

ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT
PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES
Wednesday, August 10, 2011 - 6:00 p.m.
Room K
Rock County Job Center, Janesville

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the Public Hearing to order at 6:03 p.m. on August 10, 2011, in Room K at the Rock County Job Center.

Present: Board members present: Chair Brian Knudson; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Robert Fizzell, Supervisor; Kathy Kelm, Citizen Representative; Tammie King, Citizen Representative; Phillip Owens, Supervisor, Terry Thomas, Supervisor; and Marvin Wopat, Supervisor. Staff present: Charmian Klyve, Director; Phil Boutwell, Deputy Director; Sandy Brown, Child Protective Services; Lance Horozewski, Juvenile Justice and Prevention Services; Sara Mooren, Fiscal Operations; Kate Flanagan, Outpatient and Adult Community Services; Sherry Quirk, Economic Support Services; Jennifer Thompson, Long Term Support; Patrick Singer, Technology, Records and Quality Management; Tim Zuehlke, Controller; and Jodi Parson, Administrative Secretary.

Chair Knudson welcomed everyone to the annual Public Hearing for the Rock County Human Services Department. He introduced himself as did all other Board members present. He stated that the Board and staff are here to listen to concerns as we plan for the fiscal year 2012. The role of the Board at this Public Hearing was to listen, not to debate issues or comment. Speakers for the evening were asked to limit their comments to 3-4 minutes.

Chair Knudson introduced the Human Services Director, Charmian Klyve. Ms. Klyve thanked County Chair Podzilni for attending the Public Hearing. Ms. Klyve introduced herself, and other division managers present: Jennifer Thompson, Long Term Support Manager; Sandy Brown, Child Protective Services Manager; Lance Horozewski, Juvenile Justice and Prevention Services Manager; Kate Flanagan, Outpatient and Adult Community Services Manager; Sherry Quirk, Economic Support Services Manager; Patrick Singer, Technology, Records and Quality Management Manager; Sara Mooren, Fiscal Operations Manager; Tim Zuehlke, Controller; Phil Boutwell, Deputy Director; and Jodi Parson, Administrative Secretary – Human Services .

Supervisor Knudson introduced the speakers in the order they signed in:

Speaker #1 – Kathleen Miller, BHS – Ms. Miller pointed out the need for counseling care in the community. The unemployment rate has left clients with minimal resources. She knows of several clients receiving counseling but are in need of additional support in case management. She is concerned for the Elderly and Developmentally Disabled. She believes that clients who qualify for services in LTS but are on a year and a half wait list.

Speaker #2 – Jean Randles, HealthNet of Rock County – Ms. Randles explained that HealthNet is a safety net for many clients that do not qualify for other State Health programs and/or do not have health insurance.

HealthNet provides prescriptions, medical, Mental Health, and Dental services. Ms. Randles strongly encouraged the Board to continue funding to HealthNet.

Speaker #3 – Joe Hoppenjan, Rock County citizen – Mr. Hoppenjan has concerns regarding the costs paid for out of county Detox and Mental Health inpatient stays. He wants to keep these services in the Rock County.

Speaker #4 – Cori Forster, Beloit Domestic Violence Center – Ms. Forster thanked the Board members for their work and serving on the Board. She explained it has been challenging to operate the shelter and a wide variety of measures have been taken to keep the shelter running. She explained a handout she distributed that showed the increase of clients using the Domestic Violence shelter. She requested the Board consider to continue funding to the shelter, as they provide vital services to the community.

Speaker #5 – Kay Deupree, League of Women Voters – Ms. Deupree thanked the Board for their involvement in the Juvenile Detention Center. The League of Women Voters appreciated Mr. Horozewski openness when they studied the JDC. They were impressed with the staff and the work being done at the JDC. The League of Women Voters will be taking a look at the Juvenile Justice & Prevention Division as a whole in the future.

Ms. Deupree then commented as a citizen observer who has observed the Mental Health CJCC consultant meetings previously. She informed the Board on August 17th, there will be another meeting with the consultants. She will be attending and suggests the Board members attend as well.

Speaker #6 – Deb Kolste, HealthNet Volunteer - Ms. Kolste is a passionate volunteer for Healthnet. She explained she sees many clients come in that make low wages and do not have health insurance. Healthnet provides vital services for the community. The community needs HealthNet.

Speaker #7 – Betty Conklin, NAMI Rock County, Secretary; and Kathy Stephenson, NAMI Rock County, Vice President – Ms. Conklin thanked the Board for the opportunity to talk to them. NAMI, is a non-profit group that advocates for and gives support to family members and clients with Mental Illness. They also educate and teach people about Mental Illness. They provide very critical services to the community.

Ms. Stephenson is aware of the cuts going on in the Wisconsin budget and knows it is hard to decide which areas to cut. With the increasing rate of joblessness there has also been an increase in mental illness in the community. Please keep this in mind and appreciate workers who provide the services.

Speaker #8 - Bill Hollingsworth, Janesville Psychiatric Clinic – Mr. Hollingsworth has looked at the services the County and the private sector provide and sees duplication. He would like to bid with Rock to provide services.

Chair Knudson invited others to speak who had not signed up. He thanked the speakers for coming and sharing their comments with the group. There were no further requests to speak.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Administrative Secretary

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