

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

Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, May 27, 2026

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building Room 33

MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Lautenschlager, Chris Kniep, Karen Powers, Harold Singstock, Carl Schulze, Rachael Dowling, and KristL Laux

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Richard Norenburg

VIRTUAL: Frank Frassetto

STAFF PRESENT: Renee Soroko, Heather Foust, Annette Beattie, Ann Kriegel, Janet Rohloff, Melissa Hoodie, Kari Kraft, Brett Baumgarten (IT) and Julie Kotajarvi

Renee Soroko called the meeting to order at 2:03 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM D1: ELECTION OF OFFICERS: CHAIR, VICE CHAIR AND SECRETARY AS WELL AS A DISCUSSION ON FUTURE MEETING DAY AND TIME

The agenda was out of order due to elections. Renee Soroko opened nominations for Human Services Board Chair. Karen Powers nominated Larry Lautenschlager seconded by Harold Singstock and carried unanimously (7-0). Harold then nominated Karen Powers for Vice Chair, seconded by Carl Schulze and carried unanimously (7-0). Harold Singstock nominated KristL Laux for Secretary, seconded by Karen Powers and carried unanimously (7-0)

New members Carl Schulze and Rachael Dowling introduced themselves and provided a brief overview of their background. Frank Frassetto, County Board Chair, was online observing and gave a brief introduction.

The group discussed whether to change meeting time and day and no changes were made. Karen Powers moved to keep the meetings on the 4th Monday of each month at 2:00 pm in Room 33. Seconded by KristL Laux and carried unanimously (7-0)

AGENDA ITEM B: PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

AGENDA ITEM C1: APPROVE MINUTES OF MARCH 23, 2026, HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Karen Powers moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by KristL Laux and carried unanimously. (5-0)

Rachael Dowling and Carl Schulze abstained as they were not members of the board during that time.

AGENDA ITEM C2: ACCEPT MINUTES OF MARCH 9, 2026, ADRC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Karen Powers moved for approval; seconded by KristL Laux and carried unanimously. (5-0)

Rachael Dowling and Carl Schulze abstained as they were not members of the board during that time.

AGENDA ITEM D2: APPROVE A TABLE OF ORGANIZATION CHANGE ADDING THREE QUALITY CONTROL POSITIONS WITHIN THE DHS ECONOMIC SUPPORT DIVISION

Ann Kreigl explained the new state mandate, ACT 116, requiring Quality Control Positions reviewing SNAP eligibility. The 'Big Beautiful Bill' cut SNAP funding nationwide. As a result, State of Wisconsin passed ACT 116 in April, restoring 25% of SNAP benefits as well as funding statewide Quality Control Positions. The goal is to maintain a payment error rate under 6%. We are part of a 9-county consortium with each consortia determining how many positions are needed to comply with state requirements. Positions are fully funded.

Larry opened the motion to accept the resolution. KristL Laux moved; seconded by Chris Kneip

AGENDA ITEM D3: HUMAN SERVICES OVERVIEW

Renee Soroko provided an overview of Human Service programs and staff. She also reviewed program descriptions, highlighted service areas and explained mandated and discretionary services.

AGENDA ITEM E1: REPORT ON RECRUITMENT AND RETENTION BY RENEE SOROKO

Renee Soroko identified current vacancies with 12 openings. Interviews and job offers are ongoing. Human Services Director position is posted through June 9th.

AGENDA ITEM E2: FINANCIAL REPORT BY JANET ROHLOFF

Janet Rohloff reported that the 2025 year-end financial report is unaudited because the books have not closed yet. The year end surplus is currently \$357,227. Janet went through the March financials. The projection is \$1 million in surplus, but this is likely to change as it is early in the year. There was a budget adjustment that went through for the change with the Connect Program going from Human Services to the DA's office. That has not been reflected yet.

AGENDA ITEM G1: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS

Renee Soroko reviewed placement statistics: Child Welfare (CW) Division – Juvenile Corrections averages 1.0 Actual Daily Populations (ADP). Residential Care Centers average 3.0 ADP. Behavioral

Health (BH) - Specialty Hospitals for adults' averages 1.4 ADP with the youth averaging 0.6 ADP. Secure Detention is 3.4 ADP. Foster Care is 52.1 ADP. Kinship Placements are 146 ADP.

AGENDA ITEM G: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Chris Kneip mentioned the Powerful Tools for Caregivers class went very well and she was pleased with the success of this class. This was an in-person 6-week program class that helps caregivers take better care of themselves while providing for a friend or relative. The event organizer is Alisa Richetti, and another class will be offered in the fall.

KristL Laux mentioned Meals on Wheels concerns which we will include on a future agenda for further discussion.

Karen Powers asked if the wheelchair wash had been scheduled. This event will take place on August 8th at J & R Auto 629 N Main Street, Oshkosh WI 54901 from 10 am to 12 pm.

Rachael Dowling thanked the individual responsible for preparing the meeting minutes, noting that the records provided a clear and helpful overview of the past couple of years.

Larry Lautenschlager attended the Wisconsin County Human Services spring conference, and he was pleased with the workshops and positive energy. In July there is a NACO Meeting in New Orleans. Larry and Steve Binder are attending.

With no further business, Karen Powers moved for adjournment; seconded by KristL Lauz and carried at 3:42 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, June 22, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. in the Oshkosh Human Services Building in Room 33.**

Respectfully submitted by Julie Kotajarvi, Human Services Department/jk