

MINUTES HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

DATE: Thursday, January 25, 2024
TIME: 5:00 PM
PLACE: Wood County Annex & Health Center - Classroom

MEMBERS PRESENT: Adam Fischer, Donna Rozar (WebEx), Tom Buttke, John Hokamp, Lee Thao, Rebecca Spiros (WebEx), Kristin Iniguez (WebEx), Mary Jo Wheeler-Schueller (WebEx)

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Lori Nordman

OTHERS PRESENT: Trent Miner, County Clerk; See attached sign-in list.

1. Chairman Fischer called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM
2. Chair Fischer declared a quorum present.
3. There were no public comments
4. The consent agenda was presented for approval. Motion by Buttke/Thao to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried unanimously.
5. The updated dates for the HHS Committee meetings, to include Edgewater Haven, was reviewed.
6. Heath Director Smith presented a resolution to amend the 2024 Public Health budget to include 2023 unspent funds for projects that will be using American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding. Motion by Rozar/Hokamp to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
7. Smith provided an update to the Child Care Task Force plan that was recently presented to the ARPA Committee. The plan has been narrowed in scope to include 3 objectives instead of 5, with a cost of approximately \$3 million.
8. Smith presented the request from the Family Health Center for a new clinic proposal in Wisconsin Rapids. The request for ARPA funds has increased by \$450,000. Motion by Buttke/Hokamp to express support for this additional funding to the ARPA Committee. Motion carried unanimously.
9. Vruwink provided data concerning out of home placements of children in Wood County, compared those numbers with those of other counties, and provided rationale behind those numbers. A long conversation with the committee occurred centering around the root causes of the out of home placements and possible solutions to the problem.

Chairman Fischer requested Vruwink provide the committee with more information on the issues surrounding youth issues facing Human Services.

10. Vruwink requested that a contracted, level 3 foster home social worker be moved to a county employee. There is a small cost savings to this move. Motion by Buttke/Hokamp to approve the switch in employee status from contracted to county employee. Motion carried unanimously.
11. Vruwink requested permission for a staff member to attend the Trust-Based Relational Intervention Training held in Houston, Texas March 18-22, with all expenses paid through scholarship and grant funding. Motion by Hokamp/Thao to approve the out of state travel request. Motion carried unanimously.
12. Fiscal Services Manager Schlagenhaft presented a resolution to amend the Human Services, Norwood Health Center 2024 Capital Projects budget to include 2023 unspent American Rescue Plan Act funds to complete projects that have carried over to 2024. Motion by Buttke/Thao to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
13. Edgewater Administrator Cieslewicz presented 2023 Wisconsin Long Term Care Market Study, done by Baker Tilly and released to the public back in November. He then compared that information to the 2010 Edgewater Strategic Plan that was completed by Wood County. After discussion it was decided that it may be beneficial to update the strategic plan. The committee will review Edgewater budget numbers later in the year to ascertain the ability of absorbing this cost within the 2024 budget. A tour of the facility for the committee was requested and will occur at the next meeting.
14. Fiscal Services Manager Schlagenhaft presented a resolution to amend the Human Services budget for a number of functions due to excess COVID 19 provider relief funding. Motion by Buttke/Hokamp to approve the resolution and forward onto the county board for their consideration. Motion carried unanimously.
15. Vruwink requested permission from the committee to solicit donations for the purchase of birthday presents for out of home placement children that do not receive them. This would be much like the Christmas present program already conducted by Human Services. Motion by Buttke/Hokamp to approve the request. Motion carried unanimously.
16. Wheeler-Schueller discussed a proposed community center in the Mill Creek area and the activities being held there. She is asking for the committee to write a letter of support for this venture. Consensus of the committee was to have Chairman Fischer draft the letter of support on behalf of the committee.
17. Future agenda items:
 - a. Tour of Edgewater Haven
 - b. Education on Children and Youth Issues in Wood County

18. Future meetings:

- a. Edgewater Haven Donation Adhoc Committee, Thursday, February 22, 2024, 4:00pm, Edgewater Haven
- b. Thursday, February 22, 2024, 5:00 PM, Edgewater Haven

19. Chairman Fischer declared the meeting adjourned at 6:53 PM.

Minutes taken by Trent Miner, County Clerk, and are in draft form until approved at the next meeting.

