



**ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, June 23, 2021 – 4:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order:** Chair Knudson called the virtual meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, June 23, 2021.

**Committee Members Present:** Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Shirley Williams, Supervisor; J. Russell Podzilni, Supervisor; Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Ashley Hoffman, Citizen Representative; Pam Bostwick, Supervisor; and Stephanie Aegerter, Supervisor.

**Committee Members Absent:** Angelina Reyes, Citizen Representative.

**Staff Present:** Katherine Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Bette Trimble, Crisis Program Manager; Maria Delgado, ES Division Manager; Tasha Bell, Equity Manager; Sharon Metz, Human Services Professional - JCC; Ali McCalmont, ES Supervisor; Heidi Gibbons, Human Services Professional - JCC; Kim Riley, JCC Supervisor; Tracy Mayer, Human Services Professional – Crisis Stabilization; and Allyson Brissette, Human Services Professional – Treatment Court.

**Others Present:** Mary Beaver, County Board Supervisor. Terri Carlson, Corporation Counsel Risk Manager. Kelly Berg. Sue Rusch. Terri Wixom. Peg Cadd.

**Approval of Agenda:** Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Podzilni. Supervisor Bostwick and Supervisor Schulz asked about the committee requests and the agenda item list. Chair Knudson advised that would be discussed later in the meeting. Supervisor Bostwick opposed the agenda. Supervisors Knudson, Podzilni, Schulz, Williams, Aegerter and Citizen Representatives Hoffman, Weaver-Landers approved the agenda. APPROVED.

**Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of June 9, 2021:** Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Williams. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements:** None.

**Approval of Contracts and Transfers:** None.

**Rock County HSD June Employee Impact Recognition Award:** Ms. Luster advised Doug DeVuyst was the June Employee Impact award recipient. He was not able to attend due to a prior commitment. Mr. DeVuyst is an YSC Lead worker and was nominated by his supervisor. He has made a tremendous impact at the YSC as a Lead Worker. He is dedicated and continuously

helping youth, co-workers and administration. He consistently goes above and beyond, volunteering to help his coworkers in day to day activities. Taking the initiative to facilitate training and being the point person for building supply orders. Recently he assisted a youth who was in crisis. With great kindness and compassion, he provided emotional support, physical wellness and a safe environment. Being an essential worker through the Covid-19 pandemic, he has continued to be a valuable worker.

**Resolution to Recognize Sharon Metz:** Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Bostwick. Ms. Trimble introduced Sharon Metz. Ms. Metz has served the citizens of Rock County for 32 years as a dedicated and valued employee of Rock County Human Services. Ms. Metz started her career in 1989 as a clinician in the Rock County Outpatient Clinics and has remained in this role. She provided individual, family and group therapy, intake assessments and case management services. Ms. Gibbons spoke how Ms. Metz took her under her wing when she first started and how she appreciated her sense of humor. Ms. Trimble read a statement by Dr. Blakeslee who commented that Ms. Metz was top notch and had an uncanny sixth sense of knowing when a client was not doing well. Ms. Metz stated she loved her job all these years and was grateful for her employment. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Resolution Creating 1.0 FTE Peer Support Specialist Position:** Supervisor Williams moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter. Ms. Trimble presented the resolution and advised Rock County has received funding through the State of Wisconsin Department of Health Services Division of Care and Treatment Services (DCTS) for its Opiate Treatment Program for a few years. The amount of the DCTS award has increased every year and funds are used for treatment of opioid and stimulant use disorders. To further expand co-occurring care treatment services the HSD is requesting creating another full-time Peer Support Specialist to deliver a wide range of support services. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Report on Changes to the WHEAP Contract:** Ms. Delgado introduced Ms. McCalmont. Ms. Delgado explained that there have been changes in program guidelines to the administration of Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) funding. Funding is awarded to Rock County from the State for home energy services. HSD subcontracts with Energy Services to provide the services. The Division of Energy, Housing and Community Resources (DEHCR) has approached HSD to take over administration of the contract with Energy Services. Ms. McCalmont advised that historically there were not a lot of requirements now it is becoming more involved and requires more tracking. This does not provide revenue for the HSD and wages for HSD workers to work on this come out of tax levy funds. It makes sense to switch. HSD will remain a referral source and this will not impact clients. Ms. Delgado and Ms. McCalmont responded to questions.

