

**MEETING OF THE
WINNEBAGO COUNTY
DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

Minutes

DATE: Monday, August 2, 2010

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

PLACE: Neenah Human Services Building

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Finch, Jef Hall, Jim Koziczkowski, Donna Lohry, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, Harvey Rengstorf, and Tom Widener

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ron Kuehl

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Ken Stoffel, Tom Saari, Ellen Shute, Leo Podoski, Ann Kriegel, Mary Krueger, Carol Morack, Cheryl Root and Dorothy De Grace

OTHERS PRESENT: John Bodnar, Corporation Counsel; Lea Kitz, ARC and Margaret Winn, Lakeside Packaging Plus

Jim Koziczkowski called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. Introductions were made.

AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 10, 2010 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING; JUNE 23, 2010 PUBLIC HEARING; JUNE 24, 2010 PUBLIC HEARING AND BUDGET MEETING

Harvey Rengstorf moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Donna Lohry and carried (8-0).

AGENDA ITEM #3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JUNE 8, 2010 FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Donna Lohry moved to accept these minutes; seconded by Harvey Rengstorf and carried (8-0).

AGENDA ITEM #4: DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON PURCHASE OF SERVICE CONTRACT WITH THE CORPORATION COUNSEL'S OFFICE TO ADD STAFF (ATTORNEY & ASSISTANT) TO EXPEDITE TERMINATION OF PARENTAL RIGHTS CASES

Bill Topel explained that there is a backlog of Termination of Parental Rights (TPR) cases where parents' rights are terminated and kids can be adopted by prospective adoptive parents. The Corporation Counsel represents our department in these TPR cases, along with the Assistant Corporation Counsel and several contracted local attorneys. Bill said it costs our department at least \$1100 per month while the cases are waiting to be processed.

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Bill Topel said we are looking for approval for the Corporation Counsel's office to hire another attorney and support staff to help with processing the TPR cases. We would use a purchase of service arrangement where we would be billed back from the Corporation Counsel's office for the cases at an hourly rate that would cover the cost of the new staff. We are reimbursed from the state for about one-third of the cost of case processing time, and we are decreasing our out-of-home expenses as an offset. We do not anticipate an impact to the levy. John Bodnar said the workload has increased in his office over the years, but they haven't added any additional staff. He said it is not unusual for them having to process about 35 TPR cases in a year. John explained that TPR cases can be for infants or children up to age 17 years old. The children are usually neglected; physically or sexually abused; parents aren't able to care for them because of a mental or physical disability; or they have been abandoned. Bill Topel said we work with the kids and parents for up to 15 months before starting the TPR process. Jerry Finch moved for approval of the request to add an attorney and assistant to the Corporation Counsel's office for the purpose of expediting our Department's TPR proceedings; seconded by Donna Lohry and carried (8-0).

AGENDA ITEM #5: 2010 FINANCIAL REPORT

Ellen Shute referred to the financial report with January through June actual expenses and revenues. The projected unexpended tax levy is \$664,256 at this time. Ellen pointed out that there is a surplus in the Juvenile Corrections budget which offsets other line item deficits. She said there is also a surplus in the Administrative Division due in part to a slight increase in the BCA allocation, and also in part to the elimination of a full-time supervisory position. Ellen said the COP Risk Reserve will be utilized in 2011. The surplus in the Behavioral Health budget is due to a favorable variance in specialty hospital inpatient admissions. We will be able to take some people off waiting lists for long term support for children and for mental health consumers because of the surplus to our Department's budget.

Ellen referred to the monthly statistical information for inpatient and institutional utilization. She said juvenile corrections numbers are well below budget with no admissions for the past several months; residential care centers for children had an average daily population (ADP) of 6.9 through June; the ADP for adults in specialty hospitals is 6.7 through June; and the ADP for children in specialty hospitals is 1.02 through June.

AGENDA ITEM #6: APPROVAL TO APPLY FOR OSHKOSH AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION CRIME PREVENTION GRANT

Carol Morack asked for the Board's approval to apply for a \$5,000 grant to help with costs associated with assessing cases for the juvenile treatment court program. It is a one-time grant, but we could reapply next year again. Bill Topel said Carol Morack and Cheryl Root will be participating in a juvenile drug court process to see if the concept will work well enough to expand it. Mike Norton moved to approve the application for the grant; seconded by Jerry Fink and carried (8-0).

AGENDA ITEM #7: FAMILY CARE/ADRC UPDATE

Mary Krueger explained that the ADRC began operating in Winnebago County effective July 1. We initially averaged 15 calls or visits per day, with most of them seeking information for themselves, a family member, or a friend. The majority of the contacts were regarding an elderly individual. Mary said that effective July 1 over 1,024 individuals moved to Family Care or the IRIS program since the county is no longer responsible for their service plan. She said there was a deficit in local nursing home providers initially, because they each signed person-specific contracts while the contract language was being finalized for a general contract. Mary said the ADRC has been meeting monthly with Lakeland Care District and our Economic Support Division regarding financial eligibility for consumers of Family Care. Another group has been meeting monthly to discuss details of transitioning to Family Care.

AGENDA ITEM #8: DISCUSSION AND ACTION ON SHELTER CARE FACILITY NEEDS

Leo Podoski informed the Board that our Shelter Care program has been operating from the same facility for the past 30 years. For the past 8-10 years we have been looking to improve the services that we provide to youth that are temporarily housed at Shelter Care. Our license was increased from 8 beds to 12 beds, which resulted in a shortage of available space. Leo said the average daily population is nine youth. Bill Topel said he has had a discussion with Mark Harris regarding looking for a different facility that would meet our needs. The Board agreed unanimously that Leo should further explore our options.

AGENDA ITEM #9: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill Topel said that the state is in the process of deciding which of the two juvenile correctional facilities should be closed because of declining population. If both of the facilities would stay open, the cost of care per day would increase significantly.

Bill said he is on two WCHSA subcommittees: 1) a public policy subcommittee to discuss the issue of whether or not counties should press the state on negotiating changes in the state/county contract and 2) a subcommittee to discuss the structure and by-laws of the WCHSA committee.

AGENDA ITEM #10: BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS

Donna Lohry reported on her attendance at the recent WCHSA Executive Committee meeting. She also attended the Coalition of Aging Groups meeting in Green Bay.

Rob Paterson reported that he wrote a letter to the County Executive regarding the Board's support of the possibility of the Economic Support Division relocating from the ATT building to the Oshkosh B'Gosh Building. Rob reported that he attended the Open House at Family Care.

With no further business Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Jef Hall and carried unanimously at 5:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be **Monday, September 13, 2010 at 3:30 p.m. at the Human Resources Conference Room, Orrin King Building.**

Respectfully submitted by Donna Lohry, Board Secretary/dd