

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

**Minutes**

**DATE:** Monday, May 6, 2013

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

**PLACE:** Oshkosh Human Services Building, Rm. 33

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jerry Finch, Jim Koziczowski, Donna Lohry, Mike Norton, Rob Paterson, Harold Singstock and Tom Widener

**MEMBERS EXCUSED:** Ron Kuehl and Larry Lautenschlager

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Cindy Draws, Public Health Department and Myriam Mwizerwa, World Relief of the Fox Valley

**STAFF PRESENT:** Bill Topel, Ann Kriegel, Amber Foley and Dorothy De Grace

Jim Koziczowski 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 APRIL 1, 2013 HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**

Jerry Finch moved for approval of these minutes; seconded by Mike Norton and carried (7-0).

**AGENDA ITEM #3: 2013 BUDGET FINANCIAL REPORT**

Bill Topel said a full balance sheet will be available at next month's meeting. He referred to a "Hot Spot Report" for 2013 which lists areas within the budget that show a significant surplus or deficit. It shows a total net surplus balance of \$242,963 for those areas. Bill pointed out that on the inpatient and institutional utilization chart, child residential care centers shows an average daily population of 8.7 for this year so far, which is higher than the budgeted number. Bill will explain the reason for the increase at the next meeting.

**AGENDA ITEM #4: 2013 BUDGET TRANSFER REQUEST – AFFORDABLE CARE ACT FUNDING**

Ann Kriegel said Economic Support staff throughout the state will be very involved with the implementation of the Affordable Care Act. The state will have additional funding available for the extra workload that is expected to begin in October 2013. Ann asked the Board's approval to add two case manager positions to the table of organization. We will also increase the hours of our existing staff to 40 hours per week during the busy time. Bill Topel said we anticipate that the two individuals could work for two years until the funding is gone, at which time the positions would end. Mike Norton moved to accept the \$322,129 from the state of Wisconsin for the two full-time Economic Support Specialist positions; seconded by Donna Lohry.

## **MEETING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

**Minutes for Monday, May 6, 2013**

**Page 2**

Harold Singstock pointed out that the handout regarding the Affordable Care Act funding indicates that the \$322,129 from the state will be for July 1, 2013 through December 31, 2013. The state will also fund \$736,296 for the year 2014 and \$193,935 for 2015 ending June 30, 2015. The total amount expected from the state is approximately \$1,252,360 over a two year period. With this additional information added to the motion, the motion carried.

### **AGENDA ITEM #5: 2013 BUDGET TABLE OF ORGANIZATION – APPROVE CREATION OF TWO NEW FULL-TIME POSITIONS**

Ann Kriegel said the two new employees would be fully trained for the extra workload in the implementation of the Affordable Care Act, and they will be able to assist with other duties of the Family Team. Donna Lohry moved for approval of the creation of the two new full-time positions; seconded by Mike Norton. Jerry Finch added that the positions would be scheduled to terminate in July 2015, unless the state commits ongoing funding to support the positions. With the added information to the motion, the motion carried.

### **AGENDA ITEM #6: DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Bill Topel informed the Board that we are in the process of looking for a new arrangement for Shelter Care as part of last year's five-year plan for capital projects. They have looked at a vacant building in Oshkosh with the possibility of leasing it. They are also looking for another vendor agency to staff the facility replacing the current vendor. Bill explained that Shelter Care is a non-secure detention facility for kids who are under supervision with our department and are unable to stay at home. He said the current facility isn't adequate anymore. Bill will inform the Board as things progress.

### **AGENDA ITEM #7: BOARD MEMBER REPORTS**

Mike Norton reported that he attended a Smart Money conference presented by Kristi Cutts of the UW Extension office. He also attended a Transportation Plunge as part of a self-sufficiency project looking at transportation needs in the community to help people become self-sufficient.

### **PROGRAM: WORLD RELIEF ORGANIZATION – Miriam Mwizerwa**

Miriam Mwizerwa, director of the Oshkosh World Relief office said the Oshkosh office opened in February 2012. She said we were scheduled to receive 100 refugees last year, but actually received 86. We are also scheduled to receive 100 refugees this fiscal year, which runs from October 1 through September 30, 2014. Most of the population comes from Burma, Iraq and some African countries. World Relief is a federal program with three Wisconsin offices—in Madison, Milwaukee and Oshkosh. Miriam said once the refugees arrive we provide all the initial services, including finding an apartment; finding a doctor; getting them connected to Human Services for financial assistance; transportation service; English classes at FVTC or other class placement; and some resources in the community. Financial assistance is generally processed for a period of eight months, and after that time they receive support services from churches or other community organizations if needed. Amber Foley said the refugees are set up for the Food Share program, Badger Care, child care assistance, employment support and other financial assistance through the Economic Support Division at Human Services.

**MEETING OF THE DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**  
**Minutes for Monday, May 6, 2013**  
**Page 3**

Miriam said refugee status is offered for people when they are already outside of their country; after that they can apply for resettlement through a series of strenuous interviews with Homeland Security and other government agencies. After five years they can apply for citizenship; but if they don't apply within seven years they are no longer eligible for public assistance. There are currently about 10 million refugees globally, and only about 1% of that number gets resettlement into a third country. The United States accepts roughly 70 or 80 thousand refugees, and Canada accepts about 17 thousand. Some camps are selected for resettlement as a group through human rights advocates. Miriam said this is not a long term solution though, because they can't go back to their country of origin, and some are unable to be granted citizenship due to their situation.

With no further business Mike Norton moved for adjournment at 4:15 p.m.; seconded by Jerry Finch and carried. The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be held on **Monday, June 3, 2013 at 3:00 p.m.** in the Neenah Human Services Building.

Respectfully submitted by Donna Lohry, Board Secretary/dd