



**ROCK COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, May 22, 2024 – 4:30 P.M.**



Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:35 p.m. on Wednesday, May 22, 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 Barb Tillman; Citizen Rep. Phil Boutwell.

Virtual Attendees: Citizen Rep. Ashley Hoffman (Kleven); Citizen Representative Sally Jean Weaver-Landers; Supervisor April Whitledge

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Becky Huber; Barb Bleiler; Meghan Pulgarin; Sara Avalos; Stephani Kuczynski; Lindsey Scianna; Kelli Scott; Mary Dempsey; Tricia Stilen; Michelle Reamer; Shelby Puppe; Denise Pozzani.

Virtual attendees: Alisa McCalmont; Jenny Booth; Haleigh Thomas; Wendy Sanchez; Maria Delgado.

Others Present: Chuck Flynn, Carol Pozzani, Sharon Granburg, Dawn Pozzani, Sara Hickman, Ma'Liyah Citchen, Sheila Williams, Kathy Holcombe (LWV).

Approval of Agenda: Vice Chair Woodman moved the agenda to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz.

Citizen Representative Boutwell moved to strike agenda number 8 (Human Service IMPACT Award Recipient) from the agenda because the recipient is unable to attend tonight's meeting, seconded by Vice Chair Woodman. Amended agenda unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on April 10, 2024: Citizen Representative Weavers-Landers moved the minutes to the floor, second by Vice Chair Woodman. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting on May 8, 2024: Supervisor Tillman moved the minutes to the floor, second by Vice Chair Woodman. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Public Comment: Shelby Puppe and staff approached the floor to talk about May as Foster Care month. There is an ongoing effort to help bring in more foster parents in the county along with providing additional training. Staff described the many contributions of foster parents in collaborating with birth families and supporting children.

Supervisor Schulz wants to encourage people and staff to go see Kandu and do a tour. It is eye opening the quality of things that they are doing.

Sheila Williams addressed the Human Services Board regarding the 2025 budget. She asks the committee to be more aware of funding and where it is going than committees have in the past.

Ms. Delgado addressed the committee, recognizing economic support specialists as it is ES month. She recognizes all the different skill sets that the staff bring to the table and appreciates the hard work they do daily.

Ms. Luster explained that resolutions recognizing certain staff/bodies/awareness months will come as public comment forum now instead of resolutions.

Communications and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: None

Approval of Contracts: Citizen Rep. Boutwell moved the contracts to the floor, second by Vice Chair Woodman. Ms. Mooren provided contract details and responded to questions. The contracts were unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Approval of Bills: Ms. Cline provided details and responded to questions.

Review and Approval of Resolutions:

Recognizing Kayce Wilson-not present: Vice Chair Woodman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. Wilson was not present. Ms. O'Connor spoke of Ms. Wilson to the board and provided an overview of her service of a little over ten years including her clinical internship over the last year. The resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Recognizing Alisa McCalmont-virtual: Supervisor Tillman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. Ms. McCalmont joined the meeting virtually. Ms. Delgado introduced Ms. McCalmont to the board and provided an overview of her exceptional service and significant contributions of over 14 years. Ms. McCalmont thanked everyone. The resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Recognizing Denise Pozzani: Citizen Rep. Boutwell moved the resolution to the floor, second by Vice Chair Woodman. Ms. Pulgarin and Ms. Scianna introduced Ms. Pozzani to the board and provided an overview of her service of over 40 years. She has played an instrumental role in the lives of clients and has gone above and beyond to support the CSP team and clients. Ms. Pozzani thanked Rock County for the years of service. The resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Recognizing Julie Fuelleman: Vice Chair Woodman moved the resolution to the floor, second by Citizen Rep. Boutwell. Ms. Fuelleman was not present. Ms. Huber spoke of Ms. Fuelleman to the board and provided an overview of her service of over 11 years. Ms. Fuelleman has played a critical role in developing and strengthening the services provided by the Prevention Unit and she will be greatly missed. The resolution was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Modifying the purpose of ARPA funds: Supervisor Schulz moved the resolution to the floor, second by Citizen Rep. Boutwell. No one was in attendance to present or speak to the resolution or respond to questions. More information is wanted by the committee before a decision is made. Vice Chair Woodman makes a motion to postpone for next meeting, Citizen Rep. Boutwell seconds. Supervisor Schulz also asks that Community Action be present at the meeting to explain in detail, so it is understood what they are planning for. Motion to postpone to June 12th meeting approved unanimously by voice vote. Postponed.

Set Human Service Public Hearing Date: Chair Knudson suggested the date of July 10, 2024, for this year's Public Hearing. Instead of having a gap between the HS Board meeting we will go right into the public hearing. Letters will be going out soon along with email and social media. Citizen Rep. Weavers-Landers makes a motion to lock this date, Vice Chair Woodman seconds the motion. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Review, Discussion, and Possible Action: Nothing

Reports and Update: Director's Report: 2025 Budget Planning and Discussion – Ms. Luster Shared a handout with budget and timelines for 2025 development for committee feedback and direction. Ms. Luster shared a handout with suggestions for areas of future discussion including 1. review of mandated and non-mandated 2. Review of personnel costs and vacancy factor 3. Review of high-cost placements and trending, Ms. Luster also described some initiatives that are underway to closely evaluate personnel resources including an updated process for vacancy authorizations. An email was recently sent to all staff about the Department wide steps being taken to determine potential opportunities for increased efficiencies in serving clients. Ms. Luster would like to hear from the HS Board on how we can best utilize their time at upcoming meetings and get as much information to them as necessary. Supervisor Tillman suggested that it is helpful to understand the funding sources for non-mandated services.

Committee Requests: Supervisor Schulz requested an update of how we are doing with the people that are being served by Rock County served with evictions.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, June 12, 2024, 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.

Adjournment: Citizen Rep. Boutwell motioned to adjourn, second by Supervisor Schulz with unanimous approval at 5:37pm.

Chrissy Arambula, Administrative Professional III

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