 2000 from 8:00 A.M. to 12:00 noon at the Stubnitz Environmental Center. Nominations are currently being accepted for the Laura Haviland award.

IV Adjournment

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to adjourn the meeting at 11:05 A.M. Motion carried.

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Fenby, Tillotson and Eisenmann

Also Present: Jae Guetschow, Commissioner-elect Dick Bailey and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby, supported by Williams to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2000 meeting. Motion carried.

II Review Volunteer Services and Food Bank

Jae Guetschow explained that he was the volunteer services coordinator for the Family Independence Agency and also served as the contract administrator for agreements with private agencies.

Mr. Guetschow also explained that he is also the chair of the Basic Needs Task Force which was established by the Human Services Council. The Basic Needs Task Force evaluates the availability of the essential needs of people including food, housing and utilities. They have been instrumental in helping to establish programs in the County such as Habitat for Humanity and the Lenawee Emergency and Affordable Housing Coalition.

Mr. Guetschow reviewed the operation of food pantries in the County. Despite the recent period of low unemployment, there has been a substantial increase in demand for the food pantries. Mr. Guetschow explained that over the past few years the number of families receiving direct cash assistance has declined from 1600 to 400. While many of these families now have earned income, it is difficult to make ends meet through lower wage jobs. Another factor contributing toward the increased usage of food pantries is the high cost of rent within the County.

Mr. Guetschow distributed a list of food pantries located throughout the County and explained that Lenawee County uses the Battle Creek regional food bank to obtain food supplies. The food is available free of charge, however handling costs are assessed. The recent "empty bowls" campaign raised approximately \$30,000 which will be used to obtain large amounts of food.

There was general discussion regarding the provision of services to meet the basic needs

of individuals and families.

III Human Services Council Report

Commissioner Williams reported that the Human Services Council recently conducted their monthly meeting at Vo Tech. A program was presented by the Lenawee Dental Clinic which is also scheduled for a presentation at next month's Human Services Committee. Scott Oliver, Gypsy Moth Coordinator, is also scheduled for a presentation at next month's Committee meeting.

IV Adjournment

Motion by Fenby, supported by Tillotson to adjourn the meeting at 10:55 A.M. Motion carried.

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HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2000 - 10:00 A.M. COMMISSIONER'S COMMITTEE ROOM

Present: Commissioners Williams, Fenby, Tillotson and Eisenmann

Also Present: Scott Oliver, Dr. John Hall, Dennis Pelham and Bill Bacon

I Approval of Minutes

Motion by Fenby supported by Tillotson to approve the minutes of the November 15, 2000 meeting. Motion carried.

II Review operations of Lenawee Dental Clinic

Dr. John Hall reviewed the establishment and operations of the Lenawee Dental Clinic. He explained that the dental clinic was designed to meet the needs of those that are underserved in the County. Approximately four to six years of planning and preparation went into the creation of the dental clinic. In June 2000 the first patients were seen. Today, there are approximately 1,000 patients receiving services at the Lenawee Dental Clinic.

Dr. Hall explained that during the first six months of operation, setting up and becoming familiar with the computer operations was the biggest challenge. Various difficulties were encountered with wiring and software which have largely been corrected at this time.

The Lenawee Dental Clinic provides general dentistry services including cleaning, extractions, restorative services, root canals and crowns. They provide services to medicaid eligible adults and children, the Delta Dental program for children and private pay patients. The clinic is designed to be self sustaining and is unable to provide free services. Many organizations provided funding for the start up costs of the dental clinic.

Dr. Hall reviewed some of the funding problems encountered by the Lenawee Dental Clinic including low medicaid reimbursements and problems with processing necessary forms. Dr. Hall also explained that it is less expensive to refer patients for denture work to a clinic in Toledo.

Dr. Hall distributed business cards and pamphlets on the Lenawee Dental Clinic to the

committee. He explained that rates charged at the Lenawee Dental Clinic are discounted from customary fees charged by other dentists.

III Review status of Gypsy Moth program

Scott Oliver, Gypsy Moth Coordinator, distributed copies of a report covering the suppression program for 2000. In 2000, 673 acres were sprayed in Lenawee County with the cooperation of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and the US Forest Service. The land included 1,325 property owners in seven different townships. Total expenses for the year to date are \$35,463.78. Government grants covered \$16,480.30, property owner collections were \$15,687.69 leaving a short fall of \$3,295.79 which has been covered through a transfer from the building and site fund account of \$5,000.

Mr. Oliver explained that the gypsy moth problem appears to be under control for the next year. However, gypsy moth infestations usually run in two to three year cycles. It would be possible to conduct a private spraying program next year. Mr. Oliver estimated that salary and budget costs for a private spraying operation would be approximately \$23,000. The balance remaining in the County's gypsy moth fund account is \$5,000 which could be applied for 2001 expenses.

Mr. Oliver explained that various grants may be available to assist with financing some of the costs for a gypsy moth suppression program.

Motion by Tillotson, supported by Fenby to request that Gypsy Moth Coordinator Scott Oliver gather information regarding financing of a gypsy moth spraying program in 2001 and the potential availability of grants and that this matter be referred to the January 2001 Personnel/Ways and Means Committee for further review and consideration. Motion carried.

IV Human Services Council report

Commissioner Williams reported that there was no meeting in December of the Human Services Council.

V Adjournment

Motion by Tillotson, supported by Fenby to adjourn the meeting at 11:10 A.M. Motion carried.