



**ROCK COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, March 22, 2023 – 4:30 P.M.**



Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 22, 2023, in the Boardroom, at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center, Janesville, WI.

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

Committee Members Absent: Angelina Reyes, Citizen Representative.

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Jordyn Jenkins, Communications Specialist; Julie Butz, Children's Long-Term Support (CLTS) Manager; Kami Williams, Child Protective Services (CPS) Manager; Shelby Puppe, Foster Care Supervisor.

Others Present: Brittney Prince, Community member.

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

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on March 8, 2023: Supervisor Woodman moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Podzilni. The minutes were unanimously approved. Approved.

Public Comment: None.

Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: Supervisor Farrell announced there will be a Janesville Sustainable Living Fair from 10am to 2pm on Saturday at the Hegberg Public Library.

Approval of Contracts: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved three contracts to the floor, second by Citizen Representative Hoffman. Ms. Mooren presented the contracts and responded to questions. The contracts were unanimously approved. Approved.

Review and Approval of Resolutions:

To Recognize Rock County Social Workers – Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. Luster presented the resolution and explained March is National Social Worker Month. Rock County employs certified social workers, case managers and counselors. We need social workers to accomplish all the mandates from the state. This year's theme is Social Work Breaks Barriers. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

Authorizing the Human Services Department to Enter into a Contract with a CLTS Provider – Citizen Representative Hoffman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor

Woodman. Ms. Butz presented the resolution and asked for approval for Rock County HSD to contract with the CLTS provider Full 360. Full 360 is a new provider that provides daily living skills and respite to approximately twenty-five to thirty families. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

Reports and Update:

CPS Butler Report Recommendations Update – Ms. Williams referenced an email she sent prior to the meeting with overview information. She highlighted that, in the past, Rock County has struggled to consistently complete Initial Assessments within the required 60 days, but there has been significant improvement. One year ago, Rock County had forty-seven cases overdue, but staff have been working hard and currently there are zero cases overdue.

Ms. Williams provided detailed information regarding the four strategic goals for CPS which address both the recommendations from the Butler report as well as overall priorities related to Families First systems change:

1. *Work to create more consistent ways to implement in-home safety plans successfully, and sustainably.* Develop policies and procedures related to balancing least intrusive measures, empowering families in their own planning, while following statutes and standards related to child safety. She provided details regarding hiring a Service worker position to engage with families and coordinate supports, and a family team meeting coordinator for in-home cases.
2. *Expand and create new opportunities for parents to influence the way our system works and meets their needs.* She provided details and explained the Rock County Equity Project.
3. *Engage community partners and stakeholders, such as court partners, foster parents, and schools, as it relates to their understanding of Family First Legislation, and it's impacts on Child Protective Services work.* She explained efforts to encourage mandated reporters to link families with supports vs. simply reporting them to CPS. Future efforts will continue to work to engage system partners.
4. *Continue to increase access to care and services for families and children involved in the CPS system.* She explained that CPS supervisors are digging into cases to find out barriers and threats, and why return conditions are not being met. A new CPS/Behavioral Health resource worker will be hired to help with immediate mental health needs.

Ms. Williams responded to questions regarding supports, safety risk, and foster parent trainings.

Committee Requests: None.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **April 12, 2023**, at 4:30 p.m. – will be in-person at the DWRC, in the Boardroom, 1717 Center Avenue, Janesville, WI.

Adjournment: Supervisor Schulz motioned to adjourn, second by Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers with unanimous approval at 5:14 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

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