

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

Minutes

DATE: Thursday, June 18, 2020

TIME: 8:30 a.m.

PLACE: Virtual Meeting via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Koziczkowski, Donna Lohry, Jerry Finch, Chris Kniep, Karen Powers, Larry Lautenschlager

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Mike Norton, Judy Wright

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Mary Fredrickson, Beth Roberts, Ann Kriegel, Annette Beattie, Renee Soroko, Janet Rohloff and Pam Bartelt

Jim Koziczkowski called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC HEARING

The public hearing concluded at 9:30 a.m.

AGENDA ITEM #2: REVIEW, DISCUSS AND RECOMMEND 2021 HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET TO COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Donna Lohry moved to bring the proposed 2021 Budget to the floor for review, discussion and recommendation to the County Executive; seconded by Karen Powers and carried.

Bill Topel shared that the two main areas of the budget consist of staff labor costs along with the provider contracts and services that we provide through other organizations of the community as well as services provided by our agency. This year the county executive has asked that we find money to cover increases in provider costs and also increases in labor costs which is almost \$900,000. Each division manager will be sharing areas where they feel they are able to find additional revenue or reduce expenditures to keep the tax levy the same.

Mary Fredrickson mentioned that there is an administrative rule called DHS1 which looks at uniform fees for liability and collections. Every year we need to present the estimated fee schedule for the following year. This has been included in the budget but numbers will not be final until later this year as this is based on the consumer price index for the Midwest area.

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION: Mary Fredrickson shared that strategic planning goals and objectives are being looked at to see where we are at as an agency. Goals are highlighted for each division. Revenue sources are 58% coming from state and federal aid; 39% from county tax levy and remaining

3% from client and third-party fees. Our expenses have gone up for 2021 and our projected revenue has increased as well keeping us to 0% levy change. The Department of Children and Families portion of basic county allocation funds were previously budgeted for in Admin but is now being budgeted to CW as it is a better fit. Projected for 2021 we are looking to add two positions with one being in Admin and one being in Behavioral Health. Both were previously project positions which were determined to be needed positions with our agency. Total employees being asked for in 2021 would be 268 full time employees and 24 part time employees for a total workforce of 292 which does include the new crisis center. HR Department had given a directive to add 1.75% to the labor throughout the agency. Admin is looking at adding a project position with duties to include a combination of some financial, record and file maintenance work. Due to an increase in mobile devices this year we anticipate a decrease in small equipment technology in 2021, however an increase in our cell phone costs. Our new Mission statement more accurately describes our work and the goal of our service.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH (BH) DIVISION: Renee Soroko stated they are continuing to focus on their mission statement and working to keep consumers out of placement with use of consumer driven care. There has been one change in position as the Crisis Intervention Manager, Doug Brey, had move on to another county. That position was modified to become a Lead Staff Position at the new Winnebago County Crisis Center (WCCC). As previously mentioned, the previous project position will now be the Youth Community Specialist full time position which will also cross over to work with children and families requiring Long Term Services for continuity of care. Overall there was small percentage of a levy decrease. Revenue billing has increased. DCF basic cost allocation funds were budgeted to offset Psychotherapist position in BH.

CHILD WELFARE (CW) DIVISION: Annette Beattie mentioned that their division has made some adjustments to their mission statement to identify what they focus on which is strengthening and preserving families and support families to reunite. All positions are now filled with the exception of one. With a lot of new staff there is an additional increase in training expenses as these are state required trainings. They are still attending as needed with most of these being virtual if available. DCF portion of state funding that was previously in admin budget is now under CW budget which is reflected in the levy impact. The budget does show a slight increase in child foster care which is not due to more placements but due to state programs allowing more funds for these placements.

ECONOMIC SUPPORT (ES) DIVISION: Ann Kriegel addressed the change she and her staff added to their mission statement of 'providing services and benefits with *'compassion'*, a small but significant change. There will be no changes to the Table of Organization (TO) for ES. There is a decrease in travel expense as most trainings continue to be done virtually. Food share applications have increased by tremendous amounts due to relaxed rules of qualifications required.

LONG TERM SERVICES (LTS) DIVISION: Beth Roberts shared that there have been no changes to their mission statement nor TO. The changes made were more specifically to line items based on the actual current needs. Revenue increased as there was some additional state funding for this year and next year. We get reimbursed a portion of what our expenses are from the state. With the anticipated number that will be serving next year to eliminate the waiting list, there will be additional revenue. Total expenses increased slightly.

The motion on the floor to review, discuss and recommend the 2021 Human Services Budget as presented to the County Executive was passed unanimously. (6-0)

With no further business Larry Lautenschlager moved for adjournment; seconded by Donna Lohry and carried at 10:45 a.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be held on **Monday, August 3, 2020 with location to be determined.**

Respectfully submitted by Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department/pb