

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

Minutes

DATE: Monday, March 22, 2022

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Lautenschlager, Mike Norton, Jerry Finch, Chris Kniep, Karen Powers, Harold Singstock, Ralph Harrison

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Bryan Stafford, Donna Lohry

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Renee Soroko, Janet Rohloff, Beth Roberts, and Pam Bartelt

OTHERS PRESENT: Jon Doemel, County Executive; Mike Collard, Director of Human Resources/Finance; Robert Keller

Chairman Larry Lautenschlager called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

AGENDA ITEM #2: CONSIDER AND ACTION, IF ANY, ON ACCEPTING THE NEIGHBORHOOD INVESTMENT FUND GRANT FROM WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND AUTHORIZE THE HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION CENTER PILOT PROGRAM THROUGH HUMAN SERVICES

Bill Topel shared information on the Neighborhood Investment Fund Grant proposal submitted by Public Health Department. This project would provide services for consumers that are in danger of becoming homeless or are currently homeless and need emergency shelter or transitional housing. Service recommendations originated through the Winnebago Housing Coalition. The coalition is a group of public and private local entities that compiled community needs to reduce homelessness and housing instability. One grant criteria is to be 'shovel ready' meaning the agency/entity is ready for next steps now. DHS program targets prevention and is modeled after ADRC. If approved, we'll add one supervisor and two resource specialist position for the program: *Homelessness Eviction & Loss Prevention* (HELP). The goal is to provide and connect consumer to resources thus preventing homelessness and/or housing instability. Another piece is for the Warming Shelter in Oshkosh to double their capacity and provide additional services year-round 24/7. The transitional housing section is called *Tiny Homes* with 32 homes and a Community Center where residents can live for up to 2 years. *Solutions Recovery* would provide substance use disorder residential treatment beds and sober living facilities. *Covey*, will expand their capacity of transitional specialty housing for adults with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Habitat for Humanity will increase the number of permanent homes. The 10.3 million-dollar grant was awarded to Winnebago County. Executive Doemel noted projects are 'shovel ready' and there is a coordinator position budgeted within Public Health to facilitate the grant and provide oversight to various agencies utilizing funding so timeliness is important. A parent committee needed to first approve grant acceptance prior to a full county board hearing.

Mike Norton made a motion to accept the Neighborhood Investment Fund Grant; seconded by Jerry Finch and approved unanimously. (7-0)

Meeting was adjourned at 4:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department/pb