



**ROCK COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, July 10, 2024 – 4:30 P.M.**



Call to Order:

Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 2024, in the Boardroom, at the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center, Janesville, WI.

Committee Members Present: Supervisor Brian Knudson, Chair; Supervisor Ron Woodman, Vice Chair; Supervisor Kathy Schulz; Supervisor Genia Stevens; Supervisor April Whitledge; Supervisor Barb Tillman; Citizen Representative Sally Jean Weaver-Landers

Committee Members Present Virtually: Citizen Representative Ashley Hoffman

Committee Members Absent: Citizen Representative Phil Boutwell

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Bette Trimble, Crisis and Outpatient Manager; Jenna Singer, CCS Manager; Jennifer Thompson, ADRC Manager; Stephanie Kuczynski, CSP Manager; Maria Delgado, ES Manager; Barb Bleiler, DSMS Manager; Cori Marsh, ADRC; Melissa Genz, ES Supervisor.

Virtual attendees: Shelby Puppe, Chuck Flynn, Sue Ryan, Kami Williams, Olivia Smith, Sheila Williams.

Others Present: Kathy Hanson, KANDU; Patrick Lyons, KANDU; Betsy Nelson, KANDU; Jimmy Nelson, KANDU; Jessi Campbell, YWCA; Leticia Webb, YWCA; Brittany De la O, YWCA; Aimee Leavy, YWCA; Mike Schwarz, District 22 Supervisor; William Wilson, District 05 Supervisor; Kathy Holcomb, LWV; Heidi Deininger, YWCA.

Approval of Agenda:

Vice Chair Woodman moved the agenda to the floor, second by Supervisor Tillman. The agenda was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on May 22, 2024:

Supervisor Whitledge moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Public Comment: Patrick Lyons - Resident in Janesville commented about supporting ARPA Funding for Kandu. A volunteer of 14 years with Kandu. Kandu has quietly and consistently carried out its mission for over 60 years. Provides dignity, compassion, patience, and purpose for the families and community as well as respite. They are moving from Janesville to Milton which will allow an increase for the types and services offered as it is a larger facility. They are well deserving of assistance to expand their reach. It is requested that the HS Board consider Kandu as an option for help.

Kathy Hansen - Executive Director of Kandu. They help more than 200 clients with disabilities giving them a chance to earn a living, find acceptance, and a purpose. Kandu programs are designed to fit specific needs of individuals. New programs have been developed to help the community. Kandu has partnered with Rock County on as many of their programs as they can.

Kandu is the only state certified adult daycare program in Rock County serving only 56 dementia residents.

Betsy Nelson and son Jimmy Nelson spoke on the benefits of Kandu for Jimmy over the last 17 years. He has made friends and many relationships while at Kandu. Kandu allows socialization, work, and friendships. It also allows Betsy to have peace of mind that he is in a safe environment while there.

Heidi Deininger - Executive Director of YWCA; Aimee Leavy, Leticia Webb, and Brittany De La O all spoke in support of the resolution granting ARPA funds to YWCA to expand affordable childcare for families. Supporting the renovation of an early learning center in the existing YWCA building will allow them to serve more children year-round. This affordable daycare will also have funding and scholarships for the community. It will allow them to serve 3-4 times the number of children. The YWCA provides before and after care for children. 53546 zip code is a childcare desert. This will allow more families to utilize this affordable childcare allowing parents to work vs. staying home to care for the child due to the high price of childcare.

Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: None

Approval of Contracts: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the contract to the floor, second by Supervisor Stevens. Ms. Mooren provided contract details and responded to questions. The contract was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Review of Bills Paid: Ms. Mooren provided detail and responded to questions.

Review and Approval of Resolutions:

Authorizing Purchase of Specialized Transit Vehicle - Supervisor Tillman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Jennifer Thompson of the ADRC spoke about money that was budgeted to purchase a bus for the fleet. This was not only the cheapest out of 4 bids but also met all the needs as well. The resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Reallocating ARPA Funds to Expand the YWCA Childcare Center - Supervisor Whitledge moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Supervisor Schulz spoke on how it is particularly hard to get the needed daycare for kids. She mentioned that families are in fear that they will be out of the workforce too long without affordable daycare that they can utilize. This helps people on the bottom but also has scholarships for those that have a little too much money but are struggling. It is support that will stay in the community. Supervisor Schulz also noted that these funds are just not enough to help those affected by recent tornados and other sources should be looked at to help. These funds are minimal compared to the amount of help that those affected by tornados need.

Supervisor Woodman made a motion to postpone request for ARPA funds until August 14th. Supervisor Tillman stated that it is indicated in communication put out by the finance director to the finance committee that a decision on ARPA funds would be made August 8th. A vote to postpone was made one aye and seven nays. Motion to postpone failed.

Supervisor Tillman made the comment of splitting the remaining ARPA funds between the 6 programs that are asking for funds. Supervisor Stevens noted that she would like all the money to go to tornado victims. A voice vote was made on passing the resolution with five aye and three nays. Approved.

Allocating American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funds for KANDU Industries and Amending the 2024 Budget - Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor,

second by Supervisor Schulz. Supervisor Wilson introduced the resolution noting that there are more needs than money to address legitimate needs. He spoke about the importance of the work being done there and the enthusiasm that the workers have. The adult daycare and memory care service needs are exploding. The new building will have the opportunity to provide these services for the individuals working in the specific areas. There are at least 100 businesses in the area that those from Kandu work for.

Supervisor Tillman requested an amendment to line 25 and line 29 of the resolution and change the amount being allocated from \$250,000.00 to \$165,677. Supervisor Schulz second the amendment. A voice vote was made on the amendment with seven ayes and one nay. Approved.

A voice vote was made on the resolution with seven ayes and one nay. Resolution was approved.

Recognizing Kathleen Knutson – Vice Chair Woodman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Whitley. Ms. Delgado and Ms. Genz present to recognize Ms. Knutson. She began her career with the county in 1997 and served in only a few different programs/positions throughout her years with the county. It was noted she often went above and beyond to assist her clients and had extensive knowledge. She is optimistic and is an asset that will be missed. The resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Committee Requests: None

Next Meeting: Wednesday, July 24, 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. If you cannot make the meeting, please email Christina Arambula (christina.arambula@co.rock.wi.us) to ensure a quorum is present.

Adjournment: Supervisor Woodman motioned to adjourn, second by Supervisor Schulz with unanimous approval at 5:20 p.m.

Chrissy Arambula, Administrative Professional III

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