

PHASE OUT OF THE POLK COUNTY HOME CARE PROGRAM

TO THE HONORABLE SUPERVISORS OF THE COUNTY BOARD OF THE COUNTY OF POLK:

Ladies and Gentlemen:

- 1 WHEREAS, Polk County has long recognized the value of assisting residents in obtaining health care
2 services that enable them to remain in their own homes, and
- 3 WHEREAS, Polk County has directly provided and subsidized such home care services to residents for
4 over 45 years, and
- 5 WHEREAS, at the time the program was created there were few if any alternatives to a publicly-funded
6 home care program, and
- 7 WHEREAS, in the past several years a number of outside providers have entered into the home care field
8 resulting in a duplication of and often direct competition with services provided by the County program,
9 and
- 10 WHEREAS, other counties within the region have made the determination that outside providers can
11 adequately meet the need for such services and have ended their publicly-funded home care programs,
12 and
- 13 WHEREAS, based on evidence obtained by the Polk County Board of Health and Polk County
14 Administration it appears that these outside providers will meet all or nearly all of the demand for home
15 care services in Polk County, and
- 16 WHEREAS, for economic reasons it has become increasingly necessary to reduce expenditures for non-
17 mandated programs to fund increased costs for required and high-priority programs, and
- 18 WHEREAS, other cost increases including increases in debt service, energy, health care, and highway
19 materials will require reductions in other programs, and
- 20 WHEREAS, the Polk County home care program is a non-mandated program, and
- 21 WHEREAS, it is possible to both assure current home care clients that their services will continue
22 uninterrupted should Polk County phase out this program, and
- 23 WHEREAS, the County is able to monitor the future need for home care services and may intervene
24 again in this market should a role for the County be determined, and
- 25 WHEREAS, a careful transition from public to private provision of home care services in Polk County is
26 both possible and warranted.
- 27 THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Polk County Board of Supervisors directs the Polk County
28 Administrator to phase out the Polk County home care program assuring that no current client of this

29 program may be denied services as a result of this change, making monthly reports to the Polk County
30 Board of Supervisors.

31 RESOLVED FURTHER that the Polk County Board of Supervisors directs the Polk County
32 Administrator to establish a method of tracking home care placements in Polk County to determine
33 whether there is an unmet need for such services and to report the same to the Polk County Board of
34 Supervisors on or before September 1 of each year beginning in 2014.

Funding Amount and Source: Not applicable

Finance Committee Advised: June 17, 2013

Finance Committee Recommendation: Approve

Date Submitted to County Board: July 5, 2013 for the July 16, 2013 meeting

Effective Date: Upon Passage

Submitted By:

Bing Waters 6/25/13

[Signature] 6-25-13

Review by County Administrator:

- Recommended
- Not Recommended
- Reviewed Only

[Signature]
Dana Frey, County Administrator

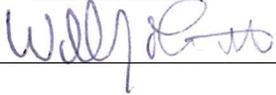
Review by Corporation Counsel:

- Approved as to Form
- Recommended
- Not Recommended
- Reviewed Only

[Signature]
Jeffrey B. Fuge, Corporation Counsel

County Board Action:

On July 16, 2013, the Polk County Board of Supervisors adopted Resolution No. 24-2013: PHASE OUT OF THE POLK COUNTY HOME CARE PROGRAM by a majority vote of 13 in favor and 10 against.



William F. Johnson, IV, Chairperson

Attest: Carole T. Wondra Dated: August 22, 2013

Carole T. Wondra, County Clerk

