

JOINT HUMAN SERVICES BOARD / HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Minutes of Meeting

October 19, 2011, 5:30 p.m.

Kenosha County Job Center - Commons Area

Committee Members Present: John O'Day, Richard Willoughby, Sandie Bisciglia, Ron Johnson, Denis Wikel, Mike Goebel, Ed Kubicki, David Arrington, Doug Noble, Terry Rose, Jeff Gentz, David Celebre, Erin Decker, Kate Gerou (YIG)

Committee Members Absent: Chris Chae (excused)

Staff Present: John Jansen, Laurie Staves, Adelene Greene, Ron Rogers, Patty Hall, John Milisaukas, Cindy Johnson, LaVerne Jaros, Derrell Greene, Fran Petrick, Carolyn Feldt, Michelle Eisenhauer, Jim Kennedy

Others Present: Joe Potente (Kenosha News), Jennie Tunkieicz

This meeting was digitally recorded.

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:30 p.m. by John O'Day, Chairperson.

2. Citizen's Comments (on tape at 1:10)

The following citizens spoke:

Bob Waldron, First Step Services
Florence Hammelev, CUSH
Joyce Pavlina, CUSH
Walter Graffen, Boys & Girls Club
Byron Wright, KHDS
Tatjana Bicanin, CSSW
David Houghton, PSG/CIP
Marc Micklas, DCFS
Jack Rose, NAMI
Ericka Short, CUSH, Client
Donna Dickenson, DCFS
Pauline Waara, CUSH, Private Citizen
Judith Malek, Pleasant Prairie
Gary Brown, KAFASI

3. Presentation and Approval of 2012 Dept. of Human Services Budget

(on tape at 47:55) Laurie Staves distributed and reviewed the 3rd Quarter DHS Financial Status Update.

(on tape at 56:35) John Jansen spoke on the IM issue and funding loss effect to prevention service contracts.

The 2012 Proposed Budget Packets were distributed to all Committee/Board members.

DHS Overview / Office of Director (on tape at 59:50)

Central Services (on tape at 1:07:55)

Doug Noble questioned why there was only one person in this division. Laurie Staves explained that there are contracted employees as well, and they are supervised by this County person.

Veterans (on tape at 1:13:07)

(at 1:16:26) Doug Noble asked about the number of staff in the Veterans' Office and if there were enough personnel. Derrell Greene replied that 'yes', three (3) people is the right number to staff their office.

Workforce Development (on tape at 1:19:20)

Laurie Staves answered Erin Decker's previously e-mailed question that \$673,000 for the IM Consortium is Kenosha County's share.

Terry Rose asked what the Consortium will be doing. Adelene Greene replied that they will be doing eligibility services for MA, FoodShare, etc. Kenosha County is currently working with Racine County to develop a plan.

Ms. Staves confirmed to Mr. Rose that the IM money will remain locally.

Medical Examiner (on tape at 1:31:17)

John Jansen introduced the new Medical Examiner, Patrice Hall.

Richard Willoughby asked what the 3 people in this office do. Ms. Hall replied that she performs administrative duties (she is 'not' an MD). There are 7 employees totally, including all part-time Deputy Medical Examiners.

Health (on tape at 1:48:45)

(at 2:05:11) Terry Rose asked if the City has agreed to pay the \$585,393 amount yet. Ms. Staves responded that she has not seen the City's budget. Mr. Rose stated that we need a written agreement on this to be paid by a date certain. This needs to be well-known in the community. This is a substantial delinquency in payment. Mr. Rose then asked Ms. Staves to explain this issue to everyone present, which she did, adding that we are in negotiations with the City on this issue.

Doug Noble asked why the City is getting such a high proportion of the reorganization savings. Ms. Staves replied that 66% is their share of the savings according to the ratio in place. The \$153,000 is just for the service ratio change, \$112,000 is the reorganization, \$103,000 is other personnel costs, for a total of \$215,000 total reorganization costs, plus other savings of \$130,000. The method of payment has never changed.

Mr. Noble noted that if the City budgets the same amount for next year, that they paid last year, they can pay us the back amount.

Erin Decker asked who approves the Fee Schedules. Ms. Staves explained that the Fee Schedules are approved when this budget is approved.

