VALLEY HI COMMITTEE
McHenry County Valley-Hi Nursing Home
2406 Hartland Rd.
Woodstock, IL 60098

MINUTES OF THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2005

Chairman Zierer called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Mary Lou Zierer, Chairman; Rick Klasen; Perry Moy; Sandra Salgado; Dan Shea and Marie Chmiel. Barbara Wheeler arrived at 9:22a.m. Also in attendance: Peter Austin; County Administrator; Ralph Sarbaugh, Associate County Administrator-Finance; Tim Wenberg, Valley Hi Administrator; Cathy Link, Purchasing; John Hadley, Building Operations; and the press.

Mary Lou Zierer, Chairman

Marie Chmiel	Richard Klasen
Perry Moy	Sandra Salgado
Dan Shea	Barbara Wheeler

MINUTES

Committee members reviewed the committee minutes of October 6, 2005. Ms. Chmiel made a motion, seconded by Mr. Klasen, to approve the minutes of October 6, 2005 as presented. The minutes were approved as submitted, with a unanimous voice vote.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

PRESENTATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

New communication/telephone system for new facility – Discussion (T. Wenberg): Committee members entered into discussion regarding the telephone/communication system at Valley Hi. He stated that the telephone and communication system was not budgeted for the new facility. Mr. Wenberg requested permission for Mr. Sullivan to research products that will be compatible with the County for placement in the new building. He stated that in the current facility, residents must be taken to the phones to place or receive a call. Cell phones will be purchased for the residents use in the new facility. He stated there will also be cell phones purchased for use by some of the nursing staff. Committee members questioned whether there is a policy regarding the use of phones at the facility. Mr. Wenberg stated that residents are allowed unlimited incoming calls, but, outgoing calls are monitored. He stated that outgoing calls are limited to surrounding states. Pay phones are available for use by staff members. Committee members questioned how the system would be paid for if it has not been budgeted for. Mr. Austin assured committee members that the funds would come out of the County budget but did not know which line item would pay for the equipment at this time. Committee members gave Mr. Wenberg permission to have the Information Technology department research Telephone/Communication systems for purchase for the new Valley Hi facility.

Aviary – Discussion (J. Hadley): Committee members entered into discussion regarding the possible location of the aviary at Valley Hi. Mr. Hadley noted that he has had some discussions with the architect and provided some suggestions to committee members. Committee members noted that the aviary could not be located near the front lobby because of temperature issues from people entering and leaving the facility. Mr. Wenberg stated that it could not be placed in the dining area. Mr. Hadley stated that the aviary could be placed anywhere there is an outlet available and if an outlet it needed, his staff would be able to provide this for placement of the aviary. It was noted that at the nursing homes that were visited that had an aviary, it was placed in the multi purpose room or living room. It was noted that a decision is not needed at this time and this could be decided after the facility was built.

Ms. Wheeler arrived at 9:22a.m.

Stained glass selection/review (J. Hadley): Committee members were informed that the Valley Hi Foundation voted to donate up to $2,000 for the stained glass panels for placement at Valley Hi. Some of the Foundation members stated that a company in McHenry may be willing to donate the panels to Valley Hi and would research this possibility. Dimensions of the panels would be provided by SAS for these panels. Committee members questioned why SAS had not attended today's meeting. It was noted that they had not been asked to

attend and that they have been attending the job site on a regular basis. It was noted that the architect has a job to do and part of the job does not include attending the monthly meetings. Mr. Wenberg stated that there is requirements of the type of glass that could be used in the facility. Committee members stated that Mr. Hadley should work with the architect to figure out what is best for the facility and whatever is decided would be okay with committee members.

Chairman Zierer stated that at the foundation meeting they had a drawing of the facility that was available for view. She questioned whether that type of drawing would be available for the Valley Hi committee members. Mr. Hadley stated he has not seen these drawings but would see about providing something to committee members. She noted that by looking at these drawings it was determined that the ice cream parlor would be larger that the chapel/mediation room. She stated this is unacceptable. She noted that previous discussions stated that the wall between the chapel/mediation room was to be a moveable wall to make the room larger if needed. Mr. Hadley stated that in order to have moveable walls, a change order would be needed, with an additional cost above $30,000. He stated that moveable walls are very heavy and would needed additional weight bearing beam placement to hold the walls. It was noted that most elderly have some sort of religious faith and it would be nice if the room could be made larger if needed. Mr. Moy stated that there have only been a few change orders for the facility and recommended John work with the architect to look into options and bring back these options and cost estimates for review by the committee. It was noted that now is the time to make decisions as changes are easier, before the facility is built. It was noted the architects will know what type of wall would and would not be approved by the State. Committee members noted that project updates should be provided to this committee on a regular basis.

OLD BUSINESS
None

EXECUTIVE SESSION
None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE
Valley Hi Administrator's Report: The Administrator's report was presented by Mr. Wenberg which included the October and November Valley-Hi census and a commendation for years of service by long-term employees. Mr. Wenberg highlighted the long term employment of Murph Wilcox of 43 years. He noted it is wonderful to see the commitment of some of his employees. Committee members stated that she should be recognized for her dedication and suggested that a Valley Hi Committee meeting be held at Valley Hi so some of the residents could attend and thank her for her service as well. Committee members were reminded that there are some staff has questioned why they don't qualify for the incentive program as well. Mr. Sarbaugh stated that this program was not offered to everyone because of the unique issue of the agency staff versus nursing staff needs. Committee members questioned whether the pay scale of these other departments are in line with what should be for the area and suggested Human Resources research this issue. Committee members directed the Human Resources department to review the pay scale of entry level staff at Valley Hi for dietary, housekeeping and laundry workers at Valley Hi. Committee members noted that employees also have to realize the overall benefit costs they are receiving as well.

Construction Update: Mr. Hadley provided pictures to committee members of the construction site. He noted that they have made tremendous progress and is hopeful that the building to be under-roof by the end of December. A mock room is being built in order to determine where the locations for lights, outlets, call buttons; etc should be placed in the rooms. He stated that occupation may be seen as early as July or August.

Volunteer Program: Mr. Moy stated that he is working with Mr. Wenberg on a volunteer program for the facility and will provide an update in the future. It was noted that Human Resources is working on a county wide volunteer policy.

Valley Hi Quarterly Financial update: No report. Mr. Sarbaugh stated he would provide this in their boxes before the County Board meeting. He informed committee members that the incentive program ended last Friday. He stated he would review the numbers to see the hours saved and to see if the program is working. He noted a decision would then be made whether the program should be continued.

Report on Undergarments: Chairman Zierer reported that because of a recent request, an additional purchase for undergarments was made for the residents. She stated that there is still $1,200 left in this account when needed.

Report on Rodeo: Chairman Zierer reported that a donation of $5,345 was received from the Rodeo for a possible sun room.

MEMBERS COMMENTS

Chairman Zierer reminded committee members that last Christmas the committee members purchased gifts for those residents at Valley Hi that do not have any family. She noted there are six residents this year. She will be donating stamps so these residents could send out Christmas Cards. She requested that committee members pick a person to purchase gifts for Christmas. She suggested small items for purchase, stamps, envelopes etc. She also noted that money is also welcome.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Moy made a motion, seconded by Mr. Shea to adjourn the meeting at 10:32 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTION:

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