Social Programs Committee Minutes November 14, 2017 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Dick Lucia; Supervisors Phil Barrett, Jean Raymond and Kevin Tollisen; Spencer Hellwig, Chad Cooke, County Administrator; Steve Dorsey, County Attorney; Judy Dahoda-Taylor, Aging; Tina Potter, Social Services.

Chairman Lucia called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

On a motion made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Tollisen, the minutes of the July 12, 2017 meeting were approved unanimously.

A motion was made by Mr. Tollisen, seconded by Mrs. Raymond, to authorize the 2018-2019 annual implementation plan and 2018 subcontracts for the Office for the Aging. Unanimous.

Mrs. Dahoda-Taylor said that the Office of the Aging is currently is year 3 of a 4-year plan. They assess the needs of the elderly, its population and trends to complete the funding process. The subcontracts go along with their AIP Plan.

Mrs. Potter gave an overview of the Home Energy Assistance Program for the 2017-2018 year. The program opened on November 13 and is scheduled to be open through March 15, 2018 depending on funding. There are three components to the HEAP Program. The regular benefit amounts are remaining the same with the exception of propane, fuel oil and kerosene which has increased from \$575 to \$675. The benefit amount for wood coal or pellet stove is \$525 and heat which is electric or natural gas is \$350. The income guidelines have also increased. For example, a family of four can have a gross monthly income of \$4,457. Individuals who are in receipt of temporary assistance SNAP automatically receive a benefit for HEAP. An early mail out was sent out in August for households that contain a vulnerable member, either a member 60 years of age or older, certain individuals that are disabled or children under 6 years of age.

The second component is for the repair or replacement of furnaces and is currently open. Repairs up to \$3,000 or replacements up to \$6,500. The third component, emergency Component will open January 2^{nd} . For an emergency, the individuals would have to have less than \$2,000 in resources, less than $\frac{1}{4}$ tank of fuel or a utility disconnect.

On a motion made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mrs. Raymond, the meeting was adjourned unanimously.

Respectfully submitted, Therese Connolly Deputy Clerk of the Board