

**HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE**  
Minutes of Meeting  
September 5, 2023 at 6 pm  
Kenosha County Administration Building

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisors Stock, Stocker, Kubicki, Gentz, Geertsen and Yuhas

**Committee Members Excused:** Supervisor Nedweski

**Youth-In-Governance Present:** Madison Tongco and Sona Hawkins

**Staff Present:** John Jansen, Rebecca Dutter, Tammy Capito and Lynda Bogdala

**Others Present:** Tami Rongstad, Supervisors Gaschke, Thomas, Rodriguez, Decker and Bashaw, Chairman of Brookside Board of Trustees Chairman Bob Pitts and County Board Chair Gabe Nudo.

1. **Call to order / Roll Call.** The meeting was called to order at 6 pm by Chairman Stock. Roll call was taken.
2. **Citizens Comments:** None.
3. **Chairman's / Committee Members / Supervisors / YIG comments:** Chairman Stock wanted to thank Lynda Bogdala for the picnic at Brookside. He also stated that if you have agenda items for any month please make sure that he receives the items early enough to get them posted correctly.  
Supervisor Nedweski was not able to attend the Brookside picnic but had received numerous emails and phone calls on what a wonderful event it was.  
YIG Madison Tongco asked about getting Narcan training in the high schools for the students. John Jansen stated that we can reach out to upper Administration to bring it in. Supervisor Nedweski asked her why she is requesting that. Madison stated that she has looked at statistics and has been hearing from students that they would like to be trained. Sona Hawkins stated that she does know there is some drug use and it would be good for them to be trained. She feels there is a lack of awareness with Narcan. Chairman Stock asked about the possibility of the new prevention specialist could look into this. Rebecca Dutter said absolutely.
4. **Approval of Minutes – August 1, 2023** - Supervisor Yuhas made a motion to accept the minutes from August 1, 2023. Supervisor Geertsen seconded. All in Favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**
5. **Resolution to approve the appointment of Supervisor Jeffrey Wamboldt to serve on the Racine Kenosha Community Action Agency.** John Jansen introduced the resolution. He will be filling a requirement needed.

Supervisor Geertsen made a motion to accept the appointment, Supervisor Stocker seconded. All in favor. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Supervisor Gentz made a motion to move up item #7, the Brookside update. Supervisor Yuhas seconded. Nay – Supervisors Stocker, Nedweski and Stock. Aye – Supervisors Gentz, Geertsen, Yuhas and Kubicki. Motion carried.

6. **Potential motion to reconsider a Resolution to approve the appointment of Zach Rodriguez to serve on the Kenosha County Board of Health** – Chairman Stock asked if there was a motion for to reconsider the motion. Supervisor Nedweski made a motion to reconsider the motion. Supervisor Stocker seconded.

County Board Chair Nudo had some questions before we got started. He is not sure this is a legal move. Who requested for this to be put back on the agenda? Chairman Stock stated he received a call from the County Executive's office asking for it to be added to the agenda and if within the time frame to add it. He spoke with the county clerk who said it was within the time frame. County Board Chair Nudo asked who he spoke with to say it is legal. He did not like that they waited until Friday at 5 pm on a long holiday weekend. If Chairman Stock did not okay it, how did it happen. County Board Chair Nudo said that we need to check with corporation counsel to see if it is okay. He said that the recording secretary of this committee got an email from the county executive's office to add it to the agenda. If they did not check with anyone it seems like an orchestrated move and feel it should be tabled. We need to hear from corporation counsel and please do the right thing and table it. Chairman Stock stated it was brought in late, he checked with the county clerk and he approved adding it to the agenda. He spoke with

corporation counsel who stated we needed a motion and a second then it would need to be voted on to reconsider. If that reconsideration passes, then it has to go to vote tonight on an approval or not. Supervisor Nedweski stated it was not the last hour. She asked if there were other applicants from other County Board Supervisors. The Board of Health has membership requirements. The longer they stay vacant, the longer we are out of compliance, so yes, it is time sensitive and asked that you support this motion to reconsider.

Supervisor Gentz stated he will not support this. He has not heard from Corporation Counsel and the County Board Chair is even saying not to vote on this tonight. He feels someone has to make a motion to table it. Not that it won't ever get heard, we don't even have to table it, we will hear it at the next meeting, but we have to do our due diligence and talk to Corporation Counsel.

Supervisor Bashaw said that Roberts Rules states that if a motion is defeated a member can reintroduce it, but this was put on by someone who is not a member of this committee. What are the ordinances? Or per Roberts Rules - Must it come from a member who voted on the resolution? Supervisor Gentz said Point of Information-she can do it at a committee level even by someone who is absent, but the question is who actually brought it. Supervisor Nedweski said point of order. Are we voting on this? The motion is there for the reconsideration not on Roberts Rules. Chairman Stock said the discussion is around whether or not we are going to reconsider the appointment of Supervisor Rodriguez. He said point of information that he did talk to corporation counsel specifically on this and there is a caveat in our county that in regard to Roberts Rules that for it to be on the agenda it has to be publicly noticed. Supervisor Rodriguez said point of order that the county executive did not put this on the agenda. They asked Chairman Stock to put on the agenda. He said yes. Supervisor Bashaw said that he is surprised that no one from corporation counsel is not here. He feels this is a valid question for corporation counsel and he feels this is not time sensitive.

Supervisor Gentz knows that this can be done as he read Roberts Rules numerous times. This agenda item did not follow Roberts Rules. It did not come from Supervisor Nedweski, it did not come from someone who was on the prevailing vote. He does not know that this is legal. We should defer for a month and make sure that we are doing this procedurally correct.

County Board Chair Nudo will say it again that this started from the county executive's office and he still does not know that it is legal. They had a full month to do this and waited until 5:00 pm on a Friday night and no one can call anyone until Tuesday.

Chairman Stock said that at the end of the day it is up to the committee if they are going to reconsider this appointment. If a majority of the committee agrees then the vote will be taken as per his conversation with corporation counsel.

Supervisor Nedweski - call to question. Chairman Stock-is there a second? Supervisor Stocker seconded. Roll call vote was taken. Aye -Supervisors Geertsen, Nedweski and Stocker. Nay – Supervisors Yuhas, Kubicki, Gentz and Stock. Supervisor Geertsen is just confirming that the vote was on the call to question. Yes. He also wanted to make sure that this is the very next meeting since the resolution failed. It was confirmed.

County Board Vice-Chair Decker asked Supervisor Nedweski if she wished to reconsider this motion? Supervisor Nedweski responded Yes, I did. Did you confirm with the county executive? Supervisor Nedweski responded Yes, I did. Did she ask or did you ask her to follow up on this to be put on the agenda? Yes, she was told by the county executive's office that they conferred with corporation counsel and it would be added to the agenda. So, you recommended for the motion to be put on the agenda? Supervisor Nedweski responded Yes, I did.

Supervisor Gentz said that at the end of the day the votes count. I agree with that. I am not questioning that but what we do not have to be okay with is the process of how it happened. He can appreciate Supervisor Decker plugging Supervisor Nedweski at 7:10 pm when she did not ask it to be reconsidered and she should have followed the chain of command and gone to the County Board Chairman, not the county executive. Supervisor Gentz feels that we have to take the time to sort it out and these are legitimate questions.

Madison asked what legal aspects is there. Chairman Stock explained what had happened.

Supervisor Rodriguez wanted to clarify that the motion to reconsider has to happen tonight. He spoke with Joe Cardamone and although he couldn't be in the room tonight, he could take a phone call. There are false notions that are questionable. We do not report to the County Board Chair. If anyone is questioning the legality, then let's call Joe.

Supervisor Yuhas for clarification- the issue here is that the request did not come from Supervisor Nedweski directly, it came from the county executive. From Roberts Rules - in order for something to be reconsidered it has to be brought by the prevailing side.

Chairman Stock stated that per corporation counsel it had to be at this meeting. Supervisor Geertsen said it is his understanding that if we do not act tonight on this it will die. Chairman Stock said if the county executive could appoint again.

Board Chair Nudo again said why wait until the last second. They knew since the last meeting in August.

Supervisor Nedweski said that to her knowledge no one in the room is an attorney. What is legal or not? Some are making up answers, but we are here to vote on this potential motion to reconsider.

Supervisor Yuhas asked if any other supervisors applied? Tami Rongstad stated no. Supervisor Yuhas asked why. Tami said she cannot answer that. Supervisor Yuhas said the reason why is because no one else was asked. The county executive only asked Supervisor Rodriguez. He was the only one that was aware.

A motion was made by Supervisor Nedweski to reconsider the appointment of Supervisor Rodriguez, seconded by Supervisor Stocker. Roll call vote was taken. Aye – Supervisor Geertsen, Stocker, Nedweski. Nay – Yuhas, Kubicki, Gentz and Stock. Motion failed.

- 7. Presentation – Brookside Update** – Tammy Capito stated that the July financials were in the packet and she had on the screen for the meeting which she had permission from the Brookside Board of Trustees to do so since they have not been voted on. The year to date census is at 105.4 and in July they are 112.4. Resident revenue is \$1M under target. Expenses are also under target, so there is a loss of \$436,000. In July there was a Medicaid parity adjustment.

They are going to be moving 24 of the 48 rehab beds to long-term care. Tammy discussed the different profit/loss from the different payor sources. Cost per day per bed is \$452.74. The lower census is causing this to be high. There are fixed costs so when the census goes up this rate per day will go down. The Medicaid rate has gone up significantly. It is now at \$361 per resident. It was under \$200. We are at a breakeven point.

Lynda Bogdala stated the stability of long-term care beds will help. Supervisor Nedweski asked if we are making all the first-floor long-term care what happens if we need more beds? Where will they go? Lynda stated another facility or home.

Supervisor Geertsen said thank you to Trustee Chair Bob Pitts and County Board Chair Nudo. He asked about a deep dive into Unidine and how is it going. Lynda stated that there were no issues. We talked at budget time about reducing \$300,000 with Unidine and with the deficit of \$436,000 would it be over \$700,000 if Unidine budget had not been reduced \$300,000? Tammy stated that not necessarily because they are not staffing as much with the census. Supervisor Geertsen requested to the Brookside Board of Trustees get a report then Human Services Committee on how Unidine is saving us money.

Supervisor Geertsen asked if ARPA funds were still on track to close the deficit? Is it going to cover? We still need ARPA funds to balance. The loss is much smaller than what we had last year.

Supervisor Geertsen said what a change to balance budget. This is a good move.

Supervisor Yuhas asked that Tammy explain the difference with Medicare and Medicaid. Tammy went through this.

Supervisor Bashaw asked what is the opt-out of legality of accepting or rejecting residents. Lynda stated that we have a say in every resident that comes into the facility. There is a process which goes over financials, their clinical needs. The hopes are that we will not increase the loss if we fill beds. Lynda stated that an ad was put out for long-term care residents and the move in date is scheduled for September 18, 2023. Supervisor Bashaw asked how many residents can we move in the staff we have? Lynda stated all 24 beds can be filled. Less staff are needed for long-term care residents.

Supervisor Stock asked what full capacity is. Lynda stated 154. We can fill all but the 24 rehab beds. Supervisor Stock asked if there was a wait list pre-Covid. Lynda stated that she would like to get to beds filled from 2019. Rebecca Dutter stated that we never had to do marketing before, and they have taken a lot of steps to get the beds filled. They have fillable forms online that go to a specific email group, so no one is missed. It streamlines the process. Supervisor Gentz asked is seniors can call and/or fill out in person. Lynda stated that we can mail forms, or they can pick up. We will go to their homes if needed to fill out paperwork. Supervisor Gentz said we are targeting the area we need to. Rebecca Dutter stated that Brookside is a 5-star nursing home where all the other homes in Kenosha County are 1 star. We never could accept more Medicaid residents and now we can.

Brookside Board of Trustees Chairman Bob Pitts stated that he is very proud of the Trustees eliminating 24 rehab beds. They are working hard, and this will be a win/win. The surveyors were just here, and Brookside had no violations. The staff is doing a great job, they are doing a lot of advertising. The Trustees are concerned about revenue.

Supervisor Nedweski said there is a lot of buzz about the resurgence of Covid. Lynda stated that they follow the CDC guidelines and their recommendations. All of the residents are vaccinated. The vaccine is required for employees. The worry with kids back in school are the families that come in to see their loved ones. Employees cannot come to work sick. Supervisor Nedweski asked about the financial reports if there is a resurgence. Lynda stated that the stability of long-term care residents will help. Tammy stated that no long-term care residents left during Covid. Rebecca stated that the advantage is that all rooms are private.

Supervisor Bashaw if there are other measures being considered to cut costs. Tammy stated that they are not looking at mitigating other costs with the Medicaid rate increase as it will make us whole. We are in a perfect prime time to be here. We put the money in staffing increases which is helping.

Supervisor Kubicki asked how our employees' rate as compared to other places. Tammy stated that she had not done an analysis. Lynda stated that increasing the pay has helped as we could not keep CNA's on staff. We are now sustaining employees.

Bob Pitts said his goal is to pledge that we will give \$500,000 back to the county.

9. **Any other business as authorized by law:** None

10. **Adjournment** – Supervisor Yuhas made a motion to Adjourn. Supervisor Geertsen seconded. All in Favor. **Motion carried unanimously.** Meeting adjourned at 7:26 pm.

*Full audio of the meeting is available at <https://www.kenoshacounty.org/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/6901>*

Respectfully Submitted,

Kathy Duberstine, Senior Administrative Assistant  
Department of Human Services - Office of the Director