

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE  
Minutes of Meeting  
October 21, 2010  
Kenosha County Administration Building

Committee Members Present: Terry Rose, Jeff Gentz, Mike Goebel, David Celebre, David Arrington, Ryan Joseph (YIG)

Staff Present: John Jansen, Laurie Staves, Cindy Johnson, LaVerne Jaros, Wayne Kreuger, Adelene Greene, John Milisaukas, Derrell Greene, Janet Schmidt, Ron Rogers, Gina Carver, Dr. Witeck, Kim Rossi, Zach Blauser, Tom Orendorff, Jim Kennedy, Fran Petrick. Jeff Wilson, Jim Truchan

Others Present: Byron Wright, Dave Houghton, Paul Moeller, Chris Schoen, Brian Wolf, Gary Brown, Wally Graffen, Kevin Loef, Jack Rose, Earl Hawley, Co. Bd. Suprs Dayvin Hallman, John O'Day, and Kim Breunig, Co. Bd. Chair Mark Molinaro, Joe Potente-Kenosha News

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Terry Rose.

Jeff Gentz moved to open the meeting for citizen comments, seconded by David Arrington. Mr. Rose responded that we had that at our last meeting and it's not required according to Corp. Counsel. He ruled Mr. Gentz out of order. Mr. Gentz continued that that is not appropriate; he should be able to make a motion. Mike Goebel agreed, stating that it's an open meeting. Mr. Gentz asked for the privilege of the floor and then moved to open the meeting for citizen comments. David Arrington seconded. Mike Goebel voted 'yes', David Celebre and Terry Rose voted 'no'. Mr. Rose stated that the motion failed and moved on.

2. Discussion and Approval of 2011 Dept. of Human Services Budget

Mr. Rose explained the voting process. We will vote on each section separately, and the on the budget as a whole.

**Medical Examiner:**

Mr. Rose opened discussion to change the model of the Medical or keep it the same. Mr. Goebel asked what the cost would be for a medical examiner vs. a medical pathologist for one year. Mr. Rose responded that Dr. Witeck earned \$110,000 plus \$27,000 for the Lab Director position. Dr. Mainland earned \$175,000.

Ms. Staves said we are budgeting for 125 autopsies at \$1,200 each in 2011.

Mr. Goebel asked what we get out of going to a lay medical examiner model. We will be laying off an employee.

Mr. Rose passed around a sheet indicating that we have performed 88 autopsies so far this year and are projecting 113 by year end. We did 88 in 2009. He wanted to know why we are projecting 125 for 2011. Mark Molinaro had the same question. Ms. Staves replied that

we did 127 in 2008. Under Dr. Mainland, the following autopsies were performed: 148 in 2005, 153 in 2006, 166 in 2007, and 127 in 2008.

Gina Carver said that with Dr. Mainland, we had referral autopsies. We did not do that with Dr. Witeck. Mr. Goebel asked who determines if an autopsy needs to be performed. Ms. Carver replied that of 1,200 deaths in the county, 993 will be referred to us for investigation. We need to determine how that person died. Sometimes we only need to perform an external investigation, while others need an internal investigation. The medical examiner makes that call. A lay medical examiner may do more or fewer autopsies. Ms. Staves added that the current staff has input into this decision. Based on their reports and what they find at the scene is part of the decision. Only autopsies are being outsourced.

David Celebre, also a member of the Administration Committee, said that earlier this week, that committee approved the de-funding of medical examiner staff. It was presented to them that this was the move the County wants to make - that a full-time medical examiner is not necessary. It was also the decision of the Administration Committee.

Jeff Gentz said he sees 3 choices: (1) hire a full-time medical examiner like the Dr. Mainland model, (2) have a part-time medical examiner to be called upon when autopsies are needed, like the Dr. Witeck model, or (3) go with the lay medical examiner model. How do we want our Medical Examiner office to be structured?

Kim Breunig asked why one deputy medical examiner was being cut. Ms. Staves answered that the lay medical examiner will take the place of that position. Ms. Breunig asked if the qualifications will be the same. Will the person coming in have the same qualifications as the DME who is being laid off? Ms. Staves said that information would be available in Personnel.

Mike Goebel said that we need a job description for the lay medical examiner. We can't make a decision without all of this information.

Mark Molinaro said that we shouldn't get caught up in the qualifications of the person. We need to trust in Personnel to be sure they will hire a qualified person. We need to look at what is in the budget. We could save \$6,000 for every 5 fewer autopsies, and then we could revisit their budget in 6 months if more money is needed.

