

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

Minutes

DATE: Monday, October 5, 2015

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building, Rm. 33

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jerry Finch, Jim Koziczowski, Ron Kuehl, Larry Lautenschlager, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, Harold Singstock and Tom Widener

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Donna Lohry

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Ellen Shute, Tom Saari, and Dorothy De Grace

OTHERS PRESENT: District Attorney Christian Gossett and Valerie Stuart, Alternative and Diversion Program Coordinator

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 SEPTEMBER 8, 2015 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Jerry Finch moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Larry Lautenschlager and carried.

AGENDA ITEM #3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 10, 2015 ADRC COMMITTEE MEETING

Tom Widener moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Ron Kuehl and carried.

PROGRAM: (Jim Koziczowski moved this agenda item to be next)

Christian Gossett explained that the DA's office offers several different alternative/diversion programs, and they currently have around 300 people active in the programs. The Crossroads program is for 17-26 year olds who have committed a first-time, low-level offense and who are kept out of the criminal justice system if they complete the conditions of the program. There are currently 15 people active in the program; 13 have completed the program; there is a pending offer for 1 individual; 4 have declined to be in the program; and 8 individuals were revoked from the program. Christian said there is a big push not to put juveniles into the criminal justice system, since research shows they are more likely to commit new offenses if they are labeled as a criminal. Instead, we don't charge them for a low-level offense but offer them an alternative program which puts the onus on them to get out of trouble. The Crossroads program gives the DA's office the ability to assess the individual's needs and work out an agreement with them based on what offense they committed. The individual is responsible for getting back on track by following the rules of the agreement.

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The DA's office restructured in 2014 by putting all cases related to family units together under one regional prosecutor to be more responsive to family needs and dynamics. The prosecutor coordinates with Human Services and the school district to have a solution oriented prosecution for the family, rather than an isolated individual prosecution. The DA's office refers individuals whenever they can to the appropriate resources to help them accomplish their goals and lower their chances of reoffending. There is an initial assessment fee of \$50 for an offender to enter the Crossroads program and \$35 per month for program fees. An individual is usually in the program for at least six to nine months.

AGENDA ITEM #4: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS

Ellen Shute referred to a chart of placement statistics and reported that the average daily population (ADP) through August for Child Welfare Division, Juvenile Corrections is 2.5 and below the budgeted number; the ADP for Residential Care Centers is 5.2 and below the budgeted number; under the Behavioral Health & Long Term Support Division's Specialty Hospitals for adults the ADP is 6.1 and is above the budgeted number (a few of these continue to be longer term placements); the ADP for Specialty Hospitals for individuals under age 22 is .8 and below our budgeted number – the ADP fluctuates due to short-term hospital stays. The ADP of 5.7 for Secure Detention is below the budgeted number; and the ADP for Foster Care is 115.3 and well above the budgeted number. We were able to return 11 kids home to their families from foster care.

AGENDA ITEM #5: FINANCIAL REPORT

Ellen Shute said the 2015 Financial Report shows a \$1,110,353 surplus. Some of this surplus is attributed to accruals from 2014 and a surplus of \$251,000 in the labor account due to vacant positions.

AGENDA ITEM #6: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill Topel informed the Board of the following: 1) the Wisconsin Counties Human Service Association (WCHSA) Fall Conference will take place December 3 & 4 in Stevens Point; 2) Senate Bill 280 regarding 17 year-olds going back into the Juvenile Justice system was introduced in the Senate, and it included no funding; 3) Bill is involved with a group to support getting all categories of mental health funding under one Community Mental Health fund to make it more flexible and simplify how it will be used; 4) counties will be supporting the state's petition to the Joint Finance Committee to release about \$200,000 in shorted funds to Income Maintenance units for Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act (PPACA) funds; 5) the state is in the process of changing the ADRC contracts with counties, which would indicate that the state would dictate more about the operation of ADRC's. The contract would allow services to be done outside the immediate area, and ADRC's would need to improve services especially in the call-in area. This would be similar to the Call Center used by Income Maintenance, and it is estimated to cost between \$10,000 and \$15,000 initially per county to be operational.

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AGENDA ITEM #7: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Larry Lautenschlager reported that he attended a couple of workshops at a Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA) meeting regarding long term care and having livable communities for the aging population.

Rob Paterson attended a recent Transportation Advocacy Committee meeting where they had a presentation and discussion on the enforcement of handicap parking.

With no further business Jerry Finch moved for adjournment; seconded by Ron Kuehl and carried at 4:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board is scheduled for **Monday, November 2, 2015 at 3:00 p.m.** in the Neenah Human Services Building, Room 008.

Respectfully submitted by Mike Norton, Board Secretary/dd