

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
Minutes of Meeting
August 4, 2009
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Ed Kubicki, Terry Rose, Jeff Gentz, Dick Kessler, Jennifer Jackson

Committee Members Absent: Ali Khaleel & Alice Wei (excused)

Staff Present: John Jansen, Adelene Greene, Laurie Staves, Rosann Lewis, Kevin Loef, Jennie Tunkieicz, Derrell Greene

Others Present: Mary Jonker, Valerie Jensen, Kathy Fliess, Joe Potente (Kenosha News)

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Ed Kubicki.

2. Citizen's Comments - None

3. Approval of Minutes - 7/7/09

MOTION to approve minutes by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Dick Kessler. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

4. DADS - Resolution to Modify 2009 Budget to Add ARRA Funding for Senior Nutrition Services

Laurie Staves stated that DADS received stimulus funding in the amount of \$36,374 to purchase additional home delivered meals and congregate meals for people age 60 and over. We will also prepare and deliver additional packs of food for emergency purposes for home-bound people. Terry Rose asked if there were any people 'not' receiving the meals now. Ms. Staves replied 'no', there is no waiting list at this time. However, with the state of the economy, utilization is expected to increase.

MOTION to approve by Terry Rose, seconded by Jeff Gentz. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

5. Informational Item: Veterans Services memo to Re-designate Funds for IT Capital

Laurie Staves said that this memo will be going to the Finance Committee for approval. There is a \$15,000 - \$16,000 savings in Personnel costs. They would like to use \$1,000 of this savings to purchase outreach materials and supplies to improve awareness of Veterans benefits available to all County residents. The current director is attending events, such as Food, Folks & Spokes and Gateway Technical College, and is trying to get to the libraries. He would like to get information out to the community.

They would also like to use \$6,300 of the unspent 2008 IT carryover funds to replace a 20+ year old information system which has limited reporting capability and outdated technology. They would purchase updated software and hardware to increase efficiency reporting and implement an electronic case file system for all County Vets. This will be very helpful for clients and use very little paperwork. The use of the IT carryover has been approved by the IT Director.

6. Informational Item: Brookside Memo to Request Change in 2009 Capital Outlay Budget

Laurie Staves stated that this memo will also be going to the Finance Committee for approval. We had \$20,000 budgeted to replace the dining room chairs at Brookside, but we got an excellent pricing and saved \$14,000. There are some items we would like to purchase with that savings. We can purchase a patient lift at a savings of 40% this year, eliminating this request from the 2010 budget. One of our residents needs a Rock N Go Wheelchair to keep from falling out. We need more parking spaces for employees in the back. We plan to add 6 spaces this year and 6 more in 2010. This will be done in cement because it's cheaper than blacktop. The rest is for miscellaneous items. There is currently \$5,600 in a Miscellaneous line item for emergency repairs and purchases. For example, we have had to make considerable air conditioning repairs this year for approximately \$5,000. The \$4,263 additional amount will be added to this line item.

7. Informational Item: W-2 Program Information

Laurie Staves distributed some handouts, stating that at the last meeting, this information was requested. She explained the Recap of the W-2 Program Budget. We are able to pay for \$656,000 in personnel from the W-2 program. This is about 8 County FTEs. Contracted services total \$894,000 in W-2 funding and \$196,000 for the Child Care Center. This funds approximately 37 contracted FTEs. W-2 benefits total \$2.3 million in 2010.

We were about \$180,000 short in 2008 benefits but were awarded \$600,000 more to continue in 2009. We had a \$1.4 million budget for W-2 benefits, plus the \$600,000 that came through which gives us \$2 million in 2009. The State is increasing the amount to \$2.3 million for the next year. This is about a \$300,000 increase. More benefits are being paid through Kenosha County, and the State realizes that and has always made us whole since the W-2 program began in 1997.

We can also use W-2 funding for building rental/occupancy charges of \$163,000 and other funding sources of \$111,000. Because of the collaboration between the Division of Workforce Development (DWD) and the Division of Children & Family Services (DCFS) to implement the Single Service Plan to serve the family as a whole, we can draw down funding from W-2 in the amount of \$189,000 and can use almost \$300,000 of other funding sources. Total levy of \$335,000 is used towards funding other divisions within the Department of Human Services. There is no levy included in the W-2 program. It is the collaboration effort between DCFS and DWD that gives us the opportunity to use our levy as a match to drawdown other federal/state funding.

The July 2009 caseload was over 15,200 unduplicated DWD cases, of which 400 were W-2 or only 3%. There will still be 14,800 cases remaining to be served outside of the W-2 Program.

The Additional Levy needed Without the W-2 Program is approximately \$427,000. This amount is in addition to the current \$335,000, for a total of more than \$760,000 total levy. Without W-2, there would be a reduction in the County workforce of 8 employees and 37 contracted FTEs. We will still need to fund interpreter services and the administration/support for Holiday House through additional levy of \$9,750. We will still need to pay building rental - additional levy of \$137,801. The DCFS/DWD Collaboration funding sources would go away. However, the families DCFS serves would not - additional levy of \$242,380. We also lose \$37,227 in Other DHS allocation. \$427,158 additional levy is needed without the W-2 Program. We did review this with the County Executive and he does support the continuation of the W-2 program by Kenosha County. We won't know until mid-September if we will be awarded the W-2 Program for 2010-2011.

Adelene Greene stated there was an increase of 12 W-2 cases from June to July. On 6/1, there were 379. On 7/1, there were 391. Terry Rose asked: If this trend continues into 2010, how would we fund this deficit? Ms. Staves replied that the State 'did' make us whole in 2009 for 2008, and we will be receiving \$300,000 more in 2010. We will have better numbers in September. We can't tell you today what 2010 will be but we have always maximized our ability to use levy as a match to drawdown other funding sources and will use levy as a last resort.

Terry Rose again asked how we will fund this deficit. Ms. Staves responded that when the RFP was issued, many counties asked the State if they would provide written assurance that they would be made whole. The State said they would continue every effort to make counties whole. Kenosha County has been made whole every single contract.

Jennifer Jackson asked what the worker caseload is. Adelene Greene replied that every Economic Support worker has over 540 cases. We have 31 ES workers. Ms. Jackson said that her fear is that workers are going to be so overloaded that clients will not be properly served. She asked if additional case workers would need to be hired to better manage this caseload. Ms. Greene replied that our clients let us know if they are not happy and not getting the services they are requesting. The State also has Performance Guidelines we are required to meet under the W-2 contract for customer service.

Ms. Jackson acknowledged that without W-2, we would immediately be out \$500,000. She asked if the contracts will go out to bid if we get the W-2 Program. Ms. Greene replied that 2011 is the next time they will go out to bid. Ms. Staves added that each agency receives a budget amount every year which is their annual contract amount to set their budget.

Ms. Greene said that overall, from June to July, cases increased by 100. W-2 cases increased by 12.

Ms. Staves said that we have had the W-2 Program since 1997, when it started.

Mr. Rose asked who paid for the benefits of the 37 contracted employees. Ms. Staves responded that their employer pays for those benefits.

Ms. Staves said that everyone works a 40-hour week. If we were to move the 47.5 contracted employees to County union and non-rep positions, the cost would be 63% higher. Ms. Jackson requested a copy of the report with this information.

Ed Kubicki asked for the total number of contracted employees in DHS. Ms. Staves will get that information.

8. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law - None

9. Committee Members Comments - None

10. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Terry Rose. Meeting adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

F:Sharon/HSCmin 8-4-09