Ms. Breunig expressed concern about autopsies where family members are physically waiting for the autopsy to be completed. They will now have to drive to Milwaukee to wait for that. Gina Carver responded that we still have a morgue in Kenosha. Milwaukee 'could' come here on specific cases to perform the autopsy. We have budgeted for 4 of those cases. There will be additional costs for supplies, etc.

Terry Rose said he wants to stick with the current medical examiner system. The lay medical examiner proposal costs more money and we get less. He will support retaining the current system and at last year's level. Mike Goebel agreed with Terry Rose, stating that we should leave it the way it is.

Mr. Gentz said that Dr. Witeck came under unusual circumstances. We may not be able to find someone like him. He doesn't think we will save money if we hire someone else. He asked if there are others in the State that work the same way.

John Jansen said that Dr. Witeck was able to do autopsies outside of the county. Dr. Mainland was full-time at \$175,000 and only worked for Kenosha County. The number of autopsies grew during her employment. It will cost much more to hire a full-time medical examiner. It was quite an effort and took a long time before Dr. Mainland was finally hired. Meanwhile, we will be shipping autopsies out of the county at a higher cost. We will do this, but it will cost more. We brought our DHS budget in at \$250,000 less than last year.

Laurie Staves explained that the 'Other Autopsies Performed' line item on the Medical Examiner Annual Statistics handout are the autopsies that we paid for when the medical examiner was on vacation or at a conference. We did not know that Dr. Witeck was leaving when we submitted the budget in July. Dr. Witeck was part-time and only came in to do autopsies. The two contracts are different.

Mr. Gentz stated that this will not save us money keeping it the same way. He is comfortable with the solutions and budget as presented.

Kim Breunig said that the DA has to increase their budget for the expert witness fees now. Mark Molinaro believes it's increasing from \$15,000 to \$38,000. Ms. Breunig asked who takes the bodies to Milwaukee. Ms. Carver explained that we have two vans to transport bodies. We will call Milwaukee to report the death and let them know when we will be taking the body there. Milwaukee gives preference to out-of-county autopsies. We use our people to drive the vans. Ms. Breunig said this is a lot of wasted staff time and driving time.

David Arrington commented that he understands we have a responsibility to the people for staying at the 2.75% levy increase, but he is comfortable with this budget and supports it, just as it has been presented.

MOTION to approve the Medical Examiner 2011 budget as presented by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Arrington. David Celebre voted 'yes'. Terry Rose and Mike Goebel voted 'no'. Motion carried, 3-2.

### **Office of the Director:**

Terry Rose asked why revenue was down. Ms. Staves replies that \$25,000 was the elimination of the State allocation for the Veterans Assisted Living Study costs. Our revenue is actually increasing by \$14,522 for the shared revenue allocation. Staff in OOD serve all divisions, so we can share in their funding sources which pays for the OOD staff time.

MOTION to approve the Office of Director 2011 budget as presented by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Arrington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **Central Services:**

Ms. Staves stated that Central Services serves all of the Job Center divisions and partners. There is no levy because each division pays their share of the costs.

MOTION to approve the Central Services 2011 budget as presented by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Mike Goebel. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **Brookside Care Center:**

Jeff Gentz stated that he was initially concerned about going from 25 - 29 Medicare beds in 2011. But then he met with Fran Petrick and OOD staff and is now confident that Brookside will be able to meet that number. He is comfortable with Brookside's 2011 budget.

Mark Molinaro questioned the staff increases. Ms. Staves stated that Supervisor Joe Clark had also requested information on this. She distributed a detailed information sheet on the positions to all members. The Nursing Office Manager position is an existing position that is increasing from 32 hours to 40 hours. She does the scheduling and makes calls to cover the call-ins. There are a lot of call-ins and we have to be sure we have enough staff. She also receipts and distributes nursing supplies and helps with medical records filing.

The unit secretary will be freeing up our licensed nurses. Our residents need to see specialists, especially our rehab patients. Currently, our nurses are setting up appointments and arranging transportation. There is also a lot of paperwork and charts that need to be kept current with the progress notes, copying of medical records, etc. This is clerical work which the secretary can handle. Everything at Brookside is Medicare driven. With Medicare comes a lot of paperwork and we need more staff. This will free up the nurses to be with the residents, where they should be.

