



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 11, 2017 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 11, 2017, in the 3rd Floor Conference room at the Rock County Health Care Center, Janesville, Wisconsin.

Committee Members Present: Chair Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Karl Dommershausen, Supervisor; Terry Fell, Supervisor; Ashley Kleven, Citizen Representative; Shirley Williams, Citizen Representative; and Terry Thomas, Supervisor.

Committee Members Absent: Linda Garrett, Citizen Representative.

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Phil Boutwell, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Division Manager; Tim Zuehlke, Controller; Jennifer Thompson, ADRC Division Manager; Jennifer Anselmi, APS Supervisor; Gay McRoberts, LTS AA; Jamie Austin ADRC AA; Jamie Dix, I/A Specialist; Beth Austin, I/A Specialist; and Diane Jones, I/A Specialist.

Others Present: Citizen Representative Kleven's daughter, Emma. Beloit Memorial students; Axel Maya; Austin Morgan; and Lydia Valenzuela.

Approval of Agenda: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Fell. The agenda was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of December 28, 2016: Supervisor Fell moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers. Supervisor Schulz asked about agenda items for the YSC vendor selection and the homeless shelter. Ms. Luster advised there is not a solid proposal yet for the YSC vendor. When a vendor is selected and we have a plan she will bring back information to the HSD Board. The Men's Gift Shelter is an agenda item for the next meeting. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Citizen Participation: None.

Submission of Committee Requests: None.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved nine contracts to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Thomas. Ms. Mooren advised there were no new contracts, and all the contracts are renewals. The contracts were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Review of Bills: Supervisor Schulz asked about the NAMI entry. Mr. Zuehlke responded that this was a State grant, the funds were passed through us and NAMI provided the Crisis Intervention Team training. Ms. Mooren advised there will be a resolution at the next meeting to accept the funds. Ms. Luster advised we are involved with the school based Diversion project. We are working with Beloit schools to divert youth from the Juvenile Justice system and refer them to Mental Health services. The funds are attached to the State specifically for CIT-Y (youth) training for Law Enforcement, and NAMI provided the training. Supervisor Schulz asked about evaluating contracts before they are funded. Ms. Luster advised this is not a contract, it is a grant, and funds were

passed through us. Ms. Luster advised that the HSD is basically serving as a fiscal agent for the State with these funds. Citizen Representative Williams asked about the negative balances. Ms. Mooren explained normally we have transfers throughout the year but we were so close to the end of year that we did not do the transfer. The Finance Director will do the end of the year transfers once our estimates are done. We are working on our estimate and will bring that to the next meeting. Mr. Zuehlke and Ms. Mooren responded to questions.

Update Regarding Bed Bug Policy and Prevention: Mr. Boutwell distributed copies of the HSD Bed Bugs policy. Mr. Boutwell has outreached for partners in the community because the bed bug issue is well spread and not just an HSD issue. The bed bug problem is getting worse among the lower economic class due to the cost of control which includes some of the clients we serve. We recognize we can't stop making home visits to clients, but we want workers to know how to problem solve and work with landlords when there is an infestation.

Mr. Boutwell advised that the AFH who came to the Board previously was very frustrated. It is not an easy fix when there is an infestation and can be expensive. Ms. Riese wanted resources to help her get rid of the infestation. He explained it is not in our policy that we will pay for solving bed bug issues. Mr. Boutwell talked to Ms. Riese in June and she had solved the problem. She had gotten an exterminator, and she was putting clients' clothes in a dryer before coming in house. It is not an easy fix and she has had more issues with bed bugs. The HSD has an obligation to find some fixes to assist with bed bug issues. Mr. Boutwell is looking into the community to develop educational resources, treatment to limit the spread of bed bugs, find low cost alternatives, and offer some assistance. He went to a group that represents the Public Health Department. Unfortunately, they did not show interest in being involved. He is going to reach out to the City Housing program, and the Realty and Property Management group.

Supervisor Schulz stated she heard that Ms. Riese's expenses were \$25,000. She expressed it doesn't seem fair and there should be some financial help. Ms. Luster advised there is not an easy answer to the bed bug issue. Workers want to fix it quickly but it is expensive, and it is not clear cut that the County is responsible. We have empathy for the situation, but we are not in the position to be budgeting for this. Our angle is to work on prevention, support, and engage the community to take a role. It would be difficult to budget responsibly with County resources.

Discussion continued and Ms. Luster responded to questions. Ms. Luster advised it is difficult to prove where the bed bugs come from and workers follow protocol when visiting homes and when placing a client, but some providers also have MCO clients in the same home. Our policy is to support prevention and we are looking in the community to find partners. We can't do this by ourselves. Mr. Boutwell will report back after he meets with the housing group.

Praise and Recognition of Ms. Thompson and ADRC Staff: Ms. Luster invited Ms. Thompson and the ADRC staff to the HSD Board to formally recognize them for all their work on the transition to Family Care. It was an incredibly challenging year, some workers moved, some lost jobs, and meeting the expectations of State was intense. Ms. Luster came on as Director after the transition to Family Care was already underway. She wanted to acknowledge that Ms. Thompson's leadership helped her as she began her new role. The State also has recognized that Ms. Thompson is a model for others transitioning to Family Care.

Ms. Thompson introduced staff individually and shared how each was instrumental in the transition. She stated we are where we are now because of all the staff. Chair Knudson and Supervisor Thomas both expressed thanks and commented on how this was a large undertaking. Supervisor Fell added that Ms. Thompson has always talked about how strong her staff is and given them credit for the successes.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 4:30 p.m., at the Rock County Health Care Center, 3rd Floor Conference room, Janesville, Wisconsin.

Adjournment: Supervisor Thomas motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Schulz with unanimous approval at 5:15 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Administrative Secretary

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