



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, July 27, 2022 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Vice Chair Weaver-Landers called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 27, 2022, in the Boardroom, at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center, Janesville, WI.

Committee Members Present: Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Russell Podzilni, Supervisor; Ron Woodman, Supervisor; Kathy Schulz Supervisor; and Jim Farrell, Supervisor attended in-person. Karla Herrmann, Supervisor; and Angelina Reyes, Citizen Representative attended virtually.

Committee Members Absent: Brian Knudson, Supervisor. Ashley Hoffman, Citizen Representative.

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Jordyn Miller, Communications Specialist; Jennifer Thompson, ADRC/Aging/APS Manager; Cori Marsh, Aging Supervisor; Ryan Booth, Aging Unit Transportation Supervisor; John Discher, Specialized Transit Driver; Jamie Proctor, CPS Family Support Supervisor; Tiffany Meredith, Alia; Beth Rye, CPS Supervisor; and Abigail Zinzow, CPS.

Others Present: Terri Carlson, Rock County Risk Manager. Susan Johnson, League of Women Voters.

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Schulz moved the agenda to the floor, second by Supervisor Podzilni. Supervisor Schulz requested an amendment to move agenda item 9B after 9C. The agenda with amendment was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on July 13, 2022: Supervisor Woodman moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of the HSD 2023 Budget Public Hearing: Supervisor Schulz moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Podzilni. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Public Comment: Susan Johnson stated she was representing the League of Women Voters. She explained that representatives from the League of Women Voters will now be observing the Committee meetings and the County Board meetings.

Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: Supervisor Schulz advised the next Housing Authority meeting will be held on August 3, 2022, at 9am via zoom. Legal Action will be there.

July HSD Employee Impact Award Recognition: Ms. Luster advised that Ashley Peterson was chosen for the recipient of the July HSD Employee Impact Award but was not able to attend the meeting. Her nomination from fellow co-workers included the following: Ms. Peterson is an unsung hero of CSP. Working in CSP requires a unique set of traits and skills. One must specifically be extremely flexible and assertive, while broadcasting empathy, respect, and focusing on a very long-term relationship that grows and changes over the years. Ms. Peterson embodies those attributes, presenting each day in a selfless way towards both the needs of the clients and the team. Throughout her tenure here, she routinely picks up contacts for others and does this to support the team and to ensure that our clients receive everything that we can offer. The nomination provided three specific examples of cases where Ms. Peterson helped clients which were just a few defining markers of her passion for this difficult work.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Supervisor Podzilni moved one contract to the floor, second by Supervisor Woodman. Mr. Winkler advised that this is an amendment to a contract we currently have with WisHope. The amendment allows WisHope to provide a peer recovery program to Rock County. He explained that WisHope would hire two peer recovery coaches who would help clients with whatever they need help with such as navigating the system and shopping. Mr. Winkler responded to questions regarding the total costs/salaries and why Rock County would go through WisHope for these positions, oversight of the positions, contract language, and training. The contract was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Review and Approval of Resolutions:

- A. **Resolution to Purchase Two Specialized Transit Vehicles for the Human Services Department Aging Unit** – Supervisor Podzilni moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. Thompson presented the resolution and reminded that this was the resolution she spoke of at a previous meeting which the HS Board approved to purchase vehicles when they were able to find them. She advised there were three vendors who submitted proposals. The proposal from Tesco stated they had two medium buses available for immediate purchase. This resolution would allow the purchase of the two buses from Tesco. Mr. Booth responded in detail to questions regarding the number and types of trips that are provided daily, what happens if a request cannot be accommodated, and the current mileage and ADA compliance of the vehicles. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Reports and Updates:

- A. **HSD 2023 Pre-Budget Presentation Follow-Up:** Ms. Luster responded to questions regarding revenue and the impact of inflation on the HSD budget. She advised HSD has asked for an extension on the budget due date from County Administrator Smith, which is not unusual. HSD was granted an extension to August 9, 2022. Ms. Luster advised HSD does look at trends to make informed decisions and wants to be as fiscally responsible as possible. She advised costs are up and contracted provider costs are higher. Ms. Luster responded to questions regarding the different levels of care and costs of foster homes.

Ms. Luster advised she sends a memo overviewing the HSD budget to County Administrator Smith when she submits the HSD Budget. She will share the memo with the HSD Board members at that time. Also, she explained the HS Board will have the opportunity to ask questions as the budget will continue to be on the agenda moving through the budget process. The HSD will have budget meetings with County Administrator Smith in September, then he will decide his proposed budget. Following that the HSD Budget will be on the HS Board agenda for approval. Ms. Luster advised

sometimes things can change or shift during the process, but her goal is to keep the HS Board as informed as possible. Ms. Luster responded to questions regarding the new requested positions and the risk piece around trending.

B. Community Equity Project Update: Ms. Luster reminded that Alia and HSD are in a partnership together called the Community Equity Project working on system change to improve the child welfare system. Ms. Luster will be presenting at a lunch and learn for the YWCA tomorrow overviewing the Rock-Solid Community Equity Project. There is a national system change in child welfare to reduce child separation. Rock County's data reflects racial disparities in that African American children are disproportionately represented in child welfare system. The project is working to address disparities and will focus on the Beloit community. We want to be able to say race is no longer a predictor in out-of-home placements by 2025. They are developing a Co-Design team which will include parents who have been involved in the system, staff, Alia and IDEO.org to design new ways to improve the system. Kate responded to questions.

C. Tour of Aging Unit Van: Tour began at 5:35 p.m. to 5:50 p.m.

Committee Requests: None.

Ms. Luster advised that having a meeting at the Eclipse Center was discussed to take place in August but there are reports from outside agencies scheduled for each of the August meetings, so after Chair Knudson was advised he decided to move the meeting at the Eclipse Center to a September meeting.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **August 10, 2022**, at 4:30 p.m. – will be a hybrid meeting via zoom and in-person at the DWRC, in the **Boardroom**, 1717 Center Avenue, Janesville, WI.

Adjournment: Supervisor Woodman motioned to adjourn, second by Supervisor Schulz with unanimous approval at 5:52 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD