

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

**Minutes**

**DATE:** Monday, April 1, 2013

**TIME:** 3:00 p.m.

**PLACE:** Neenah Human Services Building, Rm. 008

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jerry Finch, Jim Koziczowski, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, Harold Singstock and Tom Widener

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Ron Kuehl, Larry Lautenschlager and Donna Lohry

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bill Topel, Ellen Shute, Tom Saari, Mary Krueger, Ann Kriegel, Debby Blankenship, and Dorothy De Grace

**ALSO PRESENT:** Mark Harris, County Executive and State Representatives Gordon Hintz and Michael Schraa

Jim Koziczowski 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: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 4, 2013 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**

Jerry Finch moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Harold Singstock and carried.

**AGENDA ITEM #3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2013 ADRC MEETING AND THE FEBRUARY 12, 2013 SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETING**

Rob Paterson moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Mike Norton and carried.

**AGENDA ITEM #4: PROGRAM – LEGISLATIVE UPDATES**

State Representative Gordon Hintz said some of the most recent debates have been regarding revenue for such things as K-12 education funding; taxpayer funding for private schools; and how much debt we want to take on to fund transportation. These will all have an impact on the remaining services offered at the state level. He said the Legislature decided not to delay or scale back on transportation projects, but is proposing to pay for them by borrowing the money. Gordon said he is concerned that they will reduce the debt service to pay for roads, but it will come out of the operating budget.

Mike Norton said there is concern about how the sequester will affect the Nutrition Program in Winnebago County. Mary Krueger said Wisconsin is projected to have a \$650,000 decrease in funding to the Aging Program. Bill Topel said counties would have to decide if they want to put dollars into the program. Gordon said some of the initial actions haven't trickled down yet.

## **MEETING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

**Minutes for Monday, April 1, 2013**

**Page 2**

Mike Norton expressed concern about who would bear the cost if 17 year olds are brought back into the Juvenile Justice System. He said he hasn't heard of any plan about who would assume that responsibility.

Jim Koziczkowski asked if there is any thought of reducing the prison population by giving an early release to senior prisoners with high medical costs. Gordon responded that the health needs of prisoners are generally more than the average population, but he doesn't know what legal consideration there would be in releasing them early or to whom they would release them.

State Representative Michael Schraa said 70% of Winnebago County's inmates have drug or alcohol issues. He said he believes an intensive drug treatment program would reduce the current recidivism rate for non-violent offenders who are on probation & parole. He pointed out that the county's Drug Court Program already brought recidivism rates down about 11%. Bill Topel said there would need to be funding to follow the prisoners that are released to treatment programs. Gordon Hintz said the likelihood of a prisoner succeeding when he is released would be having a supportive family and a support group or supportive employer in the transition.

Bill Topel said the Governor introduced new mechanisms in the budget for enhanced rates for mental health programs for counties that operate as a region. Since Human Services is the sole source of many of the mental health programs in the county, we are hoping that we would qualify as a regional facility to be eligible for the enhanced rates. Bill distributed copies of a graph from a study done several years ago showing that the amount of Community Aids and Children & Family Aids that counties receive have not increased over the years, but the mandates remain the same. Since the rates for service have gone up, counties must put more money into the programs.

### **AGENDA ITEM #5: FINANCIAL REPORTS**

Ellen Shute referred to the final unaudited copy of the 2012 Financial Report. The year ended with \$986,753 unexpended tax levy of which \$651,190 pertains to the Labor account. In referring to the inpatient and institutional utilization chart, Ellen said the overall average daily population for 2012 was below the projected amount for each area. She noted that for January and February of this year there was a zero average daily population for Juvenile Corrections.

### **AGENDA ITEM #6: DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Bill Topel reminded Board members of the Human Services Day at the Capitol on Wednesday, April 10 and the Spring WCHSA Conference on May 8, 9, and 10. The Public Hearings regarding the 2014 Human Services Budget will be held on June 19 at 6:00 p.m. at the Oshkosh Library and on June 20 at 8:30 a.m. at the Neenah Human Services Building.

### **AGENDA ITEM #7: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

With no further business Mike Norton moved for adjournment; seconded by Jerry Finch and carried at 4:40 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be held on **Monday, May 6, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.** at the Oshkosh Human Services Building.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Lohry, Board Secretary/dd