

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
August 7, 2007
Kenosha County Administration Building

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

Committee Members Absent: David Arrington

Staff Present: Dennis Schultz, Laurie Staves, Ron Frederick, Kenn Yance

Others Present: Chas Bartuse, Charles Burmeister, Co. Bd. Supr. Jennifer Jackson, Emily Ayshford-Kenosha News

1. Call to Order

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

2. Citizen's Comments

Chas Bartuse, a volunteer coordinator with the Tobacco Free Coalition, urged the committee members to vote in support of the SB 150 resolution so the State of Wisconsin can provide smoke-free workplaces. Minnesota and Illinois already have smoke-free laws. It's important that our community send a message that we are behind our state legislators to protect people from secondhand smoke.

3. Approval of Minutes - 5/29/07, 6/19/07

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

4. Resolution to Approve the Appointment of Charles Burmeister to the Kenosha County Veterans Commission

Charles Burmeister stated that he feels very proud to be asked to serve on this commission. He has been participating with military funerals for over 30 years. They did 140 funerals last year. Bill Grady thanked Mr. Burmeister for volunteering for this position.

MOTION to approve by Ed Kubicki, seconded by Bill Grady. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Resolution in Support of SB 150 - Breathe Free Wisconsin Act

Dennis Schultz stated that this resolution was drafted by Ron Frederick and Corp. Counsel. He also noted that Chairman Terry Rose has put this on the County Board agenda tonight as a communication item.

Ron Frederick said that this resolution supports SB 150, which is a comprehensive smoke-free work-site piece of legislation. He distributed a sheet with the SB 150 highlights and stated it's important that local boards let their opinions known to the State. He urged support of this resolution. The Tavern League is opposed to this, citing a person's right to smoke. Bar owners in New York City have seen an improvement in their health since the passing of their non-smoking law. Did the airline or restaurant industries collapse because of non-smoking laws? No.

Co. Bd. Supr. Jennifer Jackson added that the cigarette tax is not in this resolution, so you would not be endorsing that by supporting this resolution.

Judy Rossow stated that she believes it should be up to the private businessman to do this. It should not be legislated for private entities. They are losing control of what they want.

MOTION to approve by Ed Kubicki, seconded by Ruth Booth. MOTION CARRIED, with 3 ayes and Judy Rossow abstaining.

6. DWD: Resolution to Modify 2007 Budget for Additional Special Improvement Funds for Child Support Information Technology Modernization

Laurie Staves said this was extra money we received from the State targeted for IS equipment for the Child Support area. Together with IS, we came up with a list for IS to install in the next two months. No additional levy.

Ruth Booth asked what we will do with the old printers and computers that are replaced. Mr. Schultz replied that he believes they are disposed of in a "green" manner. They are recycled, not just thrown away. He will find out exactly what happens and let all committee members know via e-mail.

Judy Rossow mentioned that the Detention Center takes old computers and printers to recycle, and gives a tax credit.

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

7. Family Care Letter

Laurie Staves said that about 1-1/2 weeks ago, WCA contacted her about a change in Family Care support at the State. The State Budget Conference Committee wants to stop the expansion of Family Care and eliminate language of the funding for the buy down to 22% of Community Aids. This will cost Kenosha County \$500,000 more than what we thought it would be. County Executive Kehl sent a letter to the State Budget committee members urging them to restore the funding language. This Human Services Committee could do a similar letter to the Budget committee as well, or they could be individual letters. All County Board Supervisors will have a copy of this on their desks tonight at the County Board meeting.

8. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law

Ron Frederick distributed a "Save the Date" flyer for the 9/19/07 annual Tour of Services/Facilities. The big change this year is that consumers will be at each stop to share their stories. It will probably start around 5:30 or 6:00 and end at 9:00.

9. Committee Members Comments - None

10. Adjournment

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

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary