

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

**Minutes**

**DATE:** Monday, February 5, 2024

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

**PLACE:** Oshkosh Human Services Building Room 33

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Ed Jeziorny, Ralph Harrison, Kay Horan, Chris Kniep, Larry Lautenschlager, Rebecca Nichols, Karen Powers, Harold Singstock, Mark Weisensel

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bill Topel, Renee Soroko, Annette Beattie, Heather Foust, Ann Kriegel, Beth Roberts, Janet Rohloff., Tammy Steier and Pam Bartelt

Chairman Larry Lautenschlager called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

**AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

There were no public comments.

Chairman Larry Lautenschlager announced a change in the order of agenda items to move item #5 after item #8. Karen Powers moved to accept this change; seconded by Kay Horan and approved by all members.

**PROGRAM #2: DETECTIVE SCHROEDER - SHERIFF DEPARTMENT ON COMMUNITY SAFETY**

Deputy Director Renee Soroko introduced Detective Kyle Schroeder from Winnebago County Sheriff's Dept. Detective Schroeder has been with the department for 21 years. His team works specifically with the vulnerable population on crimes such as fraud of the elderly, human trafficking, and internet crimes against children (ICAC). Due to the volume of fraud complaints, it was apparent this was a big issue impacting our area. Free fraud trainings have been offered in Winnebago County to assist in making the vulnerable population a harder target. Currently fraud is on the downslide. The most common targets of fraud are retirees and elderly as they have easily accessed monies. Many targeted people will not report as they are embarrassed. Reporting crime and reaching out for resources is the best prevention. Human trafficking is "sex for money" crimes or where people are forced into this against their will. Victims are provided with resources to leave the lifestyle. ICAC encompasses local child sex crimes where children have been victimized physically, emotionally, or sexually. Proactive tasks involve monitoring the internet for illegal data. Currently they have eight detectives with two additional approved positions which will allow more time to work with victims and process crimes more efficiently.

**AGENDA ITEM #3: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 3 2024 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**

Kay Horan moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Ed Jeziorny and carried unanimously. (9-0)

**AGENDA ITEM #4: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 8, 2024 ADRC COMMITTEE AND NOVEMBER 21, 2023 SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION COUNCIL MEETINGS**

Mark Weisensel moved for acceptance of these minutes with the corrected date of November 21, 2023 for Specialized Transportation Council; seconded by Kay Horan and carried unanimously. (9-0)

**AGENDA ITEM #5: FINANCIAL REPORT**

Janet Rohloff, Administrative Division Manager, gave an update on large transactions as part of the year end closing. There are two transfers: 1) the Opioid settlement fund for \$487,000 and 2) the Neighborhood Improvement Grant at \$430,000. This is about \$50,000 more than budgeted. Another item will be the fund transfer of \$784,000 from the operating budget to the labor budget as discussed for the re-slotting of positions approved in 2023 and the approved differential pay. That transfer will come to this board for approval in March 2024. Final adjustments are being made with the final close of books in April 2024.

**AGENDA ITEM #6: DEPUTY DIRECTOR REPORT**

Renee Soroko shared that there are currently 15 vacant positions. Discussion at last month's meeting included reviewing available resources for application processing and improving recruitment. Winnebago County is looking into options in our currently software system of currently have in Munis/Tyler.

Annette Beattie, CW Division Manager, mentioned we are increasing foster home recruitment efforts as there has been a reduction since the pandemic. Annette shared contact information for anyone that might be interested in learning more about this opportunity.

**AGENDA ITEM #7: DIRECTOR REPORT**

Bill Topel mentioned the upcoming WCHSA Spring Conference taking place April 24 – 26 2024. It is being held in Wausau this year. Information will be shared soon for registration. Legislative conference is going on in Madison with lots of committee hearings. Bill is planning to attend a hearing on a bill in CLTS area. We are paying \$800,000 annually in Maintenance of Effort that was established in 2016 with some counties contributing significantly less or nothing. This legislation would shift responsibility to the state thus reducing county levy. Other legislation is deleting "Xylazine" from the paraphernalia list to allow contamination testing. Legislation in process to broaden the definitions for 'like-kin' will be addressed.

**AGENDA ITEM #8: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS**

Human Services Director Bill Topel reviewed placement statistics: Child Welfare (CW) Division – Juvenile Corrections remains at 0.0 Actual Daily Populations (ADP). Residential Care Centers are

currently at 3.0 ADP. Behavioral Health (BH) - Specialty Hospitals for adults is at 3.6 ADP with the youth being at 0.8 ADP. Secure Detention is at 3.5 ADP. Foster Care is at 40.4 ADP. Kinship Placements are at 141.0 ADP.

**AGENDA ITEM #9: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Larry Lautenschlager shared the date for the Wheelchair Wash will be August 10, 2024, 10:00 am – noon. This will take place at A & R Auto located on Main Street, Oshkosh. Larry will be attending the NACo Conference in Washington next week. Larry serves on the Human Services & Education Committee and Healthy Counties.

With no further business, Karen Powers moved for adjournment; seconded by Kay Horan and carried at 4:55 p.m. The next meeting will be held on **Monday, March 4, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. in the Neenah Human Services Building in Room 008.**

Respectfully submitted by Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department/pb