

Minutes of Meeting
Indigent Program Discussion
December 11, 2012
4:00 p.m.

The Kootenai County Board of Commissioners: Chairman Todd Tondee, Commissioner Dan Green and Commissioner Jai Nelson met to discuss the following agenda items. Also present were Chief Deputy Clerk Pat Raffee, County Assistance Manager Todd Rickard, Dirne Community Health Center Chief Executive Officer Mike Baker and Deputy Clerk Pamela Bogaert.

A. Call to Order: Chairman Tondee called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

B. Introductions: There were no introductions made.

C. Changes to the Agenda: There were no changes made to the agenda.

D. Old Business: There was no old business discussed.

E. New Business:

Dirne Community Health Center (Dirne) Chief Executive Officer Mike Baker came to update the Board on Dirne's recent progress and to offer Dirne's services to provide case management for patients involved in the County's Indigent program. Mr. Baker explained that Dirne is making an effort to increase awareness of the value of case management services for patients who utilize the system. Also, Mr. Baker felt that it is important to connect the patients that are frequently coming through the County Assistance program with case managers who will work with them after a crisis to assist with follow up of treatment plans and provide education to help reduce visits. Mr. Baker advised the Board that if the specialty care referrals and expensive tests could be managed the County could see significant savings to the Indigent Program. The group discussed the possibility of data sharing between Dirne and KC Indigent Program and how to best approach the program users for follow up case management.

County Assistance Manager Todd Rickard advised the group that the County Assistance office currently refers applicants to Dirne at the beginning of the application process and noted that the County can only ask them to contact Dirne for prevention case management; statutorily it would not be possible to require this of the applicants. Further, Mr. Rickard suggested that alerting physicians and hospitals to the availability of a program that will provide continuing education and treatment plans would be the best first step.

Mr. Baker thanked the attendees and the Board for their time and agreed to explore options available for Dirne to be of assistance to the County Assistance department.

F. Staff Reports: There were no staff reports.

G. Public Comment: This section is reserved for citizens wishing to address the Board regarding a County related issue. There was no public comment.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

CLIFFORD T. HAYES, CLERK

BY: _____
Pamela B. Bogaert, Deputy Clerk