

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

Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, September 7, 2011

TIME: 3:30 p.m.

PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building, Room 33

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Ron Kuehl, Harvey Rengstorf, and Tom Widener

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Ellen Shute, Ann Kriegel, Mark Weisensel and Dorothy De Grace

ALSO PRESENT: Chris Strong and David Vickman, City of Oshkosh; Margaret Winn, Lakeside Packaging Plus; and Harold Singstock, County Board Member

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

AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 1, 2011 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Mike Norton moved for approved of these minutes; seconded by Donna Lohry and carried (4-0). (Finch abstained; Hall not present yet).

AGENDA ITEM #3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JUNE 14, 2011 FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING; THE JULY 11, 2011 ADRC COMMITTEE MEETING; AND THE JULY 13, 2011 W-2 STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

Donna Lohry moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Rob Paterson and carried (5-0).

AGENDA ITEM #4: 2011 FINANCIAL REPORT

Ellen Shute referred to the inpatient and institutional utilization chart. She said in the Juvenile Corrections area, the average daily population (ADP) has remained consistent at 2.3 for July, and overall the average is continuing to decline slightly from last year and substantially from years prior; for Child Welfare residential care centers the ADP of 2.3 for July is down from last month, and the average of 3.6 is well below the 4.9 realized in 2010.

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The average daily population for Behavioral Health & Long Term Support specialty hospitals for adults is 5.5 for July, which is down from 7.2 for June, and the average of 6.1 is a bit down from 6.6 of last year; the ADP for children's specialty hospitals is .3 for July compared to an average of .41, which is down from last year's .56 average. Ellen said part of the surpluses for the department overall is based on the low census numbers.

For the financial report, Ellen said we are currently at \$1,088,134 in unexpended tax levy. Child Welfare and Behavioral Health are showing surpluses due to lower placements; however, part is in the labor area due to staff turnover or vacancies. The Long Term Support Division is showing a deficit due to lower than budgeted labor and not accessing the COP Risk Reserve funding as planned. We have a labor surplus of approximately \$841,000. Since we are unable to utilize that money in the program area, it will divert to the general fund. Bill Topel said for next year we have been asked by the County Executive to take \$400,000 out of our budget and have a zero per cent increase. The County Executive would like us to have several contracted poverty case management positions, because he'd like to see if there is a segment of our local community that isn't getting the help that they need. (Hall now present).

AGENDA ITEM #5: INCOME MAINTENANCE CONSORTIUM UPDATE

Ann Kriegel said they have had meetings regarding the Consortium, talking about developing a business flow chart and best practices for each consortium to follow and which things would be allowed to be done differently. Cases from the enrollment services center will be given back to the counties starting in November. Internally, we are looking at staffing levels to be sure we have a maximum amount of case managers to handle those cases. Without adding new positions to the table of organization, we are scrutinizing each position. When asked how a county determines that it doesn't want to be in a consortium, Bill Topel said each county is given a specific amount of money from the state which is equivalent to their 2009 expenditures. If they are unwilling to keep their current staffing in place at that rate, they may not be able to fulfill their job as part of the consortium, so they opt out. Another county would pick up their work or it would be given to state staff.

AGENDA ITEM #6: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill Topel said it was announced at the last WCHSA meeting that the Wisconsin Hospital Association is planning to have legislation be introduced whereby emergency room doctors would have the ability to place people in psychiatric hospitals without county staff being able to intervene or divert placement, yet we would end up bearing all of the cost. Bill said if this moves further he will probably ask the Board to take a position on this, because this would be a huge step backwards from the way we currently handle cases—we provide the emergency mental health staff; do the evaluations; and divert. He said the doctors are concerned about the liability issue if someone walks out of the emergency room and something happens. WCHSA is planning to meet with the Wisconsin Hospital Association to come to a compromise.

Bill Topel said our Behavioral Health Division has been providing a lot of free medical samples and we purchase psychiatric medications for a number of people who don't have an ability to pay. It prevents a lot of people from having to go into the hospital unnecessarily. We've had a good relationship with Morton's Pharmacy in the past, but Morton's was recently purchased by Walgreen's. Although Walgreen's would like to continue the same service with us, they don't provide delivery or a number of the services that Morton's has done over the years. We are searching for another pharmacy provider, and are looking at one that would base its operations out of our building for our clients.

AGENDA ITEM #7: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

There were no reports.

PROGRAM: CITY OF OSHKOSH TRANSIT PROGRAM CHANGES

Chris Strong, Director of Transportation and David Vickman, Transit Coordinator for the City of Oshkosh discussed some of the proposed changes for the Oshkosh Transit System (OTS). Chris said they have been going through the Transit Development planning process for the last year and a half, and there have been a number of changes and suggestions that aroused some concerns from Board members and other members of the community. Chris started by giving an overview of the OTS. There are eight city routes besides Route 10 which runs between Oshkosh and Neenah. The county designates some funding to help support the cost of Route 10. The OTS operates a complementary Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) paratransit route, a supplemental school service, and an event service for the EAA. The OTS also offers additional mobility services, such as senior dial-a-ride and rural disabled transportation. Chris said they have a simple transportation system where all of the buses begin their routes downtown and end downtown. The budget for the transit system is currently 57% federal and state dollars; 15%-20% from fares; the city contributes roughly 15%-20%; the county assists through various programs; and .5%-1% is from ads. They spend about 1/3 of their budget on purchased transportation through contracts. Chris said 88% of their ridership is for fixed route service; riders that have ADA status comprise 6% of ridership; additional mobility services are 4% of ridership; and event-based riders are about 2%. OTS has historically had the lowest fare in the state. Non-farebox revenues, such as grants and general levy comprise the majority of system funding.

When asked about rides provided by LogistiCare for people with Medical Assistance, Dave Vickman said that LogistiCare has been contracted by the county to do medical transportation. He said that some people choose to use the paratransit system instead of LogistiCare because of issues that have come up. Oshkosh City Cab/Cabulance is providing the medical transportation with no support from LogistiCare. Bill suggested that Dave continue to record as much information as he can and then pass it along to the state since there could be some recovery of dollars. Jef suggested we could send a report to LogistiCare including individuals' names that had a concern and ask LogistiCare to reimburse us.

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Chris Strong explained that the Transit Development Plan is a comprehensive analysis and evaluation of transit services in the city of Oshkosh. The intent is to help them know how they need to manage and operate the system. A steering committee consisting of many stakeholders from the community provided the plan guidance to the contractor, East Central Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission (ECWRPC). The ECWRPC was responsible for collecting various data, such as ridership data and information on comparable transit systems. ECWRPC looked at quantitative benchmarks about cost effectiveness, efficiency in transporting riders, etc. Chris said the analysis showed that Oshkosh Transit performed well above the peer transportation group average in the state and Midwest in most performance measures.

Chris said all of the recommendations in the Transit Development Plan are geared towards increasing ridership. Chris shared some details about proposed major changes to several routes. He said they plan to stay within the available resources; expand geographic coverage; and improve route interaction or transfers. He explained two different system alternatives that are planned for Route 10 and said some high service areas would no longer be served by Route 10. For those cases there is a proposed new Route 4 that would not directly connect to downtown, but would go between Logan Drive, Lakeside Packaging, Advocap, Fair Acres, and would have several opportunities to transfer to other routes where a rider could go downtown. Margaret Winn said she is confident that the clients of Lakeside Packaging who use the city bus will be able to arrive at their destination without any problems. She said Oshkosh Transit does a lot to accommodate the people at Lakeside and people with special needs. When asked why Route 10 doesn't stop at Park View Health Center, Chris responded that the two places they've had the most ridership are Lakeside Packaging and Logan Drive, and these are proposed to be served with a city route. He said there is not a lot of ridership north of Logan Drive. Mike Norton said he has been advocating for Route 10 to go down County Road A, because he feels it would serve more residents. Chris said after listening to what people have said, they looked at what made the most sense. The goal is not to make any stops on the way to Neenah by driving on Hwy. 41 and make Route 10 an inter-city express service. Dave Vickman said another issue they deal with is how the bus connects with Valley Transit, which seems to be a real key to the ridership on Route 10.

Bill Topel said our goal is to serve the clients and make sure we have a route for them to get to where they need to go. We have consistently said we want a route that stops at the jail, goes down County Road Y, stops at Park View and the County Park, then goes down County Road A and stops at Copps in Neenah. If we get the route that we're looking for, we need to make it cost-effective so the bus stays on schedule to meet scheduling requirements and gets our people served. Bill said we are already contributing \$30,000 into the equation, but from a budgetary standpoint he asked what it would take to make that happen. He asked if we could research this and come up with an estimate of what it would take. Mark Weisensel said he would meet with Chris Strong and Dave Vickman to see how much extra it would cost to serve those areas discussed today.

With no further business Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Jerry Finch and carried unanimously at 5:50 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be **Monday, October 3, 2011 at 3:30 p.m.** at the Neenah Human Services Building.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Lohry, Board Secretary

/dd