



**ROCK COUNTY  
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING  
Wednesday, June 14, 2023 – 4:30 P.M.**



**Call to Order:** Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:31 p.m. on Wednesday, June 14, 2023, at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center, Janesville, WI.

**Committee Members Present:** Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Ron Woodman, Supervisor; Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Wes Davis, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Jim Farrell, Supervisor; Ashley Hoffman, Citizen Representative; and J. Russell Podzilni, Supervisor.

**Committee Members Absent:**

**Staff Present:** Kate Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Jillian Cline, Business Manager; Jenna Singer, Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) Program Manager; Lianne Felton, CCS Supervisor; Jackie Revels, Homelessness Prevention Coordinator; Jennifer Peck, Adult Protective Services (APS) Supervisor; Terry Teipner, CCS Therapist; Kathleen Lawver, CCS Therapist; and Jordyn Jenkins, Communication Specialist.

**Others Present:** Rich Greenlee, Corp Counsel. Mike Zoril, County Board Supervisor. Charles Flynn. Brittney Prince. Manuel Casares, Dilcia and Jose. Mr. Lawver.

**Approval of Agenda:** Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the agenda to the floor, second by Supervisor Davis. The agenda was unanimously approved. Approved.

**Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on May 24, 2023:** Supervisor Woodman moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. The minutes were unanimously approved. Approved.

**Public Comment:** Manuel Casares explained there is a bus route from Dallas Texas that leads to Chicago Illinois then to Madison Wisconsin transporting migrants. He stated that some migrants have arrived in Beloit and are staying in a building that was previously a school. This building shelters up to 50 people. The occupants have noticed that police routinely drive by the building which makes them fearful. The building is not sanitary, but they have nowhere else to go. He explained he is trying to help them but the programs that are offered are for citizens not non-citizens. His organization, Hispanics for a Secure Border, Inc., is a non-profit which is proposing to address issues to help provide aid and public housing to non-citizen migrants. He introduced two Dilcia and Jose, who both provided details of why they are here and how they need help.

**Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members:** None.

**Approval of Contracts:** Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved three contracts to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. Mooren provided information on each of the contracts and responded to questions. The contracts were unanimously approved. Approved.

**Review Bills Paid:** Ms. Cline responded to questions regarding the Rock Valley Community Program entry. Ms. Luster provided further details clarifying response.

### **Review and Approval of Resolutions:**

**Resolution to Recognize Terry Teipner** – Supervisor Woodman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Podzilni. Ms. Felton presented the resolution and introduced Terry Teipner. She explained Mr. Teipner has served the citizens of Rock County for over twenty-six years as a dedicated and valued employee of Rock County. He began his career in 1997 as an Initial Assessment Social Worker in Child Protective Services. In 2000, he transferred to Substitute Care Unit and in 2003 returned to Initial Assessment. While employed he completed his graduate degree in Clinical Mental Health. He completed an internship with the Clinical Services for Children and Families Unit within Behavioral Health while still working full time in CPS. In 2017 he started his new position as a case manager in CCS and in 2018 as a therapist. He approached every circumstance with compassion and respect, interacting with people the way he wants people to interact with him. He assisted families and consumers to maximize their strengths. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

**Resolution to Recognize Kathleen Lawver** – Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. Felton presented the resolution and introduced Kathleen Lawver. She explained Ms. Lawver has served the citizens of Rock County for over twenty-five years as a dedicated and valued employee of Rock County. She began her career in 1997 as a Juvenile Probation Agent. In 1998, she transferred to the Juvenile Probation In-Home Family Treatment Team as a Therapist. She served one year as a Juvenile Probation Supervisor before returning to the In-Home Family Treatment Team. Since then, she has provided therapy for Family Crisis, Functional Family Therapy, and CCS. Ms. Lawver is described by her peers as, “the nicest person you will ever meet” because she finds the good in everyone. She has assisted hundreds of clients and families in Rock County address mental health and relational challenges in a way that demonstrates compassion and competence. Her impact on the community is immeasurable. Ms. Lawver responded with how grateful she was to work at Rock County as a Therapist. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

**Resolution Recognizing World Elder Abuse Awareness:** Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. Peck presented the resolution. She explained unfortunately elder abuse is a world-wide issue. Every year with this resolution we raise awareness as it is happening everywhere. She added that every year they do a something different to raise awareness, this year they gave out brochures at the credit union. She responded to questions. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

**Resolution Allocating \$200,000 in ARPA Funds for Hispanics for a Secure Border’s Initiatives Assisting Homeless Migrants:** Supervisor Woodman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Mr. Zoril suggested an amendment to the original resolution. Supervisor Woodman moved the amendment to the floor, second by Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers. The amendment FAILED with the following roll call vote: Supervisors Davis, Farrell, Podzilni, Schulz, Knudson; and Citizen Representative Hoffman voted against. Supervisor Woodman and Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers voted in favor.  
NOES – 6. AYES – 2.

More discussion took place. Mr. Greenlee responded to questions regarding legal process. Many Board members commented. Mr. Zoril made comments expressing concern that the Human Services Board approved grant funds for other organizations but not this one. Point of order was called by multiple committee members in response to Supervisor Zoril’s comments. Supervisor Farrell called the question and Chair Knudson called for the vote. Resolution FAILED with the

following roll call vote: Supervisors Davis, Farrell, Podzilni, Schulz and Knudson; Citizen Representatives Hoffman and Weaver-Landers voted against. Supervisor Woodman voted in favor. NOES -7. AYES – 1.

### **Reports and Updates:**

**Report on Homelessness Prevention Grants** – Ms. Luster explained this is a follow up quarterly report regarding the homelessness prevention grant funding. She introduced Ms. Revels who reviewed the handout, a table of information detailing the organizations awarded funds. This information will be sent via email to the County Board as well. A Homelessness Fact Sheet was also distributed and reviewed. Ms. Luster and Ms. Revels responded to questions and an update from the City of Janesville was requested.

**2024 Budget Update** – Ms. Luster reminded that the Pre-budget Joint Committee meeting will take place on June 29, 2023, here at the DWRC in the Boardroom. It will be a foreshadow outlook for the 2024 budget. She noted that the 2022 closeout has shown HSD was under budget approximately \$3.6 million and she explained in detail the reasons why. The drivers included vacant positions, savings in out-of-home placements achieved, variance in office lease savings, WIMCR compensation higher than predicted, crisis services billing more than budgeted. She reviewed the CCS cost reconciliation process and described the impact on revenue projections. She advised the residential care for youth rates have increased and are trending higher in 2023 already and there may be other shifts that are hard to predict at this time. Ms. Luster responded to questions.

**Discussion Regarding Program and Data Reports to Human Services Board** – Ms. Luster stated she wanted to get feedback from the Board members on data they would like to receive. She provided examples of RockStat reports and the data points that the HSD uses monthly. After discussion it was decided a summary by program of high-cost trending areas on a regular interval, and any unusual trending or spikes. Also, having staff and clients speak to the Board is welcome and helpful.

**Committee Requests:** Chair Knudson advised due to timing of the notification of the Public Hearing already being sent out as an in-person only meeting. The hybrid Human Services Board meetings will be held starting in July.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, June 28, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. – will be in-person at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Resource Center, 1717 Center Avenue, Janesville, WI. \*\*\*Public Hearing to follow at 5:30 p.m.\*\*\*

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Farrell motioned to adjourn, second by Supervisor Davis with unanimous approval at 6:04 p.m.

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Jodi Parson, Secretary

**NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD**