

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
September 6, 2022, 6:00 pm.
Kenosha County Administration Building

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

Committee Members Excused: Supervisor Geertsen

Youth-In-Governance Present: Eric LaMere, Erika Bando

Staff Present: John Jansen, Lynda Bogdala, Nina Taylor, Kimm Peters, Patty Merrill, Lori Thoennes and Catherine Lambrecht.

Others Present: Supervisor Brian Thomas

1. Call to Order / Roll Call

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chairman Nedweski. Roll call was taken. Supervisor Geertsen excused.

2. Citizen's Comments – None.

3. Chairman's/Committee members/Supervisors/YIG comments – Chairman Nedweski stated the County Executive made a proclamation for September for suicide prevention month. Chairman Nedweski will be reading that proclamation at the September County Board meeting.

4. Approval of Minutes – August 2, 2022 – Motion to approve the minutes from the August 2, 2022 Human Services Committee was made by Supervisor Kubicki, seconded by Supervisor Stock. All in Favor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

5. Resolution to accept the Nursing Home and Long-Term Care Facility Infection Prevention and Infrastructure Matching Funds Grant – Lynda Bogdala introduced the resolution. This is a matching grant used for staff incentive for them picking up shifts. The total is \$13,600. We already have money allocated for staff incentive so this will match up to that amount.

Supervisor Stocker asked if it was a 50/50 match. Yes.

Supervisor Gentz asked if it could be used towards salaries. It is used as an incentive for employees to pick up nonscheduled shifts by giving them a few extra dollars per hour." We are down 33 CNA's and 11 RA's. We are working with the WisCaregiver Program to get more CNA's. We've had to reduce admissions due to our lack of staff to care for them.

Chairman Nedweski said so it is just a chunk to help pay for what we are doing.

Supervisor Stock asked how long we expect the money to last. Lynda stated that she anticipates the end of the year.

Motion to approve the resolution was made by Supervisor Kubicki, seconded by Supervisor Yuhas. All in favor.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

6. Resolution for Brookside Care Center to receive Settlement funds – Lynda Bogdala introduced the resolution. This is a class action suit from 2017 due to receiving faxes. The total, \$208.03, comes from the number of faxes that were received. The money will go into the Sunshine Fund.

Motion to approve the settlement funds resolution was made by Supervisor Kubicki, seconded by Supervisor Stocker. All in favor. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

7. Discussion on opioid settlement funds – Patricia Merrill and John Jansen – Patty Merrill stated that Kenosha County will be receiving funds from the opioid settlement. A portion comes from the manufacturer and a portion comes from the distributor. Kenosha County is expected to receive \$10.4 million and 20% of that goes to legal fees which is \$2.1 million. Next settlement to Kenosha County is \$8.3 million. We received our first installment from the distributors of \$289,694 on August 22, 2022. There is a payment expected from the manufacturer of \$103,000 but we have not heard when although they did state it would be in 2022.

We are considering securitization of funds. Considering of taking the funds up front which would be a lower amount but there concerns that they could out of business. We are waiting on more information. A resolution would come forward if we do go that route.

Supervisor Gentz asked about the preliminary workup on the numbers. Patty stated that it would be possible to receive approximately \$3.9 million. Supervisor Kubicki asked when she has more information to come back to the committee.

YIG Erik-how does this fit into the budget season. John Jansen stated it would put a place holder in the budget.

John Jansen-what can this money be spent on? There will be no time frame. There is lots of leniency. It is very broad ranged. We have only begun to have preliminary discussions. The committee will be in the process as we move forward.

Supervisor Thomas asked if there were other communities like ours that have these programs? John stated we track all of our programs to see what is working. Counties and communities are sharing.

- 8. Presentation - Division of Workforce Development – Nina Taylor.** Nina introduced staff that were present for this meeting. Nina had a power point presentation that was sent to the committee members prior to the meeting which is also available on the agenda on the county’s website. There are 3 main programs within the division-Child support services, economic support and workforce investment and opportunity act program.

Economic support – Economic support is an income maintenance agency. Employees work to determine eligibility for Medicaid, Badger care, food share, food share employment and training and childcare. Nina explained that Kenosha and Racine have a consortium which is called WKRP. They have very large caseloads – 58,000 cases. Racine is down 9 team members but have 4 in training. Kenosha has 3 in training but no vacancies. Employees are monitored in real time. Nina went through many statistics. Much discussion was had on childcare services.

Training is 12 weeks in a classroom and six to ten weeks on the floor training. It is very hard to lose employees since it takes so long to have them actually get started with all the training. Supervisor Stock asked if there was any flex in training? Nina stated that they do a lot of on the floor training or shadowing. They are very assertive on that to help with the training.

Child support services – Nina wanted to hone in on performance rates since Shalonda did a presentation earlier this year with this committee. She went through different challenges they face. People moving from job to job, low income, a population that will never pay and will work hard not to pay.

Is there cooperation between other states? Some but there is no federal system that would help with that.

Chairman Nedweski asked how this affects incarcerated people? Lori Thoennes stated that we give them a motion to suspend their child support and collect \$1 per month for arrears. Lori stated we will work with everyone and figure out a plan. Chairman Nedweski asked if they will still owe when the are released. Yes.

Workforce investment and opportunity act – There are 11 workforce development boards across the state. Funding is 100% federal funded and the state of WI as well with workforce development. There are also some competitive grants available to provide technical training or marketing. Adult, Dislocated Workers and Youth programs, and working with business services to get employees is the main goal for the state of WI and throughout the nation.

Chairman Nedweski and Supervisor Gentz thanked Nina for the presentation.

Audio of the entire meeting is available online.

- 9. Any other Business as Authorized by Law - none**

- 10. Adjournment -** Motion to adjourn was made by Supervisor Yuhas, seconded by Supervisor Kubicki. All in favor.
MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Kathy Duberstine
Senior Administrative Assistant -Office of the Director