

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

Minutes

DATE: Monday, April 4, 2022

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building Room 33

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

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Donna Lohry, Brian Stafford, Jerry Finch

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Renee Soroko, Janet Rohloff, Beth Roberts, Ann Kriegel, Annette Beattie, Heather Foust, Tammy Steier and Nancy Ruedinger

Chairman Larry Lautenschlager called the meeting to order at 3:08 p.m. after wishing Jerry Finch farewell.

AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

PROGRAM #2: BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (BH) DROP-IN CENTER AT CARTER BUILDING

Bill introduced Heather Foust, BH Division Manager and Tammy Steier, BH Deputy Division Manager. Heather explained they applied for a grant to help with individuals in isolation or additional needs resulting from Covid. The grant will be used to open a BH drop-in center located in the old Carter building at the corner of State and Otter Streets. There will be a contracted staff member on site Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. – 3 p.m. The facility will be called 'State Street Center' and will be open to any Winnebago County residents dealing with mental health issues or substance abuse disorders. Programming will include groups and other structured activities to help promote healthy bonds and socialization. These programs will be for adults only at this time. Plans are for the center to be open to the public within a couple weeks. Human Services case manager staff and peer support specialists will also be at the center to provide additional support. Guests will be offered coffee, water, light snacks. There will be books, limited TV and computer available. We're looking for community partners that are interested in sharing their talents. The grant is good for one year until March 14, 2023.

AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 7, 2022 AND MARCH 22, 2022 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Mike Norton moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Karen Powers and carried unanimously. (6-0)

AGENDA ITEM #4: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE MARCH 14, 2022 ADRC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Mike Norton moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Harold Singstock and carried unanimously. (6-0)

AGENDA ITEM #5: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS

Bill Topel reviewed placement statistics: Child Welfare (CW) Division – Juvenile Corrections remains at 0.0 Actual Daily Populations (ADP). Residential Care Centers are at 1.0 ADP. Behavioral Health (BH) - Specialty Hospitals for adults is at 3.1 ADP with the youth being at 0.04 ADP. Secure Detention is at 1.5 ADP. Foster Care is at 78.7 ADP.

AGENDA ITEM # 6: FINANCIAL REPORT

Janet Rohloff shared the county has contracted with Clifton-Larson for year-end financial reviews due to staff shortage. The auditors will be with us at the end of April for two weeks. The projected year end surplus is \$4.6 million due to additional revenues and expenditures under budget. This is a result of several things including less travel, Covid impacts on operating expenses, and staffing issues with many vacancies. There have been more revenues in the CCS program under Medicaid; WIMCR is \$600,000 more than budgeted; prior year revenue was \$356,000; federal distribution money for 2020 for income maintenance was over \$300,000. Janet noted the graph gathered from county finance system shows the dip resulting from Covid impact in 2020 and 2021 climbing throughout the year. We expect this to continue in 2022.

AGENDA ITEM #7: DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT

Renee Soroko recapped the growth in the county including the new drop-in center, youth shelter care facility, neighborhood initiative grant and current program staff needs. With growth comes office space configurations, furniture and equipment needs, etc. Currently there are 22 vacancies on the website. <https://www.co.winnebago.wi.us/human-resources/employment-opportunities> Many have offers pending or active interviews though the continued high number is problematic as we've discussed previously.

AGENDA ITEM #8: DIRECTOR REPORT

Bill expressed appreciation for the overwhelming support of the county board in passing the more than \$10 million grant for the programs for the neighborhood initiative grant.

WCHSA Spring Conference will take place virtually via Zoom on May 5 – 6, 2022. We will pay one fee for everyone interested to attend. Please let us know if you do plan to attend. There is a new WCHSA Executive Director, John Tuohy, who was the previous Director of Regional Operations, DCF.

Human Services CW Social Worker, Kathy Peters, was selected by DCF for Caring for Kids Award as one of five chosen in the state of Wisconsin. Kathy is with Child Protective Services (CPS) Ongoing and

has been with the county for almost 30 years. She does a great job in supporting and keeping families together and safe. Congratulations Kathy!

Bill mentioned that once all counties return to meeting in person, the Regional WCHSA Meeting will be arranged.

AGENDA ITEM #9: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Ralph Harrison thanked all board members for their input in learning about the county and community happenings.

Karen Powers confirmed the *Wheelchair Wash* taking place at J & R Auto in Oshkosh on June 25, 2022 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Beth Roberts shared that they are working with UW Oshkosh and the Menasha Senior Center to have a smaller version at a resource fair taking place later this month at the Menasha Senior Center.

Mike Norton mentioned that the ADRC is doing a senior housing study on senior housing units and assisted living settings in the county. They will be having presentations at Miron Construction in Neenah, and one at Coughlin and a Zoom version on Monday, April 25, 2022 at 3:00 p.m.

With no further business Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Karen Powers and carried at 4:20 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, May 2, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. in the Neenah Human Services Building in Room 008.**

Respectfully taken by Nancy Ruedinger and submitted by Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department/pb