



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, February 24, 2021 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the virtual meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 24, 2021.

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

Committee Members Absent: None.

Staff Present: Katherine Luster, Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Verence Sandoval, Administrative Intern; Mark Stevens, Business Services Manager; Kim Heller, Account Clerk; Tracey Mayer, Human Services Professional; Julie Butz, Children's Long Term Support (CLTS) Program Manager; Cheri Salava, Child Protective Services (CPS) Supervisor; Nancy Koene, CPS Program Manager; and Maria Delgado, Economic Support (ES) Division Manager.

Others Present: Sue Rusch; Kelly Berg; Peg Cadd.

Approval of Agenda: Citizen Representative Hoffman moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Williams. Ms. Luster stated that the Foster Care Advisory Committee (FCAC) Update was inadvertently left off of the agenda and requested FCAC could provide a brief update during Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements. The agenda was unanimously approved. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of February 10, 2021: Supervisor Bostwick moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Reyes. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Ms. Mayer provided a brief FCAC update. The Measuring Success and Data Subgroup organized a check-in Zoom survey of the FCAC members with results reflecting that the group feels they have come a long way as far as being heard and understood during meetings. They feel a common mission and vision are in place; believe their work matters; and, that work is very consistent with the mission and vision. Ms. Mayer stated she has prepared a handout that she will forward to the Board so they can view survey results and see how the process has improved and the progress being made. She added that the FCAC and Department are developing a great partnership.

Ms. Luster introduced and welcomed Nancy Koene, the new program manager for Child Protective Services programs.

Submission of Committee Requests: Ms. Schultz requested a report reflecting support to the homeless:

- How many are we serving
- Budget information
- Are there any people not being served (identify gaps or problems)

Ms. Bostwick requested an answer to her question: “With the COVID problems we have had, are there any primary care teams being held?”

Mr. Knudson stated that these items will be added to a future agenda. He also mentioned that a tour of the new building will be scheduled as soon as it is safe to do so. Ms. Luster added that she will coordinate a tour with Mr. Stevens, perhaps during the Board’s usual meeting time.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Supervisor Lokrantz moved eleven contracts to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Hoffman. Ms. Mooren explained a few contracts are new providers, as we are working to expand our pool of providers whose services are typical of our current providers. The remainder of the contracts are renewals or amendments to existing contracts. Ms. Mooren and Ms. Luster answered questions. The contracts were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Rock County Human Services February Impact Award: Ms. Luster introduced the IMPACT Award recipient for February: Kim Heller. Ms. Heller is a long-term employee in the Accounting area and is a great asset to the Department. Ms. Luster shared the nomination, written by a colleague, emphasizing her vast knowledge base and welcoming nature. Both Ms. Luster and Ms. O’Connor shared their positive interactions with Ms. Heller when they first became HSD employees and how the primary program she works with, Children’s Long Term Support Program (CLTS), has grown exponentially during her tenure.

Resolution to Recognize Cheri Salava: Supervisor Podzilni moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Bostwick. Ms. O’Connor presented the resolution, emphasizing Ms. Salava’s tenure of 28 years, and her follow-through in regard to tasks, policies, changes, and collaborations with foster care homes. Ms. Salava shared that during her nearly 29 years with Human Services, she has learned a lot more about people than she ever imagined she would have (humorous and heartwarming, as well as heart breaking at times). She added that there are a lot of people committed to doing the right thing, even though it is the hardest thing to do. In summation, Ms. Luster stated that Ms. Salava’s contribution to the community is deep and she will be greatly missed. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Resolution to Amend the 2021 HSD Budget and Creating New Positions to Meet the Waitlist Elimination Requirements in the Children’s Long Term Support Program: Citizen Representative Reyes moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. Ms. Butz presented the resolution asking for six new position in the CLTS waiver program that serves children with physical, emotional and development disabilities. CLTS has been growing incrementally. Recent changes have focused on statewide enrollment and budgeting. When a child is determined fully funded by the state, the county must enroll that child within 30 days. Because of this, we find ourselves in a continuous enrollment process to serve all eligible children in a quick time frame. Also, Rock County has participated in a pilot project for 8-9 years in which we are now locally responsible for intake and eligibility of kids who have disabilities in Rock County. Ms. Butz asked for the Board’s support in approving these six position so the CLTS

program can continue this work and serve the eligible kids in the county. Ms. Butz answered questions:

- CLTS serves children 0-18 years of age, however if they do not qualify for Family Care and still need services, CLTS can serve them up until their 22nd birthday
- CLTS can overlap the Birth to Three Program
- Examples of services include building a ramp to the home, supervision, and respite
- Any child that is referred and potentially eligible is screened and is potentially eligible for the program

The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Director's Report:

- **Update: COVID Related Departmental and Community Needs:** Ms. Luster shared the following update:
 - This week staff have continued to receive their second vaccination (these were staff who received their first vaccination several weeks ago)
 - Those eligible staff who were unable to schedule into the first round are in the cue to be scheduled
 - We are currently waiting to schedule staff for the next phase of vaccinations
 - We continue to help older adults and the vulnerable population with a plan to be vaccinated
 - We continue with remote work, meeting clients virtually as much as possible, though are meeting in-person safely, when needed
 - We remain attentive and responsible to community needs as they arise (ex. Warming shelters)
 - Staff meetings take place virtually
 - We continue to provide funding for housing as we can and also provide support to secure housing options

Ms. Luster answered questions.

- **Update: Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center:** Ms. Luster deferred to Mr. Stevens, who shared several photos and provided an explanation of each. Photos included the clinic front desk, pharmacy, Ms. Luster's office, and rotunda demonstrating a sampling of completion visuals. He stated that the new building project is currently 50% complete. Ms. Luster shared that discussions continue to take place in regard to furniture, storage needs, etc. A Look Book containing photos of the final finishes and furniture samples will be shared once it becomes available.

Supervisor Bostwick requested an update on the Birth to Three program next month. Mr. Knudson and Ms. Luster will coordinate agenda placement, possibly on a quarterly basis or regular interval.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **March 10, 2021** at 4:30 p.m. – Virtual Meeting.

Adjournment: Supervisor Bostwick motioned to adjourn, seconded by Citizen Representative Reyes with unanimous approval at 5:09 p.m.

Kathleen Wellnitz, Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD