



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, January 13, 2021 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the virtual meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, January 13, 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; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Verence Sandoval, Administrative Intern; Jennifer Thompson, ADRC/APS Division Manager; and Mark Stevens, Business Services Manager.

Others Present: Randy Terronez, County Administrator Assistant. Patrick Singer, Rock I.T. Sue Rusch.

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Podzilni moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers. The agenda was unanimously approved. Approved.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of December 9, 2020: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Bostwick. The minutes were unanimously approved. Approved.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: None.

Submission of Committee Requests: None.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Citizen Representative Hoffman moved forty-three contracts to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Podzilni. Ms. Mooren explained that most of the contracts were renewals, but there were a couple new providers which she provided details about. She advised the Prescribers are similar to County employees and wage increases were the same as County employees which she explained. Ms. Mooren highlighted the contract for United Cerebral Palsy, which is a second year contract and provided details, including that the increase is 1%. Ms. Mooren provided details regarding the transfer for YSC 2020 funds. The contracts were unanimously approved. Approved.

Review of Bills: Mr. Stevens advised the bills were covering the December 2020 payments. He highlighted the Juvenile Restitution entries. Ms. Luster responded to questions about the Alia Innovations entry.

Rock County Human Services December Employee Impact Award: Ms. Luster explained that Renee Handrow was the recipient of the December Employee Impact Award but unfortunately not in attendance. Ms. Handrow was nominated by her supervisor for not only working with a youth but then nominating this youth for the Governor's award. The youth was chosen as the recipient of the award and was given the award virtually by the Governor and Lt. Governor. Ms. Luster explained that Ms. Handrow did attend a Board meeting in November and provided the details regarding this youth and the award. The Employee Impact award is formal recognition of her commitment and relationship building with this youth and the youth she serves.

Resolution Endorsing the Acceptance of Medicaid Expansion Funds and Placing Healthcare Advisory Referendum on the Spring 2021 County Ballot: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Williams. Supervisor Schulz explained she had the resolution drafted for the people in Rock County to have a preference and a voice in accepting Medicaid expansion funding. Currently Wisconsin is not accepting the funding which was estimated to be approximately \$324 million dollars for calendar year 2019. She provided more detail. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

Resolution for Approval of Double-fill CPS Supervisor Position: Supervisor Bostwick moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. Ms. O'Connor explained that the CPS Supervisor Ms. Salava has worked for HSD for many years and will be retiring. She oversees the out-of-home care and is responsible for duties that no one else covers. The double-fill is necessary for training the new supervisor. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

Resolution Supporting Increased Funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers: Supervisor Williams moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. Ms. Thompson explained that the funding across the state for ADRCs has been status quo for 15 years. A group was formed and has requested an increase in funding based on data and what was needed. The group recommends that funding be distributed based on elderly and physically disabled populations. The WCA is advocating and highlighting this increase. Ms. Thompson responded to questions. The resolution was unanimously approved. Approved.

Selection and Approval of Human Services Department Logo: Ms. Luster advised that the HSD has been using the County seal for many years and made the decision to create a new logo which would be unique to HSD. Six logos were created by a graphic designer and all HSD staff were asked for input to be included on the decision making. All the results from the staff survey were sent to HSD Board members. HSD Board members were asked for their feedback and to choose a logo. Discussion took place. Ms. Luster advised that the logo was abstract and she explained the designer's vision of each side of the logo and what it represented. Some Board members conveyed that the logo's abstract representation of the meaning was not a clear demonstration of HSD services and the logos were busy looking. There was no endorsement of any of the logos presented. This will be revisited at a future meeting.

Director's Report:

- **Department Operations Update:** Ms. Luster advised that she emailed the Board members earlier the information about the vaccine distribution. The first group, 1A group, is for staff who are healthcare workers who have direct contact for medically necessary services. There are staff who have direct contact with clients but are not

considered medically necessary services and will not be included in this first group. The HSD is prepping for the next group, 1B group, which is said to be administered on January 28, 2021. More HSD staff will fall under this group but not all.

- **COVID Related Community Needs Update:** Ms. Luster advised staff are helping clients to be ready and assisting the most vulnerable to get vaccinated. Ms. Luster responded to questions about mandating vaccines. Ms. Luster stated HSD will not be mandating staff to get vaccinated, but are encouraging staff to do so.
- **1717 Center Ave Update:** Ms. Luster reported the name has been selected for the new building location. The name is the Dr. Daniel Hale Williams Rock County Resource Center. Mr. Stevens provided ten photos of the progress of the construction. The building is approximately one third through construction. They are on target to be mostly completed on July 1, 2021. This is not a move in date, rather the point in time when other things needed in the building can take place such as I.T. can start installing technology.
- **Potential Grant Award for Child Welfare Systems Change:** Ms. Luster advised Alia Innovations applied for a grant to fund community based systems change for child welfare related work and has proposed to provide this resource for work within Rock County if awarded. This would be community based and would involve efforts to co-design strategies to keep children safe with their families and to reduce racial disparities in child welfare cases. The grant would involve hiring a “community cultivator” to engage community members and families. There would also be flexible direct funding to strengthen and support families. There is hope to have more information soon, and if Alia receives the funding, this will start in the spring.
- For the purpose of the semi-annual report, Ms. Luster advised there were five individuals to report for the last six month time period who attended a training over \$1,000 and provided details.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **January 27, 2021** at 4:30 p.m. – Virtual Meeting.

Adjournment: Chair Knudson motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Schulz with unanimous approval at 5:35 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD