

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
September 5, 2006
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Judy Rossow, Ed Kubicki Ruth Booth, Bill Grady, David Arrington

Staff Present: Dennis Schultz, Laurie Staves, John Jansen, Ron Frederick

Others Present: Emily Ayshford, Kenosha News, Supervisor John O'Day

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Judy Rossow, Chairperson.

1. Comments by the Chair

Judy Rossow stated that there is a meeting at 7:00 in the 3rd Floor Chambers that Terry Rose would like Supervisors to attend, so some members of this committee may leave this meeting early.

2. Citizen's Comments - None

3. Approval of Minutes - 8/1/06

MOTION to approve minutes by Ruth Booth, seconded by Ed Kubicki. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. Resolution to Approve the County Executive Appointment of Sandra Beth to the Kenosha County Commission on Aging

MOTION to approve by Bill Grady, seconded by Ruth Booth. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Update on DHS 2006 Budget

Laurie Staves explained that Terry Rose requested that all departments give an update on their 2006 budgets to their oversight committees. For DHS, all divisions are right on target except for DCFS. Last year, it was DDS and Aging that were over budget. For Aging we could hold vacancies open in the Waiver Program; and for DDS, we infused quite a bit of levy. This year, it's DCFS placements, and more specifically RTC's and Corrections. We are currently 15% over budget in placements. We hope to receive WIMCR revenues in 2006 to help us offset some of this deficit, bringing it to \$500,000. We had a 51% increase of children in care from 2001 - 2006. RTC's went up 45% from 2005 to 2006. There are two reasons for this increase: (1) During the last quarter of 2005, we had quite a few teens committing suicide. Because of this, when there were any mental health issues, the Court placed the youth in an RTC for 30-60 days for an assessment. (2) There has been an increase of children with DD issues and they need to be placed in an RTC.

Pertaining to Corrections, we do not have any control in the discharge. The State decides the discharge date and the rate also. Our rate has been going up - 23% from 2001 to 2006. Of the 45 youth placed in Corrections in 2006, only 24 were recommended by DCFS workers. Juvenile Court Intake recommended the others. John

Jansen added that the youth stay longer than we feel they should. Dennis Schultz said that the county submits an aftercare plan and the State decides if it agrees with it.

RTC's are increasing the budget more than Corrections. We are working on strengthening relationships with everyone, and we will aggressively participate in all plans for children.

Mr. Schultz stated that we have balanced the budget every year even though the first 6 months projection doesn't look very good. We have not needed additional levy in the last 5 years to balance the budget.

6. Update on Family Care Expansion

Dennis Schultz said that Racine & Kenosha are still in negotiations with the State for the administrative overhead for counties. We are very close to an agreement. We have a conference call next Wednesday with Racine and the State to discuss our need to have additional staff in Economic Support to do the paperwork. We also hope to have the administrative overhead amount next week. It has been a breath of fresh air working with Chuck Wilhelm at the State. Mr. Schultz attended a meeting last week in Madison with the State, WCA and WCHSA. It was a very positive meeting. Family Care will be a good thing for Racine and Kenosha.

7. Division of Disability Services - Tour of Services/Facilities

Ron Frederick pointed out the invitation in the packet to tour DDS facilities on 9/20. John O'Day went on this tour and encouraged his fellow Supervisors to go.

8. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law - None

9. Committee Members Comments - None

10. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Bill Grady, seconded by Ruth Booth. Meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

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