FOR APPROVAL

DATE: May 1, 2008

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:
   R. Speed, Chair, A. Bailey, C. Bailey, W. Cole, V. Giacalone, L. Keller, P. Saddington, G. Scruggs, O. Taylor

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:
   B. Winiarski, B. Hennessy

MANAGEMENT STAFF PRESENT:
   D. Russell, S. Mason, J. De Lay

The meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m.

Agenda Item I – Public Participation
Darlene Simonds, Teamster Chief Steward, addressed the Board about the proposal to change current retiree health benefits.

Jacqueline Bridges, Dennis Lee, Larry Smith, Robert McLuckie, Anita Anderson, Cynthia Williams, Wil Badon, Countess Cable, Karen Ellis, all CMH Retirees, voiced concerns about the changes that were made in November without ample notification, proposed changes that will cost the retirees more money to keep their benefit, and the possibility of instituting a Retiree Advisory Council before any additional changes are considered.

Mike Vizena submitted a written statement to the Board.

Lori Hamilton, AFSCME Chapter Chair addressed the Board (written statement on file with minutes).

Agenda Item II – Proposed Changes to Retiree Healthcare
Mr. Russell stated that the time frame requiring a quick determination is needed because very little time was provided to CMH when the County made the decision to not include CMH personnel in insurance ratings. If a determination is not made for this open enrollment period, changes can not be made until next year. Open enrollment occurs in May and November, however due to the changes happening so fast will be able to extend open enrollment to July 1st.

Mr. De Lay reviewed what changes could be made to address the concerns addressed at last week’s Board meeting. The plans continue to be different for non-Medicare and Medicare-eligible individuals. It was noted that Medicare does not allow a high deductible plan. The Agency is investigating self-insuring medications. HealthPlus does not offer a health advantage plan and their high deductible plan still has some problems. No other vendors except HealthPlus and Blue Cross have been sought.
The Board asked if PA 106 has any ramifications if bids are not sought from vendors. This public act was enacted October, 2007. Mason and De Lay said they did not think it applies, but will review again.

*(Resolution #05-016-08)*

A. Bailey moved, Scruggs seconded the motion to suspend Robert’s Rules of Order at this point to take questions from the public.

MOTION CARRIED

It was suggested that the Agency look at options through the Unions. Clarification was provided on PA 106 related to bidding out of insurance. If retirees have to pay for benefits can HealthPlus be offered. Retirees would like access to the current employee plans (this information will be sent). As a CMH group, the claims history is high which were causing the County’s group rating to be high. The information on the percentage of current staff that opted out of post-employment health benefits is not available yet. When new insurance products are available, open enrollment may be offered at different times. There were comments about the short notice being provided on changes. There were also concerns about individuals who can not take generic medications and how this change will dramatically affect their ability to pay. The proposed changes can cause a hardship on retirees who no longer live in the area/State.

*(Resolution #05-017-08)*

A. Bailey moved, Scruggs seconded the motion to create a Retiree Health Care Ad-Hoc Committee to be made up of 1 Board member, 1 Administrator, Sheila Mason, Jeff De Lay, 1 member from each of the bargaining units, 1 CMH retiree, 1 representative from Blue Cross, George Martini and Jack Witt and to report to the Board of Directors by the 7th of May with a recommendation.

MOTION CARRIED

The Board of Directors will hold another meeting on Wednesday, May 7, 2008 at 4:00 p.m.

**Agenda Item III – Other**

Judy Shultz will send information on PA 106 to Jeff De Lay.

Adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Submitted by: Suzanne Warth, Executive Assistant