



**ROCK COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, May 10, 2023 – 4:30 P.M.**



Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 10, 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 (in at 4:33 p.m.); Wes Davis, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Jim Farrell, Supervisor; and J. Russell Podzilni, Supervisor.

Committee Members Absent: Ashley Hoffman, Citizen Representative.

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Jillian Cline, Administrative Services Supervisor; Shelby Puppe, Foster Care Unit Supervisor; Sara Avalos, Foster Care Case Manager; Tricia Stilen, Foster Care Case Manager; and Kelli Scott, Foster Care Case Manager.

Others Present: Charles Flynn. 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 April 26, 2023: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Woodman. The minutes were unanimously approved. Approved.

Public Comment: None.

Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: Chair Knudson welcomed Wes Davis, Supervisor who has filled the vacant seat on the Human Services Board.

Ms. Luster advised Rock County Human Services has been accepted to present at two separate National conferences regarding CPS Systems change and the Parent Co-Design efforts/Equity Project. The first Conference is in Baltimore, MD next week at the APHSA National Human Services Summit and the other in August with the Children's Attorneys at the National Association of Counsel for Children conference.

Approval of Contracts: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved one contract to the floor, second by Supervisor Woodman. Ms. Mooren presented the contract and responded to questions regarding rates. The contracts were unanimously approved. Approved.

Review Bills Paid: Ms. Cline responded to questions regarding cost, length of stays, and vouchers for clients that workers approve for hotels. Ms. Luster responded to questions regarding the Children's Service Society entry.

Review and Approval of Resolutions: Resolution to Recognize Rock County Foster Families – Supervisor Woodman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. Puppe introduced Sara Avalos who read the resolution. Kelli Scott read a poem Eyes of Foster Parents. They answered questions regarding foster children who age out of the system at 18 and what help they receive. Ms. Avalos and Ms. Stilen advised there is a program called Independent Living Skills which continues to help youth through the age of 24 which teaches independent living skills. Youth are also connected to college funding and more. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

Resolution Recognizing May as ADRC Month: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Woodman. Ms. Luster presented the resolution and explained that the ADRC helps frail elders and elderly people and those with disabilities and functions as a “one stop shop”. The ADRC is also the umbrella over the Aging Unit and the Adult Protective Services. The ADRC staff play a key role in providing dementia specialist services, caregiver supports, and assisting with transitioning youth with disabilities into the adult system of care. The ADRC offers a variety of educational, supportive, and social opportunities for residents. The ADRC staff are compassionate and help connect clients to the supports and services they need. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

Reports and Update:

Report on 2024 HSD Budget Development Process – Ms. Luster provided a handout listing the budget process timelines. She reviewed the dates and explained the timelines and process for budget development. Board member questions and feedback are invited throughout the budget development process, so the board is as informed as possible.

Report on Referrals to Child Support from Child Welfare – Ms. Luster provided information explaining a relevant policy issue that is potentially changing. Child Welfare agencies can currently make a referral to the courts to request child support payments when a child is placed in out of home care, in order to offset the county’s costs. Historically, the HSD has made referrals for this payment resulting in approximately \$300,000 to \$400,000 of revenue a year. However, solid research has shown when the parents are required to pay child support it increases economic burden and takes longer to get reunification and federal and state policy is likely to be modified to align with the research. The state DCF may soon be restricting the circumstances in which child support can be collected. It is not known what the specific changes will be, but it is likely that the HSD will need to reduce the projected revenue from child support in the 2024 budget.

Committee Requests: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers requested an agenda item regarding the Independent Living Skills program.

Supervisor Farrell requested a report to see key measurement points. Ms. Luster advised she will share Quality Improvement reports to get feedback from the Board.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. – will be in-person at the Care House, 1126 Conde Avenue, Janesville, WI.

Adjournment: Supervisor Schulz motioned to adjourn, second by Supervisor Woodman with unanimous approval at 5:28 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

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