

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

**Minutes**

**DATE:** Thursday, April 9, 2009

**TIME:** 3:30 p.m.

**PLACE:** Neenah Human Services Building

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Don Griesbach, Jef Hall, Jim Koziczowski, Donna Lohry, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, Harvey Rengstorf, and Tom Widener

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Ron Kuehl

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bill Topel, Ken Stoffel, Ellen Shute, Cheryl Cain, Mary Salzer, Debby Blankenship, and Dorothy De Grace

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tom Mentele, Lakeside Packaging Plus; Lea Kitz, ARC; Paul Eisen, County Board Supervisor; and Lorraine Yarbrough, Cerebral Palsy of Mideast WI

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

**AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

Lea Kitz suggested that more information should be given to the County Board about the impact of Family Care so that a more informed decision can be made when a resolution is presented for the start-up of Family Care for Winnebago County.

Paul Eisen said he is concerned that the Human Services Department has co-opted the County Board's policy decision-making role by planning to recommend the creation of a public model for Family Care. He feels that the County Board will not have obtained sufficient information on the spectrum of alternative models for Family Care, such as a private coalition model characteristic of Calumet, Outagamie and Waupaca counties. He suggested that the Human Services Department should invite those counties to give information to the County Board so the best decision is made about Family Care.

**AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 12, 2009 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**

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

**AGENDA ITEM #3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 10, 2009 FAMILY SUPPORT PROGRAM ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING AND THE FEBRUARY 25, 2009 COMMISSION ON AGING MEETING**

Don Griesbach moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Jef Hall and carried (8-0).

**AGENDA ITEM #4: 2009 FINANCIAL PROJECTION REPORT**

Ellen Shute shared the financial projection report through February. She said we project a total variance of \$230,794 at the end of the year, assuming there will be decreased placement expenses and increased MA revenue. Our fringe benefit rate for 2009 will possibly go beyond the budgeted amount of 45%; therefore Ellen said this report reflects a 46% rate. Clarity Care has reimbursed us \$112,000 to date, and there is one payment remaining towards their debt.

Ellen said the average daily population for juvenile corrections is 8.2 through February; for residential care centers the average is 6.1; for specialty hospitals the average number of adult placements is 7.8. She said there are some things out of our control that have caused the numbers to inch upward; although they are lower than the last two years. Bill Topel said that typically the number of adults in specialty hospitals increases during the winter months. Our crisis staff is working diligently to find alternative placements. He said we are close to opening our 8-bed diversion facility, which will include 24-hour crisis response.

**AGENDA ITEM #5: PRESENTATION ON ELECTRONIC MONITORING**

Mary Salzer said the Electronic Monitoring (EM) program serves juveniles who pose a significant risk to the community in terms of harming other individuals or their property. The program provides a more intensive level of supervision, structure, and accountability for these juveniles in an effort to divert them from out-of-home placement. Mary explained the technical operations of the program. She said all of the juveniles are under court order to the program or are under a temporary physical custody order. The family is charged the daily rate for the use of the monitoring system, which is currently set at \$4.20 for landline bracelets and \$5.50 for passive GPS bracelets. The family can submit a family disclosure form to determine their ability to pay. Bill Topel pointed out that the Electronic Monitoring program is operated in conjunction with other corrective processes or programs for the family. Cheryl Cain said about 75% of the juveniles or their families are also in some type of AODA program, along with individual or family counseling. She said the juvenile must follow a level system that is in place to successfully complete the EM program. Violations are categorized into three basic groups (minor, major or serious), and there are different levels of consequences. Mary and Cheryl gave examples when out-of-home placement is the best option for a juvenile that is a serious offender. Bill Topel said we balance all of the equations of safety and risk when we place a juvenile in a program vs. out-of-home placement.