The two 24-hour housekeeping positions are 2nd shift. We currently only have 1st shift. We could have a resident discharged at 4:00 p.m. and then have an admission at 5:00 or 6:00 p.m., but we need a second shift to clean the room. This will help us meet the 29 Medicare rooms. Keep in mind that we get reimbursed for a patient who is in the facility at midnight, so having late day admissions will help to decrease vacant days. Kristine Palmas, our Admissions Coordinator, is going out to the hospitals, setting up booths, and getting the word out that we are a rehab facility as well. We believe that 29 is doable, but not without these positions.

Mr. Molinaro acknowledged that the justification is here for these positions. But he asked, what happens in 2012? Will Brookside be adding another 2, 3 or 4 positions?

Mr. Gentz replied that he also asked these questions. Yes, Brookside is asking for more positions, but going back from 29 Medicare rooms to 26 will reduce the revenue. He will not be comfortable with leaving it at 26.

Ms. Staves explained that in going from 29 to 25 beds, we would be short about \$282,000 without the positions. Adding 4 Medicare beds will result in an increase of \$508,000 in revenue, for a total of \$135,000 to be added to the General Fund. The new positions total \$90,818.

John O'Day, who is also a Trustee on the Brookside Board, directed the committee members to look at Page 19, showing that Brookside will be returning \$135,836 to the General Fund in 2011. With these additional positions, they can turn rooms around the same day. This has already happened at Brookside. They need these people to run Brookside like a business, as directed by the County Board.

Terry Rose summarized that Brookside's expenses increase, revenues increase, and there is \$29,000 in excess revenue. When going from 26 to 29 Medicare rooms, you should have greater revenues.

Ms. Staves responded that we lowered private pay rooms from 46 to 38. Medicaid was also increased from 82 to 85. She reminded the committee that we are only paid \$140 per day for Medicaid rooms, which means that we lose about \$135 per day.

MOTION to approve the Brookside Care Center 2011 budget as presented by Mike Goebel, seconded by David Arrington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

### **Aging & Disability Services:**

Terry Rose referenced an e-mail he received from Mark Modory, a member of the MH/AODA Committee, with a question he had on the DADS budget. LaVerne Jaros said that she talked to Mr. Modory and provided him with a breakdown in detail of their MH budget. After her explanation, he agreed with it. She distributed this information to the committee.

Mr. Rose informed the committee that provider contracts are being increased by 2% and referred them to the Contract handout.

John Jansen said that a couple of contracts were increased more - about \$100,000 - due to increased utilization. Placement contracts are not included in this listing. Ms. Jaros said that most CBRFs are receiving a 2% increase, but the prescription drug and psychiatric hospital contracts will remain the same. There will also be no increase for congregate or home delivered meal contracts. Ms. Staves reviewed the increases or decreases of the DADS contracts with the committee. Mr. Jansen added that some of the increases do not have levy in them.

Ms. Jaros noted that the biggest portion of levy increase is in the mental health services. Mr. Rose asked why the DADS levy was increasing. Ms. Jaros replied that it's due to increased utilization.

Byron Wright, KHDS Director, stated that they served about 660 Kenosha County residents in 2009 at Bridges. This year, we are at 750. This is for emergency mental health stabilization. We are trying to divert people for inpatient care at St. Luke's Hospital in Racine.

Terry Rose pointed out a \$15,000 increase for Rogers Memorial Hospital and asked we are using this facility. Ms. Jaros responded that they can only estimate utilization and referrals. If St. Luke's Hospital is full, they will need to use Rogers Memorial. They both provide the same service.

Mr. Molinaro asked how much of these contracts is salaries. Ms. Jaros replied that these are the maximum contract amounts we would allow. Some provider health insurance costs have increased. But they will live within the 2% increase.

Mr. Jansen stated that we increased the contracts because their expenses have gone up as well, and they have only received 2 small increases since 2002. Through the KARE Center, we can keep people out of inpatient hospital care. If we don't increase contracts, our providers will have to let staff go, and the level of service will go down. Our placements will increase. We have a level of service that we want our providers to maintain. The last time in the 90's, placements shot up when contracts were cut.

Jim Truchan said that we have experienced turnover of 4 staff in the last 2 years. Those staff helped us collect Medicaid. Three went to Washington County and 1 went to Dane County. They took positions that pay much more and have greater benefits. We are

basically training them and then losing them to other counties, to other similar programs. Where are our salaries in the mental health areas? We have a hard time filling positions, hiring a master's level employee, for \$30,000.

Mr. Jansen added that the 2% is based on our providers' expenses and costs. Many of these services are mandated. We are in the business to be fiscally responsible, which this budget is, and to provide services to those families in need. We came in 2% less than our 2010 budget. We have less levy than last year.

