



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 22, 2020 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 22, 2020, in the Health Care Center Auditorium, Janesville, Wisconsin.

Committee Members Present: Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Terry Thomas, Supervisor; Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Stephanie Aegerter, Supervisor; Shirley Williams, Citizen Representative; and Terry Fell, Supervisor.

Committee Members Absent: Ashley Kleven, Citizen Representative. David Homan, Supervisor.

Staff Present: Kate Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Division Manager; Jennifer Thompson, Aging Disabilities Resource Center/Adult Protective Services (ADRC/APS) Division manager; Julie Butz, Children's Long Term Support (CLTS Program Manager); John Weber, Program Analyst; Vicky O'Donnell, ADRC; and Jennifer Dix, ADRC.

Others Present: Russell Podzilni, County Board Chair. Mary Mawhinney, County Board. Josh Smith, County Administrator. Randy Terronez, County Administrator Assistant. Jerry Braatz Facilitator, UW-Madison Extension. Sue McGinniss, Counsel on Aging (COA). Peg Cadd, Foster Parent. Jamie Fugate, Community. Ann Seffernick, B-3. Paula Garecht, B-3. Cheri Diehls, Foster Parent. Paula Schutt, COA. Benjamin Pierce, Janesville Gazette. Janet Smith, COA Board. Tom Moe, ADRC. Terri Wixom, Community. Sue Rusch, Community. Pam Bostwick, Citizen.

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Aegerter moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Williams. Supervisor Thomas requested removing agenda item #8. The agenda with the change was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of January 8, 2020: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Schulz. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: Ms. Cadd distributed a handout. She conveyed thanks for the focus group but listed concerns some foster parents still have after the meetings. Some of the issues included trust, wanting surveys of foster parents at critical transitions, establishing an Advisory Board, and bringing back shared parenting. She asked for HSD to start Exit interviews for staff and foster parents. She suggested an anonymous survey (suggestion box) for staff.

Ms. Smith advised she was part of the Aging Services Integrated Review Advisory Committee and opposed the integration of the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and Council on Aging (COA). She feels the agencies have different focus. She feels the COA staff have many years of expertise and wouldn't want to see that diluted or lost. The co-location is happening, from her perspective there is not an urgency to integrate. She is unclear how integration will make the services better and wants to know specifically how the services would be better.

Mr. Moe advised he was part of the Aging Services Integrated Review Advisory Committee and expressed concerns that he is hearing issues now that were not brought up at previous meetings when they were held. He advised what he heard at the meetings was the integration would be better for clients because all their services would be in one place. It will give strength to the staff to work together. His understanding is no staff are getting let go. He explained more about the difficulty of getting participants at the focus groups.

Ms. Garecht advised she was part of the Aging Services Integrated Review Advisory Committee and was speaking both as a citizen and as a social worker who utilizes both agencies on behalf of elderly clients. She stated Rock County is lacking services for the elderly population. She voted to approve the integration so Rock County can catch up in getting more services and build from a good base to make getting services easier for the elderly.

Supervisor Aegerter announced the Homeless Count is a national event and was being held that evening and provided details.

Citizen Representative Williams announced the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Commemoration event last Saturday was cancelled and rescheduled for this Saturday, January 25, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. at Blackhawk Technical College.

Ms. Luster announced United Cerebral Palsy (UCP) is having an open house on January 28, 2020 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Submission of Committee Requests: Supervisor Schulz asked about the State addressing the need on housing for the homeless. She requested information about what they are trying to accomplish and how it would be beneficial for Rock County.

Supervisor Schulz requested an ongoing report on the Birth to 3 program and families satisfaction.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved twenty contracts to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Thomas. Ms. Mooren responded to questions. The contracts were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

December Employee Impact Award: Ms. Luster advised Jill Hrycry was the recipient of the December HSD Employee Impact Award but was on vacation and not able to attend the meeting. Ms. Hrycry is an ADRC Benefit Specialist and solves many issues around access to benefits. She received this award for her reputation with community partners and co-workers on how wonderful she is to work with.

Resolution Amending the 2020 Human Services Department Budget to Accept a Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Supplemental Award for FFY 2020 and Creating a 1.0 FTE Human Services Professional Position Embedded in the Janesville Police Department: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Thomas. Mr. Winkler presented the resolution and explained that this is supplemental funding

available through September 30, 2020 to expand and enhance the pilot with the Janesville police Department. Mr. Winkler and Ms. Luster responded to questions about continuing this position after the funding ends and the hope for the possibility to expand to other police agencies at some point. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Recommendations from the Aging Services Integration Review Advisory Committee: Mr. Terronez introduced Jerry Braatz the Facilitator who completed the ADRC and COA Integration study. Mr. Braatz provided his background and experience in facilitating long range studies and plans. He overviewed the process and highlighted key points of the study. He collected a lot of demographic data from the University of Wisconsin and gathered input from many people. He emphasized there was many hours of work spent on gathering and collaborating with many people. He talked with eight benchmark counties, some of whom have integrated and some who were in the middle of integrating. He asked each county for five positives and five challenges they were encountering.

There were six focus groups scheduled but it was hard getting participation. He explained more about the participants and groups that took place.

He explained the trending and statistics from the Wisconsin Department of Administration and the projection data for Rock County. The trending shows people are living longer and in Rock County in 2030 there will be 26.8% of the population over 60 years old.

The urgency is that the over 60 population is growing and between COA and the ADRC there are a total of 24 staff. There looks to be a need to increase staff in the future not decrease. The urgency to integrate is so they could be more focused and share objectives to meet the needs of the increase of the population 60 and over.

He explained that under the ADRC, services are billable and can be reimbursed, but under COA it is not done that way. He addressed the concerns about decreasing staff and noted that staff have grown in other counties where there has been integration not decreased. Mr. Braatz responded to questions.

Update on Birth to 3: Ms. Luster introduced John Weber, Julie Butz, and Anne Steffernick. Ms. Luster provided a copy of a letter summarizing updates by Ms. Schwahn which had been previously sent to the Board. Ms. Schwahn's letter described the many steps that have taken place throughout the transition. There were four CESA 2 employees who accepted employment with United Cerebral Palsy (UCP). UCP is 87% staffed but experiencing challenges in hiring speech and language pathologists. UCP is contracting out for those services at this time. Ms. Steffernick addressed concerns about reducing services and provided clarification about the Primary Coach model and how it is implemented.

Mr. Weber provided information about how he has been contacting families to talk about how things are going and stated some of the challenges and positives that have been reported. Ms. Butz spoke about how Rock County followed the transition process closely to make sure no child was missed. Ms. Luster, Ms. Steffernick, Ms. Butz and Mr. Weber responded to questions.

Director's Report:

- **Update: Foster Parent Engagement Efforts:** Ms. Luster advised since the Foster Parent focus groups were held the report from the consultant has been distributed to all foster parents and to Ms. Luster. Ms. Luster provided three dates the week after the report was distributed, for foster parents to meet with her to talk about and

problem solve issues that were identified. She will have a concrete plan out by January 31, 2020 to address ongoing problem solving. She would like an ongoing forum of sharing information and is in favor of the foster parents implementing a Foster Parent Advisory Committee that includes foster parents and staff.

- **Update: 1717 Center Avenue:** Ms. Luster advised that the architect is working on acoustics in the building and height of ceilings to control sound. She provided a large blueprint for viewing.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **February 12, 2020** at 4:30 p.m. at the Rock County Health Care Center, in the 3rd Floor Conference Room, Janesville, WI.

Adjournment: Citizen Representative Williams motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Aegerter with unanimous approval at 6:04 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD