

VALLEY HI COMMITTEE
McHenry County Government Center – Administration Building
667 Ware Road
Woodstock, IL 60098

MINUTES OF THURSDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2006

Chairman Zierer called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. The following Committee Members were present: Mary Lou Zierer, Chairman; Sandra Salgado; Blake Hobson and Dan Shea. Mr. Moy arrived at 9:27a.m. Ms. Wheeler arrived at 9:48a.m. Also in attendance: Peter Austin, County Administrator; Valley Hi Staff and interested public.

	Mary Lou Zierer, Chairman
Blake Hobson	Vacant
Perry Moy	Sandra Salgado
Dan Shea	Barbara Wheeler

MINUTES

Mr. Shea made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hobson, to approve the minutes of September 15, 2006. The motion carried with all members present voting aye.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

PRESENTATIONS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Discussion of Plans for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony: Committee members reviewed the proposed agenda for the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. Committee members requested that the recognition for the Valley Hi staff be completed prior to the introductions of the architect and Building Projects Committee members. It was noted that we are in the process of obtaining ribbon and "large scissors" for the ceremony. Committee members were questioned whether a sign in book would be needed for that days program. It was agreed that a sign in book would be needed and could be kept as a historical record of who attended the day's ceremony.

OLD BUSINESS

Mr. Hobson questioned whether information has been obtained regarding the "daily" rate that is being charged to a private pay resident. He reminded committee members that he has requested a census of the costs for other area nursing homes to see if Valley Hi is competitive in the current market place. Valley Hi staff members noted that they thought the rate is researched on a yearly basis and the rate set on what the area charges. Staff also noted that when a private pay patient resides in other nursing homes they are charged for every additional item requested, where at Valley Hi, they are only charged a daily rate with not additional charges. Committee members were informed that current residents pay \$134 a day. Committee members noted that it will be important to compare "apples to apples" to get the true daily costs. They noted that they need to know what the other "public" facilities are charging. Committee members requested that private institutions be checked as well to get the true costs comparisons.

Committee members noted that it is important to again look at the admissions policy form for Valley Hi. It was noted that they were informed that a person must only be a resident of McHenry County for 24 hours before they meet the residency requirement for attendance into Valley Hi Nursing Home. They noted they would like to have this requirement changed to 6 months. Staff members noted that the time period was previously 6 months but were informed that the requirements were only 24 hours. Committee members questioned whether this was a requirement of the State. Mr. Austin noted he would check on this requirement. Committee members questioned how long the wait list for the new facility. It was noted there are approximately 100 on the current list. They questioned if the list is a "first come, first served" basis. They were informed that basically yes, it is a first come first served basis. But, they noted if a person is in dire need to get into the facility, a person who is already set up in another facility may be bumped to the next slot on the list. If a person has emergency medical needs or no place to live and have no way to take care of themselves, they might have to bump someone. Staff noted it also may depend on what type of bedspace is available. Committee members questioned whether Valley Hi has a wait list policy. They were informed that yes, this policy does exist. Committee members requested this list be provided for review at the next committee meeting.

Mr. Moy arrived at 9:27a.m.

Committee members questioned whether the final report has been sent into the State. Mr. Austin reported that there are some fire code issues that needed to be addressed and completed before the final paperwork could be forwarded

to the State. Mr. Moy noted that the contractors will be turning the facility over to the County on October 13th. That is the completion date for the facility. He stated that he is shooting for move in by the end of the month. The State Inspectors have stated to Mr. Moy that they would return to inspect the facility within two weeks after the final paperwork has been received. Committee members were informed that a meeting has been scheduled in Chicago to address the changes to our Certificate of Need. The budget was increased because of required changes to the facility.

Committee members questioned whether the soil investigation has been scheduled for the Valley Hi property. Committee members were informed that this investigation was tabled in Finance until a State's Attorney's Opinion could be received regarding the legality of allowing outside agencies to build facilities on County Property. Another questioned arose regarding the legality of using Senior Service Grant funds to pay for the soil tests. Committee members questioned if a soil test was completed and building could not begin for a couple of years, would the soil tests still be good. Committee members suggested waiting until a State's Attorney's opinion has been received before asking additional questions.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None

REPORTS TO COMMITTEE

Administrator's Report: It was noted that Mr. Wenberg is on vacation. Staff presented his monthly Administrators report.

Construction Update: Mr. Moy stated again that we take possession of the facility on October 13th. He noted that he hopes all the required paperwork would be filed with the State the following week. He noted his goal in to move patients into the new facility by the end of October. Committee members were informed that the moving teams are ready to go when given the word. Committee members questioned Mr. Austin on whether he had heard back from the State regarding the extension requests for violations at the current facility. Mr. Austin noted that nothing has been received from the State. Committee members were informed that the evacuations plans have all been completed by Risk Management. Training has started for staff members at the new facility.

Committee members questioned what would happen to the old facility after the move. Mr. Austin reported that the facility is scheduled to become a records center. Funding has been set aside in the budget for this project. An RFP will need to be created to design the core areas of the facility for use. A server room, storage rooms, office areas are some of the needed areas. Committee members questioned whether some of the facility would be demolished. Mr. Austin stated we don't exactly what will be done at this time. He noted we may need to create a total campus plan that includes the Highway Department, Records Facility and Valley Hi. He stated that we will take a phased approach and take one step at a time. He informed committee members the old facility will have some costs involved for upkeep of the old facility.

Ms. Wheeler arrived at 9:48a.m.

Committee members were informed that some of the landscaping has begun at Valley Hi. They have decided to wait to seed the property until the spring.

Ms. Salgado stated that she would like to make a special request to honor Mr. Klasen in some way at the new Valley Hi. She noted that Mr. Klasen was always a strong supporter of this project and would like see a plaque or tree planted in his honor. Committee members stated that it would also be nice to create an area in recognition to the donors to Valley Hi. Ms. Wheeler made a motion, seconded by Ms. Salgado to support a memorial for Mr. Richard Klasen at the opening ceremonies for the new Valley Hi Nursing Home. The motion carried with all members present voting aye. Committee members noted they would leave the decision of what/where to place the memorial up to Administration.

ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Salgado made a motion, seconded by Mr. Hobson to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m. The motion carried with a unanimous voice vote.

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RECOMMENDED FOR COMMITTEE/BOARD ACTION:

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