

Social Programs Committee Minutes
November 13, 2012 – 3:30 p.m.

Present: Chairman Lucia; Supervisors Barrett, Collyer, Veitch, Yepsen, and Jenkins; Ryan Moore, Mgmt. Analyst; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; Tina Potter, Social Services; League of Women Voters.

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

On a motion made by Mr. Collyer, seconded by Mr. Barrett the minutes of the September 10, 2012 meeting were approved unanimously.

Mrs. Cross requested a resolution to authorize the 2013 – 2014 Annual Implementation Plan and subcontracts. A handout was distributed to all committee members with regard to the 2013 subcontracts. Mrs. Cross said there were no changes to the contractors or the prices.

A motion was made by Mr. Barrett, seconded by Mr. Collyer to approve the 2013-2014 Annual Implementation plan and 2013 subcontracts. Unanimous.

Mrs. Cross requested a resolution to authorize the Chairman to enter into a contract with Prestige Services for 2013-2016. The contract went out to bid to five bidders with only one bid received from Prestige at a price of \$6.20 per meal. Mrs. Cross said she is currently paying \$4.62 per meal. She said this is an increase, but looking historically back over the prices from before, there was a less than a 75% raise over four years. Mrs. Cross said within the ISEP funding stream, although it pays for homecare, it can pay for ancillary services. She said additionally they received more EISEP money because of the census because the senior population has grown by more than 10%, and the State money is distributed according to population. Mrs. Cross said the shortfall from what was projected and the actual price was approximately \$215,000. She said with the EISEP money and the 25% cost share that goes with it, we are eligible for approximately \$225,000. Mrs. Cross said this is a four year contract and the rates will be decided on a consumer price index that will be posted on August 15th.

A motion was made by Ms. Yepsen, seconded by Mr. Veitch to approve a four year contract with Prestige Services to provide meals for the Elderly Nutrition Program. Unanimous.

Mrs. Potter gave a brief overview of the Home Energy Assistance Program stating that the Home Energy Assistance Program will be opening on Monday, November 19th for regular benefits. The emergency benefits will open on January 2, 2013, with the program closing for the year on March 15, 2013.

Mrs. Potter said the statewide funding projection is \$303 million as compared to last year's \$375 million for the HEAP season. Until the HEAP program is operational, any homes or individuals who are facing any type of energy related crisis can apply directly to the emergency

program. Once the program does open regular applications will be accepted on a walk in basis Monday thru Friday 9:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. Mail in access will be provided for people who have either received benefits last year or they have elderly or vulnerable population or a child less than six years of age. Food Stamps for the temporary assistance households who are already on those programs will automatically receive a benefit. Mrs. Potter said the benefits this year for Oil, Kerosene and Propane will be \$600 to \$650; Electric or Natural Gas will be \$400 to \$450; Wood, Coal or Pellets will be \$500 TO \$550.

Mrs. Potter said the HEAP program has an emergency repair or replacement for furnace repair or replacement. The limit for repairs is \$3,000 for the calendar year and a replacement can only be once in a ten year period for a total of \$6,500.

On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Collyer the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,
Chris Sansom