



**ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, March 10, 2021 – 4:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order:** Chair Knudson called the virtual meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, March 10, 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; and Pam Bostwick, Supervisor.

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

**Staff Present:** Katherine Luster, Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Verenice Sandoval, Administrative Intern; Mark Stevens, Business Services Manager; Amy Cottington, Community Support Program (CSP) Program Manager; and Maria Delgado, Economic Support (ES) Division Manager.

**Others Present:** Patrick Singer, I.T. Data Services Manager. Sue Rusch.

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

**Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of February 24, 2021:** Supervisor Bostwick moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Podzilni. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

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

**Submission of Committee Requests:** Chair Knudson advised UCP will be coming to provide an update on April 28<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Luster advised the requests about housing and homelessness will be addressed as one agenda item at an April HSD Board meeting.

Ms. Luster will contact Supervisor Bostwick about her previous question to get clarification.

**Approval of Contracts and Transfers:** Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved five contracts to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Williams. Ms. Mooren explained one contract was for a new Presciber and the others were renewals of current contracts. The contracts were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Review of Bills:** There were no highlights or questions regarding bills.

**Resolution to Recognize Rock County Social Workers:** Supervisor Podzilini moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers. Ms. Cottingham began by explaining the resolution was a great way to give thanks to all social workers in Rock County. Social workers provide many different supports to clients in so many different areas such as the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC), Children, Youth and Families (CYF), and the Behavioral Health (BH). She explained why she became a social worker and how CSP workers interact with the community in many different roles. They feel privileged to work with and share the lives of their clients to give their clients hope for a better life. They feel honored to build respectful relationships with their clients. Social workers have the ability to think creatively with limited resources and have a strength to make the most out of situations to help each individual. She then read a poem about Social Workers that was very heart warming and really provided everyone insight of what Social Workers experience. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Report on Human Services Related Initiatives in Governor Evers' Biennial Budget Proposal:** Ms. Luster emphasized that this information was Governor Evers' proposed budget and is not the final budget as there will most certainly be changes. She provided a powerpoint with highlights of the areas of the proposed budget that related to Human Services She will email this information and more detailed information to the HSD Board members.

Economic Support: Medicaid expansion was included but it is known to have significant opposition in the legislature; repeals of the Badgercare Reform, FoodShare work requirement and FSET Drug screening requirement; and funding adjustment to reflect a re-estimate of caseloads.

Long Term Support: Expansion of caregiver support services and funding for dementia care specialists across the state.

Children's Long Term Support: Ensuring every child in need of long-term supports receives services with elimination of waitlist; and the Birth to Three Program continues to receive funding.

Behavioral Health: Crisis areas include providing funding to establish up to two regional crisis response centers and five regional crisis stabilization facilities; Funding for the room and board portion of residential substance abuse treatment; Medicaid rate increases in behavioral health services.

Children and Families: Child Welfare includes increasing funding for Children and Family Aids; Child Welfare new worker training; several provisions for Family First Prevention Services Act; Foster Care and Kinship Care rate increases; extends Independent Living services; driver education for youth in Foster Care; grants to support foster parents and children, and creation of sibling connection program.

Children and Families: Youth Justice regarding type 1 Facilities/SRCCCYs eliminates state-run type 1 facilities; eliminates serious juvenile offender program; eliminates automatic original adult court jurisdiction for all youth under the age of 18 and increases the age of delinquency from 10 to 12 years of age; raises the age of adult jurisdiction to 18 years of age and provides funding for counties to serve 17 year olds; eliminates as an available disposition under the Juvenile Justice Code the placement of a juvenile in a juvenile detention facility for more than 30 days, which would preclude Rock County from continuing the ACTIONS program; reduces the use of detention for juvenile offenders who commit minor offences.

Ms. Luster responded to questions.

**Director's Report:**

- **Update: COVID Related Departmental and Community Needs:** Ms. Luster shared the following updates:
  - More staff and more people in the community are vaccinated.
  - HSD is recommending no change in protocols regarding operations at this point and staff will continue to work remotely when possible. Staff who serve clients should continue to meet with clients in person when necessary using the same protocols.
  - Staff are assisting clients to get vaccinated. The ADRC has additional funding to help with getting homebound clients vaccinated.
  
- **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. He stated that the new building project is currently a little over 50% complete and provided more details.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, **March 24, 2021** at 4:30 p.m. – Virtual Meeting.

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

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Jodi Parson, Secretary

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