

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

Minutes

DATE: Wednesday, September 4th, 2024

TIME: 2:00 p.m.

PLACE: Oshkosh Human Services Building Room 33

MEMBERS PRESENT: Ralph Harrison, Chris Kniep, Larry Lautenschlager, Harold Singstock, Mark Weisensel, Bryan Stafford, Koby Schellenger

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Karen Powers

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Renee Soroko, Annette Beattie, Heather Foust, Ann Kriegel, Beth Roberts, Janet Rohloff., Heather Foust, Kari Kraft, Lisa Pendleton, Cindy Hasenohrl, Christie Siebenaller, Amanda Van Schyndel, Jill Holzhausen, Colleen Sullivan, Troy Eckes, Chris Tylka Oleson, Sage Stiebs-Mathewson, Corey Roth, Steve Navis, Bradi Woulf, Mackenzie Navis, Jazmyn Weinzatl, Melissa Peterson, Jennifer Long, Tanya Kocian, and Julie Kotajarvi

Vice Chairman Ralph Harrison called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM B: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

AGENDA ITEM C #1: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JULY 29TH, 2024 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Chris Kniep proposed an amendment of the minutes from July 29th. They were updated to reflect that change.

Mark Weisensel moved for approval and amendment of these minutes; seconded by Harold Singstock and carried unanimously. (6-0)

AGENDA ITEM C #2: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JUNE 10TH, 2024 ADRC COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Harold Singstock moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Chris Kniep and carried unanimously. (6-0)

AGENDA ITEM E: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS

The next item on the agenda was the Foster Parent Recognition. Chris and Mickie Coenen were not at the meeting at that time so Human Services Director Bill Topel reviewed placement statistics: Child Welfare (CW) Division – Juvenile Corrections is at 0.0 Actual Daily Populations (ADP). Residential Care Centers are currently at 4.0 ADP. Behavioral Health (BH) - Specialty Hospitals for adults is at 6.0 ADP with the youth being at 0.2 ADP. Secure Detention is at 1.2 ADP. Foster Care is at 36.4 ADP. Kinship Placements are at 139.0 ADP.

AGENDA ITEM F: FINANCIAL REPORT

Janet Rohloff stated the adjusted budget column is updated to reflect the budget transfers in spring. One for a new van and the other for Children's Long Term Support positions.

Operating expenses are over budget. Consumer expenses are greater than budgeted. There is more demand for gas cards, bus passes, and gift cards. Rent assistance is also a significant need. Rent has increased as well as application fees. We serve many high needs clients.

AGENDA ITEM G: DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT

Deputy Director Renee Soroko stated vacancies number are down (usually around 20). Currently, there are 12 positions open. 3 in Behavioral Health, 9 in Child Welfare with 4 being social work specialists. The other 5 in child welfare are at our Shelter Care Facility.

AGENDA ITEM H: DIRECTOR REPORT

Bill Topel continued with WCHSA updates saying they have been active since May on the best way to approach the state on the biennial budget. The plan was to outline the top 5 priorities. This should have a better chance of getting into the budget to reach the governor by September for the February budget. Bill gave details about the cost-of-living adjustments on the aide's formulas (2%), Medicaid reimbursement for crisis programs at 100% which right now it is at 60%, there are requests for increasing funding in Adult Protective Services and Birth to Three program. The formulas have not been keeping up with costs. Next month a resolution will be discussed supporting the top three.

BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Bryan Stafford thanked Beth Roberts for the presentation at the County Board of Supervisor's meeting and shared how informative and enlightening the information provided was. Ralph Harrison also expressed gratitude for the information.

Larry Lautenschlager joined the meeting at 2:48 pm.

AGENDA ITEM D:

There was an agenda order change while waiting for the foster family to arrive. Though not present, several staff were present to recognize and thank Mickie and Chris Coenen for 35 years of dedicated service. Throughout the years, they have fostered more than 200 children, primarily teenage boys. Ralph encouraged staff to say a few words and/or share a memory. We can't thank them enough for being a trusted safe place for so many.

With no further business, Larry Lautenschlager moved for adjournment; seconded by Bryan Stafford and carried at 2:58p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, October 7th, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. in the Oshkosh Human Services Building in Room 33.**

Respectfully submitted by Julie Kotajarvi, Human Services Department/jk