**AGENDA ITEM #6: CONSIDER & ACT ON RESOLUTIONS TO CREATE A FAMILY CARE DISTRICT AND AN ADRC**

Bill Topel said that Corporation Counsel John Bodnar is continuing to work on preparing our resolution to create a Family Care District (Long Term Care) with Manitowoc and Fond du Lac counties. His intention is to use the same language, format and substance as the resolutions for Manitowoc and Fond du Lac counties, but change the county name to "Winnebago." Bill said we have not yet prepared a resolution to form an ADRC, and therefore the Board will not be acting on that today.

Mike Norton said he feels the Human Services Board should have an actual copy of Winnebago County's resolution in order to have an opportunity to make any amendments and act on it. Jef Hall made a motion for discussion and amendment for acceptance of the wording of the Manitowoc County resolution (other than using "Manitowoc County"); seconded by Tom Widener. Donna Lohry said she would like to see the Long Term Care Board comprised of one County Board representative from each of the three counties; a representative from the Human Service Departments; and possibly a medical doctor (so that we have as much oversight as possible). Mike Norton said he would like to see us wait for two months until after the Governor has signed the budget and then take a better look at the whole Family Care program so we are all better informed. Tom Widener said that every month we delay is another month that people on the waiting list are not being served. Mike responded that the decrease to the waiting list could take three years; it won't be automatic.

Donna Lohry said she feels the proposed make-up of the long term care board as outlined in the resolution is too ambiguous. Jef Hall said that it gives the flexibility of each county to appoint their members as they want. He pointed out that all appointments are subject to the approval of the jurisdictional county board. Bill Topel reminded everyone that the state requires the counties that enter into the Long Term Care District to have substantially similar resolutions.

Mike Norton moved that we add the following amendment to our resolution at the end of line 70, "And that one member be from each County Board." The motion was seconded by Donna Lohry. Jef Hall said that we can't dictate what the other two counties should do. If we were going to do this he would include an amendment on line 87 that says, "Be it further resolved that for Winnebago County one member will be a County Board member." That way the resolution would be substantially similar as the other two counties. The vote for Mike Norton's motion to add an amendment at the end of line 70 was: aye – 4; nay – 4. (Motion failed).

Jef Hall made a motion to move the Manitowoc County version of the resolution forward as it is, with the exception that it be written for Winnebago County; motion was seconded by Don Griesbach and carried (aye – 5; nay – 3).

**AGENDA ITEM #7: DISCUSSION & POSSIBLE RECOMMENDATION TO THE COUNTY BOARD RE: COUNTY PRESCRIPTION DISCOUNT CARD PROGRAM**

Mike Norton shared information that he received from MedOne Healthcare Systems regarding the performance and savings of three counties in Iowa that are using its drug discount card program. Bill Topel explained that we would need to sign an exclusivity clause if we went with their program. He said the Family Wyse drug discount card is already being distributed in Winnebago County through the United Way. After the Board's discussion of the pros and cons, Mike Norton made a motion to recommend the MedOne Healthcare drug discount program to the County Board to be used in Winnebago County. The motion was not supported.

**AGENDA ITEM #8: DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Bill Topel pointed out that April is Alcohol Awareness Month. Also, all Economic Support workers are being recognized with a proclamation from the Governor this month. Bill shared a copy of the "Focus" report which will be prepared quarterly by Ellen Shute's staff for the Human Services Department. Bill shared that the Oshkosh Community Food Pantry is having a grand opening on April 24 at 8:45 a.m.

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**AGENDA ITEM #9: BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS**

Rob Paterson reported that he recently attended an informational meeting in Neenah regarding Family Care.

Bill Topel said he attended a Public Hearing in Appleton for the Joint Finance Committee on the Governor's budget. He spoke at that hearing against the reduction in funding to Human Service departments.

With no further business Don Griesbach moved for adjournment at 5:25 p.m.; seconded by Jef Hall and carried unanimously. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be **Thursday, May 14, 2009 at 3:30 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by:

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Donna Lohry, Human Services Board Secretary  
/dd