



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES
Annual Public Hearing
Wednesday, July 10, 2024 5:00 P.M.



Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the Public Hearing to order at 5:26 PM 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 Whittedge; 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; Julie Butz, CLTS Manager, Jennifer Thompson, ADRC Manager; Bette Trimble, Crisis and Outpatient Manager, Stephanie Kuczynski, CSP Manager; Maria Delgado, ES Manager; Barb Bleiler, DSMS Manager; Cori Marsh, ADRC; Melissa Genz, ES Supervisor; Jenna Singer, CCS Manager.

Virtual attendees: Chuck Flynn, Kami Williams, Olivia Smith, Sheila Williams.

Others Present: Jessi Campbell, YWCA; Brittany De la O, YWCA; Mike Schwarz, District 22 Supervisor; Heidi Deininger, YWCA.

Introduction of Board Members and Human Services Management Staff: Chair Knudson directed for all present to go around the room and introduce themselves. All those present are noted above.

Public Comments Regarding the 2025 Human Services Department Budget: Brittany De la O spoke on behalf of the YWCA and Crisis Services. Ms. De la O spoke about the work they do with domestic violence shelter and care house. The cost of domestic violence is \$13.1 billion in the USA in WI \$3.6 million. For every \$1 contributed for domestic abuse support, saves the county \$3.48. Every year the YWCA asks for consideration for county support for their programs including Care House and Alternatives to Violence.

Heidi Deininger from YWCA wants the board to know that their goal is self-sufficiency and to reduce the money that is requested. They only have one program that generates revenue and that was the childcare that was cut by 50% during COVID. They have a shelter 24/7/365. They are working to get more volunteers, internships, partnerships, and involvement with colleges. Financially forecasting out for the next 3 years.

Sheila Williams – Virtual Attendee –Ms. Williams requested that several areas of Human Services operations be reviewed by the Human Services Board including reviewing whether the HSD is too management heavy as an organization, looking at which staff got raises and how much since the pay grid change, reviewing the HSD request for luxury vehicles like a Pacifica, and reviewing the out of state training costs. Ms. Williams expressed that the Human Services

Department is overpaying on contracts since it was mentioned that Human Services could try to renegotiate contracts. Ms. Williams also recommends removing all non-profit funding from the Human Service Department budget.

Adjournment: Supervisor Woodman motioned to adjourn, second by Supervisor Schulz with unanimous approval at 5:39 p.m.

Chrissy Arambula, Administrative Professional III

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