**Foster Care Advisory Committee (FCAC) Update:** Ms. Mayer advised the Foster Parent survey results are in and the FCAC broke into smaller groups to discuss and identify priorities. There has been a change in participants but there are still six foster parents and six staff. Jerry Rabbach will be putting thoughts together to discuss. Meetings will be held once a month on the first Tuesday. Ms. Mayer was asked to rotate foster parents into the HSD Board meeting to provide updates.

**2022 Budget Process Overview:** Ms. Luster reviewed in detail the Budget process timeline. She highlighted the dates which are specific to the committee and will email the timeline to the members. She reminded the Board members to reach out and contact her with any questions at any time. Questions do not need to wait until the meeting. Ms. Luster explained the personnel

requests have been submitted. She reminded that a lot happens in the second half of the year and State budgets significantly impact HSD, therefore, there could be changes. She reviewed in detail the new positions, deletions and re-titled positions. In addition, HSD requested HR to do an analysis of some management positions regarding internal equity issues. She explained the potential of the reallocation of Psychiatric Technicians.

### **Director's Report:**

- **Update: COVID Related Departmental and Community Needs:** Ms. Luster advised the reopening of the doors of the county buildings is July 6, 2021. Some Departments will continue with a hybrid approach of virtual and in-person meetings, depending on the preference of the consumer/client. HSD would like to continue distancing when meeting face-to-face. Clinics are considered health care Medicaid funded services and require masks. Any area providing transportation also continues to require masks. Human Resources is working on a post Covid remote work policy. HSD will use the Human Resources draft policy as an umbrella policy and adapt for HSD if needed.
- **Update: Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center:** The building project is still on track. Planning for furniture to arrive in August. There will be an Open House planned for employees. The tentative ribbon cutting date and recognizing of Dr. Williams is August 26<sup>th</sup>. Workstations have all been assigned and the Move Committee is working on the Occupancy Manual.
- **Update: Child Welfare Systems Change:** Ms. Luster advised the two individuals have been hired for the Alia grant positions. She will be introducing them to the HSD Board after they start on July 19<sup>th</sup>. There have been four new CPS Supervisors hired who will be starting within the upcoming weeks. CPS is undergoing significant change and will be updating the Board in regular intervals. The Department of Children and Families (DCF) is working on system change strategies and some HSD staff are participating. There is an October launch date for Family First based on the State timeline. Ms. Luster responded to questions regarding Root, Inc.

**Submission of Committee Requests:** Chair Knudson advised the format for the Committee Requests is being changed. He asked for recommendations on how to address and order the requests. The list will be sent out next week to the HSD Board members for review to provide feedback and to make sure there are not any missing items. Some items have been too broad in the past and need to be more specific. This will be work in progress and feedback may still be needed.

Supervisor Bostwick requested agenda items for the following:

1. When will the CPS primary care teams go back to being held?
2. What amount of money is being paid in fines due to initial assessment deficit in completing reporting on time,
3. How much has been paid to Alia and when did contract first start?
4. On agenda already from Shirley and Kathy – County's efforts to assist with homelessness.

Supervisor Schulz requested:

1. Understanding there are problems at Derrick's Place with some placements over the 30 day limit? Ways to resolve problems other than what we are currently using?
2. When we send notification of the Public Hearing can we state things that can be discussed? Are they aware of budget restraints? How do we get more participants?

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, **July 14, 2021** at 4:30 p.m. – via Zoom. – Followed by Public Hearing at 6:00 p.m. via Webinar.

**Adjournment:** Supervisor Schulz motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Bostwick with unanimous approval at 5:32 p.m.

---

Jodi Parson, Secretary

**NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD**