

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

Minutes

DATE: Monday, October 2, 2017

TIME: 3:00 p.m.

PLACE: Neenah Human Services Building, Room 008

MEMBERS PRESENT: Jim Koziczowski, Mike Norton, Harold Singstock, Donna Lohry, Jerry Finch, Judy Wright, Michael Conley-Kuhagen

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Larry Lautenschlager, Karen Powers

STAFF PRESENT: Bill Topel, Mary Fredrickson, Ann Kriegel, Debby Blankenship, Morgan Chivington, Beth Culp, Renee Soroko and Pam Bartelt

Mike Norton called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM #1: PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

There were no comments.

AGENDA ITEM #2: APPROVE MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 11, 2017 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

Jerry Finch moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Michael Conley-Kuhagen and carried. (7-0).

AGENDA ITEM #3: ACCEPT MINUTES OF THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2017 CHILDREN'S COP MEETING

Donna Lohry moved for acceptance of these minutes; seconded by Judy Wright and carried (7-0)

Program was moved to the next agenda item.

PROGRAM: ECONOMIC SUPPORT CONSORTIUM

Ann Kriegel, Economic Support Division (ESD) Manager introduced Debby Blankenship - Supervisor and Morgan Chivington - Economic Support Specialist (ESS). Back in 1996 – 1998 there were many changes and moved to 'Wisconsin Works' (W2). With W2, in order to receive a check, you will either need to be working or looking for work. The amount of the check has not changed: \$623 or \$673 regardless of the family size. This program has been privatized and is now run by Forward Services who does have an office in Oshkosh. Child Care Assistance, Food Share and Badger Care are the programs that ESD does administer. In 2012, The East Central Income Maintenance Partnership was formed with Calumet, Green Lake, Kewaunee, Marquette, Manitowoc, Outagamie, Sheboygan, Waupaca, Waushara and Winnebago County. Sheboygan left this group in 2015 but the other nine counties are still part of this. At any given time, there are about 125 ESS workers answering calls in the nine counties handling about 16-17,000 calls per month. There are 29 or 30 agents taking calls at a time in Winnebago County. Winnebago County has about 7,500 households on Food Share, with \$1,539,996 per month issued; 26,000 people are receiving healthcare. Of these 26,000, 5,200 are elderly, blind

or disabled; 10,000 are children; 3,300 are childless adults; 1,600 are in other programs. Of those getting Food Share, 56% are female; 57% are adults with 43% children; 639 statewide are minor parents; 25% are disabled; 40% of adults are working. Of those that are not disabled, not working and with no children, they are required to look for work to continue receiving benefits.

Morgan is an ESS and shared what her typical day looks like. This usually entails 4-6 hours answering calls in the call center, a couple hours processing paperwork from the calls, time allowed for appointments if people want face to face time, training and mentor new workers, collaborate with different agencies in the county, services for people that come into the agency to discuss issues. They deal with a diverse group of people including pregnant women, elderly, people going into nursing home, single and double parent household and families with life changing events such as a death. Some people need temporary assistance while other need long term services. It takes approximately 6 months to become trained for this position. There is a high turnover rate as it is difficult spending that amount of time on the phone each day processing applications with a high degree of accuracy.

AGENDA ITEM #4: INPATIENT & INSTITUTIONAL PLACEMENT STATISTICS

Bill Topel shared that Child Welfare Juvenile Corrections is down to 1.0 Average Daily Population (ADP). Residential Care Centers ADP is up a little to 2.2. Specialty Hospital for adults is up a little to 2.6 ADP which is still within budget. The ADP for under 22 years of age is down to .1 which indicates one child was in for three days. Secure Detention is down to 5.2 ADP. Foster Care remains about the same at 82.5 ADP.

AGENDA ITEM # 5: FINANCIAL REPORT

Mary Fredrickson shared that we are about \$257,000 under budget from the previous month, which is related to placements mentioned above. The surplus in labor is due to the vacancies due to time needed for the process to fill positions as well as a possible change in fringes. There is a surplus showing for travel but we are just coming in to the time of year where conferences and trainings are offered. The \$600,000 increase in revenue shows in several areas. LTS is servicing more children. The placements in some of the programs are needing support in home and community rather than residential treatment. Program expenses are less than anticipated this year to date.

AGENDA ITEM #6: CONSIDER AND ACT ON RESOLUTION TO BE BOUND BY THE ENGAGEMENT LETTER TO PURSUE CERTAIN LEGAL CLAIMS AGAINST CERTAIN OPIOID MANUFACTURERS ON BEHALF OF PUBLIC ENTITIES SEEKING TO HOLD THEM RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OPIOID EPIDEMIC

This was withdrawn from the agenda to be considered again in the November meeting.

AGENDA ITEM #7: DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Bill Topel shared that there is a WCHSA meeting coming up on October 20, 2017 at Fox Valley Technical College with a presentation from John Tuohy from Department of Children & Families. The water fountains and chillers for these fountains will be purchased and will be functional by the end of the year. Bill also mentioned that he will be contacting the credit union to check into leasing approximately 10 stalls from them. We have been informed that the Living Healthy Clinic will no longer be operated by UW Oshkosh. There will be more information regarding a transition in the future. There will be a resolution put forth to the Board of Health regarding 'Conversion Therapy' not being used. That is not practiced here at all, however the definition needs to be narrowed down as it is too general. Bill shared that he has been invited as a county public sector representative to a conference in Washington, D. C.-Health & Human Services Summit which he will be attending next week.

AGENDA ITEM #8: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS

Mike Norton asked whether the elimination of the CHIPS funding will affect our agency and it will not. He also asked about whether someone from our agency will be going on a relief effort to the areas that were affected by the recent storms. This is being considered and will be decided later this week.

Jerry Finch shared that the WCA Conference was superb regarding the information provided.

Mike Norton shared that Beth Culp did a good job representing Winnebago County at an Advocap sponsored event.

With no further business Jerry Finch moved for adjournment; seconded by Judy Wright and carried 4:55 p.m. The next meeting of the Human Services Board was changed to **Monday, November 13, 2017 at 3:00 p.m. and will be held in the Neenah Human Services Building.**

Respectfully submitted by Pam Bartelt, Human Services Department/pb