



**ROCK COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, February 11, 2026 – 4:30 P.M.**



Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 11, 2026, 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 April Whitledge; Youth in Governance (YIG) Representative Kinzelman

Virtual Committee Members: Supervisor Barb Tillman; Citizen Representative Lori Stottler

Committee Members Absent: Supervisor Genia Stevens; Citizen Representative Ashley Hoffman

Staff Present: Katherine Luster, Director; Sara Mooren, Deputy Director; Jillian Bauer, Business Supervisor; Barb Bleiler, DSMS Manager; Bette Trimble, Crisis & Outpatient Manager; Tiffany Minguay, Treatment Court Supervisor

Virtual attendees: Neil Johnson, WCLO

Others Present: Elizabeth Pohlman McQuillen, Rock Co Justice System Strategist; Judge Barbara McCrory, Rock County Circuit Court; Terry Thomas

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Schulz moved the agenda to the floor, second by Supervisor Woodman. The agenda was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting January 28, 2026: Supervisor Woodman moved the minutes to the floor, second by Supervisor Schulz. The minutes were unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Public Comment: None

Communication and Announcements from Staff and Board Members: Ms. Luster gave an update on second Rock Families First Community Conversations that happened last week. This was a successful and positive event for those involved. The next one will be in September; Ms. Luster will update everyone as that day gets closer. All staff meeting was last week and was a successful event that helped connect all of the staff and program areas.

Approval of Contracts: None

Review Bills Paid: Ms. Bauer provided details and responded to questions.

Review and Approval of Resolutions: None

Review, Discussion and Possible Action:

Overview of Drug Court and Review of Funding Options to Address Budget Gap –

An update was given to the HS Board about the effects of the funding gap with potential options presented at the previous board meeting. Ms. Luster introduced leadership from Drug Court which included Judge McCrory, Ms. Pohlman McQuillen, Ms. Minguely, and Ms. Trimble. The proposed options are to fund Drug Court through 2026, supporting the clients currently in the program, via other savings and personnel actions within the cost center.

Judge McCrory, who presides over Drug Court, presented information about the benefits of drug court and the value to offset other Human Services expenditures. She shared information about the high risk and high need people that are served including several success stories. The graduation rate is slightly below 50%. Funding for the counselor and psychiatrist is essential as many participants have co-occurring issues. If the participants were not in the program they would likely be in prison, not paying child-support, or involved in child protective services. The guests responded to questions regarding Drug Court.

Ms. Luster reviewed documents that she had shared before the board meeting with options to fund this service. Proposed saving strategies would fund Drug Court through 2026. A separate review of options and plans for 2027 will be incorporated into the budget planning process. Ms. Luster responded to questions.

Supervisor Tillman moved to reallocate funds as described to continue the program through 2026, second by Supervisor Schulz. The motion was unanimously approved by voice vote. Approved.

Reports and Updates:

Update on Status of Grants and Other Funding – Ms. Luster gave an update on the ongoing changes with grants and funding. Ms. Luster has been on the watch for an update on the additional funding for Economic Support, but it is still showing as pending with the state legislature. There is optimism that it will be approved. If it is not, it will hit September 2026 and have a significant impact on Economic Support.

Committee Requests: There was a request for participants from Drug Court to come to a future HS Board meeting to share the impacts of the program. A request for daily census for Derrick's House. In April there is a request for a report on position vacancies at HSD.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 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 Chrissy 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 5:08PM.

Chrissy Arambula, Administrative Professional III

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