Kim Breunig asked what if we only gave the contracted providers a 1% increase. Mr. Jansen responded that staff would be let go or services would be cut. They have only had 2 small increases since 2002, and all of our providers are pushed to the maximum right now. Mike Goebel added that people in social work are not well paid to begin with, so he feels that a 2% increase to keep the experienced staff is acceptable. Otherwise, they'd be laying off experienced people.

Mr. Jansen clarified that the 2% increase is not going totally to salary increases with all providers. Mr. Rose said that the comment he got from a provider was that the 2% was for salary increases. That is not our business. We put the contract out, and it's up to the providers how they provide the service within the contract amount. He agrees with Mark Molinaro.

LaVerne Jaros said that we budgeted a 2% increase because that is the most we could squeeze out. Often it's the health insurance costs that are sky rocketing and they need the increase to cover that. It's up to the provider how they use the 2%. Most of our services are personnel, so most will be in salaries and fringe benefits.

John Jansen directed the committee members to page 8 of the contract listing, to column 8. We still come in at \$37,000 less levy, even with the 2% increase.

Jeff Gentz stated that how a provider spends the 2% increase is up to them, whether it be for salaries, health insurance, or other costs of doing business.

Mr. Molinaro said that we are purchasing contract services. What happens internally is up to them. Mr. Rose agreed.

MOTION to approve the Aging & Disability Services 2011 budget as presented by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Mike Goebel. David Arrington voted 'yes'. Terry Rose and David Celebre voted 'no'. Motion carried, 3-2.

### **Children & Family Services:**

David Arrington asked what the practice has been within the last 10 years. Have we ever before asked for specific detail as it pertains to something in the 2% increase? He would like to see this addressed in the future. This should have been provided to us before we got to this point. We are speculating that all of these providers on this document are going to receive raises.

Mr. Jansen replied that all of this information is reviewed internally by us. We have that data and that information. We bring program information to this committee.

Mr. Arrington said that it comes down to a trust factor that you are doing your job when you bring this budget to this committee. You have taken the time to prepare the budget. It looks good to me and I support it.

Mr. Molinaro stated that every committee has a significant amount of trust in their staff. Most departments have put forward a 5% increase to the budget. He is meeting with the County Executive tomorrow to hear about a proposal to help us get down to the 2.75%.

Mr. Celebre agreed with Mr. Molinaro. If there is any place we can cut, we need to. Every department wants the other departments to cut. We need some kind of give.

Mr. Gentz said that he is looking to the future. Cuts hit this department more than other departments. DHS has come in cutting \$250,000. He is a little concerned that it will cost us more down the road if we make cuts.

Mr. Arrington said he is not in favor of spending money, but we are not finding anything to cut in this budget. It's just not here.

Mike Goebel stated that this is human services. This is not golf courses or highways. These are people that deal with human services. This is not the time to cut services for those serving people.

Dayvin Hallmon agreed with Mr. Goebel wholeheartedly. He thanked the staff at DHS for this budget.

Terry Rose asked what \$300,000 cuts can be made to this budget.

John Jansen replied that this is an \$82 million budget. Every year the levy has come down. We were told to come in with a '0' increase. We did better than that and came in with \$250,000 less. "I cannot, in good faith, recommend \$300,000 in cuts. You can go line by line and you will find nothing other than a very responsible budget and we will continue to put forth this budget as it is."

Laurie Staves added that we put this together with no State budget next year. We have no clue as to what the State will do in July. We were very cautious because we do not believe we will see any increase in revenue sources. We are only \$11 million in levy. We draw down \$6 million more by using our levy for services in Kenosha County. A \$300,000 levy cut would mean a \$600,000+ cut in services to us. We came in with a \$245,000 decrease in levy. This is a fiscally responsible budget. The term 'personnel' means salaries and benefits. Personnel is not only salaries, it's both.

Ron Rogers explained that Independent Living is a program that works with the older youth who are under a court order. They are juvenile delinquents, and as they get older - ages 17-18, Independent Living gets them a place to live. Utilization has increased. It went from 7.6 in 2008 to 16.7 in 2009, and is estimated to be at 22.8 in 2010. These kids need to live somewhere. If we placed them in Treatment Foster Care, it would cost \$3,000 a month or more, or at a Group Home at a cost of \$6,000 - \$7,000 a month. We have increased this contract due to increased utilization. The federal government has also increased the reporting requirements of this program. Starting 10/1/10, for youth aged 15-1/2 or older who spend 6 months or more in out-of-home care, we have to survey them at age 19 and again at age 21. This is a totally new requirement. Social work staff cannot do this - they don't have the time. The KHDS Independent Living Program will be asked to take on this new responsibility. This program keeps the kids in the community and works with them to become functioning adults. These are the reasons this contract budget was increased.