Agng & Disability Services (on tape at 2:12:15)

(at 2:25:25) Terry Rose asked where the Western Transit bus goes. Carolyn Feldt replied that there are 3 regular routes from Kenosha to Twin Lakes, Twin Lakes to Lake Geneva, Kenosha to Paddock Lake to Antioch Station, and there are 2 door-to-door buses within Kenosha County. Mr. Rose asked what the ridership was. Ms. Feldt replied, on a monthly basis it's 1,500, and it's growing every quarter. Local levy match is \$37,000, which is 5% of the cost of federal funding. Mr. Rose further asked why we are bussing people to Antioch and Lake Geneva. Ms. Felt explained that the bus does a commuter run to meet the early and late trains for Kenosha County residents who go to Antioch to catch the train for their work. The bus that goes to eastern Walworth County is for shopping and medical purposes for Kenosha County residents that live in and around the Twin Lakes and Wheatland areas.

(at 2:25:51) Doug Noble asked what Corporate Guardianship was. LaVerne Jaros explained that corporate guardians are appointed to handle the affairs for elderly or disabled people who are incompetent or unable to care for themselves. We try to find a family member or volunteer guardian first. If that is not possible, a corporate guardian is appointed by the Court, and there are fees attached to this type of guardian. We are seeing an increase in corporate guardians.

Children & Family Services (on tape at 2:30:39)

(at 2:40:29) David Arrington asked how many children will be affected by the Family Educators Program elimination due to the IM funding loss. Ron Rogers replied that the program serves about 75 families each year, which would be 150 - 187 children. Mr. Arrington stated that it's important that these parents are able to get their children back, so he will bring this up again next year.

(at 2:50:41) Richard Willoughby asked what caused the increase in costs of the daily rates. Mr. Rogers explained that Corrections cost \$277 a day, or \$100,000 a year. Residential Treatment Care is \$110,000 - \$115,000 a year. These costs have skyrocketed. We have had some disabled children who needed that level of care. We now have fewer kids in Corrections and more kids in regular foster care.

Brookside (at 2:54:13)

Laurie Staves pointed out a correction under the FTE Changes. Only one social worker is retiring; the other social worker is transferring. Both positions will be contracted out for a cost of \$143,500, including benefits.

(at 3:24:14) Sandie Bisciglia asked if Ms. Staves has the dollar figure for the excess Medicare money brought in since the Admissions Coordinator came on board. Ms. Staves didn't have the figure for 2010, but for the first 9 months of 2011, we are \$847,000 over our targeted revenue. The position is paid under \$100,000, including benefits.

(at 3:25:20) Doug Noble asked if we think the Medicare census is flattening out. Ms. Staves answered, 'No, we will keep going up'.

Internal Service Fund (at 3:29:01)

With no further questions, the 2012 DHS budget was presented for approval:

Human Services Board (at 3:30:05)

David Arrington moved to accept the 2012 DHS budget as presented, seconded by Richard Willoughby. Motion approved unanimously.

Human Services Committee (at 3:30:33)

Jeff Gentz moved to accept the 2012 DHS budget as presented, seconded by David Arrington.

Terry Rose moved to table to a separate meeting on Monday, 10/24/11 at 6:30. David Celebre seconded.

Jeff Gentz will not support this motion, stating that everyone had 2 weeks to review this budget and meet with the staff. We should act on this budget as presented. Nobody had any questions that staff could not answer. David Arrington agrees with Mr. Gentz. This is a good budget.

Mr. Rose said we should have additional time to think about this budget. Mr. Gentz reiterated that there is no further information to discuss this year. Erin Decker stated that she is new to this committee, that she did have questions and they were answered, but she would also like more time to review this budget.

Doug Noble wants an opinion on \$800,000 that will lapse from DCFS back to the General Fund for 2011. He would like to keep this as a carryover and use to offset our IM funding loss. We would have to get Finance to look into this. This would be the only thing he would want to know about on Monday. Has no other questions other than that.

Those voting for a separate meeting on Monday, Oct. 24, 2011, at 6:30 p.m. included Terry Rose, David Celebre, Erin Decker, and Doug Noble. Against were Jeff Gentz, David Arrington, Ed Kubicki, and Kate Gerou (YIG).

4. Such Other Business as Authorized by Law (at 3:39:00)
5. Committee Members Comments - None
6. Adjournment (at 3:40:00)

It was moved to adjourn by Richard Willoughby, seconded by Erin Decker. Meeting adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sharon Davis
KCDHS Secretary

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NOTE: A copy of this recording is available upon request.