

WCDHHS Board Meeting Minutes

March 1, 2023

Waupaca County Courthouse

Room 1068

Waupaca, WI 54981

Board Members Present: Jerry Murphy, Sue Golding, Dennis Wengelski, Kevin Will, Tammy Strey-Hirt, Judi Olson, Dr. Steven Goedderz, Jody Muck

Board Members Absent: None

Staff Present: Ted Phernetton, Liz Wagner, Melissa Anderson, Amanda Welch, Diane Meulemans

Public Present: Ronald Pehlke, Sarah Ogden

The meeting of the Health and Human Services Board was called to order at 5:02 pm by Chairperson Jerry Murphy.

Motion by Will, second by Muck, to approve agenda. Motion carried without negative vote.

Motion by Wengelski, second by Strey-Hirt, to approve the minutes of the February 1, 2023 meeting. Motion carried without negative vote.

Public comment: Ronald Pehlke of Waupaca, wanted to address this board tonight in regards to the public comment/topic that was brought up at the February 1, 2023 meeting. He provided handouts to the board members. Ronald wanted to relay additional information. He asked if WCDHHS feels like the manner in which this situation was handled is acceptable? Does Human Resources feel like this was handled properly? Does Corporation Counsel feel like with was dealt with in a manner to avoid liabilities? If yes, then no further discussion is needed. Amanda Welch, Human Resources Director mentioned at this point in public comment that these topics will be addressed in the closed session. Ronald mentioned that if this happened to yourself, or a family member, having medical concerns, was a nurse contacted. There are nurses available on the second floor. He mentioned that there are two grade schools, gas stations, restaurants, and lots of community between the courthouse and ThedaCare. Thank goodness nothing happened. Ronald mentioned that the employee's spouse was 20 minutes away. This is a long-term employee, well respected by co-workers and the community. He mentioned that one of the handouts he provided was from the ADRU Manager, in regards to this employee going out of his way to assist those in need.

Program Presentation: N/A

## 1. General Board Business

- a. Motion to go into CLOSED SEESION pursuant to Wis. Stat. §19.85(1)(f): Considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations; to wit: DHHS Staff. Roll Call Vote.- Supervisor Will made motion to go into closed session, second by Muck at 5:15pm. Roll Call Vote: Murphy-yes, Wengelski-yes, Johnson-yes, Golding-yes, Strey-Hirt-yes, Will-yes, Goedderz-yes, Muck-yes, Olson-yes.
- b. Motion to RETURN TO OPEN SESSION: Motion to Return to Open Session to announce any decisions made in closed session. Motion to return to open session was made by Will, second by Golding at 6:13pm. Roll Call Vote: Murphy-yes, Wengelski-yes, Johnson-yes, Golding-yes, Strey-Hirt-yes, Will-yes, Goedderz-yes, Muck-yes, Olson-yes.
- c. Discussion and Possible Action: ADRC Consortium Exit Resolution No. 42 (2022-23)- Ted provided an overview on this resolution. Golding made motion to delay this for one more month until the board can be provided additional numbers on this. Golding stated there are many questions on what the County will save, in dollars, and how much salaries will increase for leaving the consortium? Second by Strey-Hirt. Motion passed without negative vote. Additional discussion ensued. Ted gave some histories on Outagamie paying for services because they underspent. He mentioned that with being in a consortium, that has its own expenses, so those expenses' fall back onto the Counties involved in the consortium if there is an overage. Ted mentioned that if we step outside of the consortium, our allocation from the state would be higher and our expenses should be lower. We would need to add 1.5 FTE's. Ted mentioned when all sad and done (if we were to leave the consortium) we would have an excess of around \$26,000.00.
- d. DHHS Signing Authority in Director's Absence- Ted provided background on this, this authority used to be held by the Fiscal Administrator (Erica). Ted proposed that Liz Wagner to fill this designation. Supervisor Will proposed that this be assigned to a position rather than an individual in instances of departure of employee. Motion by Will to assign the Administrative Services Coordinator to have the authority to sign in the Director's absence, second by Muck. Motion passed without negative vote.

- e. Resolution No. 40 (2022-23)-Donation Acceptance-Waupaca County Nutrition Program- Motion made by Golding to accept this donation, second by Olson. Motion passed without negative vote.
  - f. Resolution No 41. (2022-23)-Donation Acceptance-Waupaca County Nutrition Program- Motion made by Olson to accept this donation, second by Strey-Hirt. Motion passed without negative vote.
  - g. Discussion and Possible Action: Indigent Burial Responsibility- Ted provided background on this topic. He also provided a handout that shows the requirements needed to be met to qualify for the State of Wisconsin to take on this responsibility. He stated that folks that are indigent and do not qualify for the State Assistance, we need to determine who would be responsible to take on the cost of cremation and/or burial. Discussion ensued. It was determined that a policy will be created with the help of the Economic Support Supervisor in these cases. Supervisor Will made motion that DHHS should take on this responsibility of indigent burials, of county residents that do not qualify for State Assistance, with a budget of \$1500 to allocate for expenses, second by Golding. Motion passed without negative vote.
  - h. Advisory committee Reports/Updates
    - i. Transportation Coordinating Committee minutes from 2/2/2023 with handouts-N/A
2. Finance-
- a. Income Statement Overview- Ted went over the 2023 statement and also provided an update for final numbers of 2022 and that we will be in the black versus the deficit we were predicting.
  - b. Payment Register/Approve Bills- Motion made by Strey-Hirt to approve payment register/approve bills, second by Muck. Motion passed without negative vote.
3. Personnel
- a. Employee Updates/Resignations/Retirements/Recruitments- Liz provided updates on new hires and recent resignation announcements.
4. Director's Report
- a. General Updates- Ted provided a list of current contracts within DHHS to help with expenses that may show up on the payment registers. Ted also provided an update on the Economic Support benefit wind down. He mentioned that Big Brothers big Sisters has hired and will start filling mentors soon. He stated that there are discussions with Public Health becoming stand alone. He stated that with the vacancy of Fiscal Administrator, Heidi and the Finance Committee have approved an audit to be completed to see if it would be feasible for the DHHS Fiscal staff and County Finance staff to combine into one unit. Citizen Member Muck brought up the topic of Foster Homes for higher risk/complicated

placements. Are there exit interviews done with these families to see if there are areas of improvement the county could work on to keep these foster families? Are there additional supports we could be providing to Foster Families? Muck also mentioned that it would be helpful to the Foster Families to be provided detailed background information on the placements so they can be fully prepared to help in the best of their abilities.

- b. Telework/Remote Work Update- N/A
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- 5. Supervisor Report(s): Conference, Seminar, Convention, and/or Webinar Report(s)-  
Golding attended the Wisconsin County Legislative meeting in Madison. She mentioned that she learned a lot and it was very much worth attending. She stated that there was 7 billion surplus in the State. There will be additional funds given to Mental Health and Crisis Intervention. She stated she was networking on how to get more funds on Meals on Wheels, these are Federal dollars, not State dollars.
  
  - 6. Adjourn: Chairperson Murphy entertained a motion for adjournment; Golding made this motion, second by Olson; meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be April 5, 2023.

Submitted by,

Liz Wagner  
Administrative Services Coordinator