

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

**Minutes**

**DATE:** Thursday, June 23, 2016

**TIME:** 8:45 a.m.

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

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jerry Finch, Jim Koziczkowski, Ron Kuehl, Donna Lohry, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, Karen Powers, and Harold Singstock

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Larry Lautenschlager

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bill Topel, Mary Fredrickson, Tom Saari, Leo Podoski, Ann Kriegel, Gina Vanden Branden and Dorothy De Grace

Mike Norton called the meeting to order at 8:45 a.m. with the intent of considering any additional testimony for the Public Hearing.

**AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC HEARING:**

The Public Hearing concluded at approximately 9:30 a.m.

**AGENDA ITEM #2: REVIEW, DISCUSS AND RECOMMEND 2017 HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET TO COUNTY EXECUTIVE:**

Mike Norton moved to bring the 2017 proposed Budget to the floor for review, discussion and recommendation to the County Executive.

Bill Topel explained that our target for the 2017 Budget as directed by the County Executive was a zero percent tax levy increase. We've had a large surplus at the end of the last couple of years, so the goal was to trim the budget to get closer to a break even budget. At the same time, we needed to cover for salary adjustments as a result of the McGrath compensation study. We tried to make adjustments in some accounts without jeopardizing service. There are some unknowns regarding revenues; for example, we are currently experiencing a surplus "windfall" because hospitals aren't requiring us to pay for indigent individuals. That requirement could return next year because of the uncertainty of the Affordable Care Act.

**ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES DIVISION:**

Mary Fredrickson explained that a vacant position on the Administrative Services table of organization had been carried over since we went to Family Care in 2010, and it will now be eliminated. She said we have been directed to use a 2% increase in labor and 6% for fringes in all divisions.

Mary said the biggest percentage change for the Administrative Services budget is in other operating expenses for the certification and licensing fees for the database used by Behavioral Health. We are also requesting to replace one of our agency vehicles.

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### **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIVISION:**

Tom Saari explained that one position on the table of organization is being moved from Safe Streets case manager to Case Management & Community Support Team because of a requirement to have substance abuse services available as part of the Comprehensive Community Services. The title of two Team Case Managers/Vocational Specialists has changed to Team Case Manager. Tom said he is requesting a half-time Mental Health Tech position. This will allow the elimination of a temporary position and prevent over-time hours.

Tom said that his budget shows a revenue decrease for a one-time \$500,000 grant for crisis training – our agency was in charge of disbursing the funds to law enforcement agencies. Under “other operating expenses” there is a decrease due to decreased billing as a result of Medicaid presumptive eligibility requirements, which one hospital is now contracting with a provider to do. The line item, “Building Rental” for Summit House and Toward Tomorrow has increased to \$75,000 due to our landlord (the Housing Authority) increasing the rent; although they need to first address some building violations for which we are being fined and which affect our CBRF license.

### **CHILD WELFARE DIVISION:**

Leo Podoski explained that Kinship Homes are now being licensed as foster homes, so the grant per month is increased. The budget shows a decrease of \$200,000 for Child Foster Home placements and \$155,000 for Residential Care Center placements due to the implementation of a new In-Home Safety program. We have increased our expenses by \$515,553 for contracted Youth Wrap-Around therapy services as part of the In-Home Safety program.

Leo said revenues were increased by \$153,000 for the growing Post Reunification program. We receive \$1,100 a month per child from the state which helps pay for supportive services or needs to the family of a child returning to his home. Our agency pays one-third of the cost of the program, which is voluntary to a family for up to a year. Our budget expenses for the program have been increased by \$183,530 for supportive funding; \$43,582 for consumer transportation; and \$5,000 for emergency rent assistance.

Leo said he is not requesting any new positions to the table of organization. We will be over budget in the area of labor costs due to hiring temporary help to cover for anticipated medical and maternity leaves.

### **ECONOMIC SUPPORT DIVISION:**

Ann Kriegel said the Economic Support Division is changing the two Child Care Specialist positions into two Economic Support Specialist positions and converting two part-time Special Project positions into one full-time Economic Support Specialist position.

Ann is requesting an increase of 18.4% for Travel, which is for meetings and trainings for her staff and herself.

Bill Topel explained that the decrease of \$24,500 under “Medical and Dental” is part of a five-year reduction in funding to the Living Healthy Clinic that was included in the 2015 Budget. The amount will be reduced to \$25,000 which we will continue to annually compensate to the Clinic for services to individuals not covered under the Affordable Care Act or Medicaid. We also currently pay \$25,000 to Partnership Community Health Center for uncompensated physical health care.

**LONG TERM SUPPORT DIVISION:**

Mary Fredrickson said there is no change to the table of organization for Long Term Support. There was a change in funding from the Community Options Program (COP) which was for Behavioral Health adults and for children with disabilities. That funding has been divided into the regular allocation to Behavioral Health and to the Children’s COP Program. Another change is that the Children’s Waiver Program funding for children’s autism services has gone to an insurance based or Medicaid payment for services.

Mary said we’ve included \$50,000 in the budget to pay each municipality’s share of transportation for the elderly and disabled. The actual cost is \$12 per ride – the individual pays \$6.00 and the municipality pays \$6.00. There is a limit of 10 rides per month for each individual.

There is an increase of \$6,600 to cover the increased need for interpreter services to our clients. We are noticing an increased need for interpreting the Arabic language and for sign language—some is due to the influx of individuals from the World Relief program.

Following completion of the Budget presentation, Jim Koziczowski moved to approve the proposed 2017 Budget as presented and to forward it to the County Executive; seconded by Ron Kuehl; motion carried unanimously (6-0) – Finch and Powers not present.

With no further business, Donna Lohry moved to adjourn the meeting at 12:00 p.m.; seconded by Harold Singstock and carried unanimously. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be Monday, August 1, 2014 at 3:00 p.m. at the Neenah Human Service Building, Room 008.

Submitted by Rob Paterson, Human Services Board Secretary

Recorded by Dorothy De Grace, Department of Human Services