Byron Wright added that kids in Independent Living can come to see them for as long as they want to. They see kids into their 30's. They have State money to help kids go to

college. Five Independent Living kids ended up becoming foster parents. Some ended up with mental illness and will be in the system for years. The Independent Living contract ends at age 18. The federal government requires that they work with the kids to age 21. They have federal grants for \$200,000 for homeless youth. They always keep their doors open because kids need support.

Mr. Goebel commented that after age 18, most services forget about the kids. He gave a lot of credit to the KHDS organization for their commitment.

Mr. Rogers continued that their goal is to return kids successfully home. They have 330 families being served as of today in the CPS Unit and 200 families in the Ongoing Unit. Social work staff provide the planning, assessment, and court documentation. Service providers do the hands-on work with the families. We have a great rate of non-recidivism - 73% - for juvenile delinquents. DCFS is able to provide excellent work only because of our continued partnerships with our providers.

MOTION to approve the Children & Family Services 2011 budget as presented by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Mike Goebel. David Celebre and David Arrington voted 'yes'. Terry Rose voted 'no'. Motion carried, 4-1.

### **Workforce Development:**

Terry Rose asked where the levy comes from. Adelene Greene replied that most of the levy is used to draw down other revenues. W-2 is 100% state funded. Child Support uses 34% of the levy to draw down 66% of revenues. FoodShare uses 50% to draw down another 50%.

Mr. Rose asked why expenses increased from \$18 million to \$21 million. Ms. Staves replied that \$580,000 is staff increases. DWD has a lot of staff, with 78 FTEs. We also received an increase in W-2 benefits and services of \$1.4 million. WIA increased by \$360,000, but \$357,000 of that is pass-thru funds for Racine and Walworth (as Kenosha County is the fiscal agent for this tri-county consortium).

Mr. Rose asked about the Boys & Girls Club contract increase of \$130,000. Mr. Jansen explained that this was for the WIA Summer Youth Employment Program. Using WIA funds and levy, we helped 200 kids get summer jobs in 2010. We did this in 2009 for 300 kids. This has such a positive benefit to the community. The kids stay out of trouble, juvenile crime goes down over the summer, and the kids gain some job skills.

Mr. Rose also questioned the Goodwill contract for Child Care that was increasing \$300,000. The levy is \$471,300. He asked why the levy is so high for this contract. Ms. Greene explained that the service description was cut off for this program. This \$2.6 million contract provides extensive services including Child Care Center operations, case managers to assist participants with FoodShare, Employment & Training, WIA, W-2, Children First, job search, workshops, and motivational training. This levy is used to draw down an additional 50% in revenue.

Mr. Molinaro questioned the 5.4% increase in personnel costs. Ms. Staves responded that 5 employees went from single to family insurance coverage, which was a \$70,000 increase. Employee raises are frozen, but Economic Support workers still get their step increases where applicable. Some temporary workers were also added for a cost of \$74,000. The 4 additional employees were actually added by resolution in March, 2010 and May, 2010, and are being carried over into 2011.

MOTION to approve the Workforce Development 2011 budget as presented by David Arrington, seconded by Jeff Gentz. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Health Services:**

Terry Rose asked and Ms. Staves confirmed that the Medical Examiner was Director of Lab Services. The \$27,543 is for the contract to purchase this service.

MOTION to approve the Health Services 2011 budget as presented by David Arrington, seconded by Jeff Gentz. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Veterans:**

MOTION to approve the Veterans Services 2011 budget as presented by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Arrington. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

**Entire DHS 2011 Budget:**

David Arrington thanked Human Services staff for their diligence in preparing this budget. There are difficult decisions to be made, especially in these economic times. He will support lowering the County budget to 2.75%, but not in the Human Services budget.

MOTION to approve the entire Dept. of Human Services 2011 budget as presented by Jeff Gentz, seconded by Mike Goebel. David Celebre and David Arrington voted 'yes'. Terry Rose voted 'no'. Motion carried, 4-1.

Terry Rose stated that he was not approving this budget because he wanted to cut 2% from the budget for the contract providers.

3. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law - None
4. Committee Members Comments - None
5. Adjournment

It was moved to adjourn by Jeff Gentz, seconded by David Arrington. Meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis  
KCDHS Secretary

F:Sharon/HSCmin 10-21-10