



BOARD MINUTES

WRIGHT COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

May 9, 2022

DATE APPROVED: June 13, 2022

Christine Husom,	District 1
Darek Vetsch,	District 2
Mark Daleiden,	District 3
Mary Wetter,	District 4
Michael Kaczmarek,	District 5

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Wright County Health & Human Services Board met in regular session at 1:30 p.m. with Husom, Vetsch, Daleiden, Wetter and Kaczmarek present.

STAFF PRESENT:

Anna Radloff, Social Worker III/MHP
Ashley Hibbison, Office Technician II
Blayr Randolph, Eligibility Specialist
Brooke Nohner, Social Worker
Christine Partlow, Business Manager
Christine Treichler, Social Services Supervisor
Diane Erkens, Social Services Supervisor
Ellen Tschimperle, Social Worker
Holly Rieland, Eligibility Specialist
James O'Dell, Technology Supervisor
Jami Goodrum, Director
Janet Marquette, Eligibility Specialist
Jeffrey Primus, Office Technician II
Jessica Shaughnessy, Social Worker
Jill Pooler, Social Services Manager
Joshuah Kwolik, Technology Coordinator
Julie Bemboom, Social Services Supervisor
Kelsey Collier, Public Health Supervisor
Kimberly Cohn, Social Worker
Kimberly Johnson, Financial Services Manager
Krista Lange, Social Worker
LeeAnn Thimell, Social Services Supervisor
Lisa Spencer, Office Manager
Madison Langrehr, Social Worker
Marisa Ferguson, Social Worker
Mason Coaty, Information Systems Analyst
Michelle Czech, Financial Services Supervisor
Michelle Miller, Social Services Manager
Noami Blomberg, Administrative Specialist
Richelle Kramer, Social Services Supervisor
Robyn Krause, Child Support Hearing Officer
Sarah Grosshuesch, Public Health Director
Tammi Martens, Financial Services Supervisor

Other Department:

Bob Hiivala, Auditor/Treasurer
Clay Wilfahrt, Assistant County Administrator
Greg Kryzer, County Attorney Civil Division Chief
John Holler, County Communications Specialist

Edward Pettit, Planning & Zoning Supervisor

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

ACTION: Husom moved, Daleiden second, to approve 2022-04-11 minutes. Motion carried

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Move **Item V, B, #4** to **#2 (Enforcement of Public Nuisance Ordinance)**

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Vetsch second, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

Remove **Item A, #3 – discuss Sodergren’s membership renewal at 2022-05-10 MHAC meeting**

- A. Approve Mental Health Advisory Council Membership Two-Year Reappointment
 - 1. Sandra Greninger – District 3, End of Term 2022-07-11 (Reappointment for 4th Term)
 - 2. Carl Harju – District 5, End of Term 2022-07-11 (Reappointment for 4th Term)
 - 3. ~~Mary Sodergren – District 3, End of Term 2022-07-11 (Reappointment for 4th Term)~~
- B. Approve Public Health Task Force Application
 - 1. Bradley Gangnon – District 5
- C. Approve 2022-06-16 Youth Services Team Training Day, Bertram Park, Monticello
- D. Approve Request to Cancel 2022-05-23 HHS Board Meeting

ACTION: Vetsch moved, Husom second, to approve the consent agenda as amended. Motion carried.

V. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Staffing Announcement

- 1. New Hire
 - i. Jeffrey Primus, Office Technician II, Office Support Team, 2022-04-18
 - ii. Krista Lange, Social Worker, Waiver & Community Supports Team, 2022-04-18
 - iii. Madison Langrehr, Social Worker, Waiver & Community Supports Team, 2022-04-18
 - iv. Ashley Hibbison, Office Technician II, METS/Health Care Team, 2022-05-09
- 2. Employee of the Month
 - Holly Rieland is June Employee of the Month.

B. Social Services/Public Health/Financial Services

- 1. APPROVE RESOLUTIONS TO RECOMMEND COUNTY HEALTH PLANS
 - i. HHS 22-02 - Special Needs Basic Care (SNBC) Programs

ACTION: Vetsch moved, Daleiden second, to approve Resolution HHS 22-02. Motion carried via voice vote 5-0.
 - ii. HHS 22-03 – Senior Managed Care Organizations (MCO) Programs

ACTION: Vetsch moved, Wetter second, to approve Resolution HHS 22-03. Motion carried via voice vote 5-0.
- 2. ENFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC HEALTH NUISANCE ORDINANCE FOR 15908 GREER AVENUE NW, CLEARWATER TOWNSHIP (SARAH GROSSHUESCH, EDWARD PETTIT)

Grosshuesch and Pettit sought guidance from the Board on referenced property due to decomposing garbage, building debris, smell of feces, lack of running water, as evident during a site visit by Public Health and Planning & Zoning on March 23. The property owner did remove the garbage but did not remove the building debris upon a return visit to the site after an abatement order was filed March 24.

The property’s assessment process has passed between HHS and P&Z. There are continued concerns from neighbors due to blowing trash around the neighborhood and around Fish Lake, along with the

general environment of the property. Grosshuesch sought consensus from the Board that the Public Health Nuisance was resolved. Commissioners were also in agreement with Pettit that Zoning violations persisted.

From the photographs shown, Daleiden noticed that there seems to be work being done on the building and asked if permits were pulled; he also stated that the absence of functioning water could mean the lack of a septic system or a very old one, if any – “is there any trigger to do an inspection?” Daleiden asked. Pettit explained that local townships perform safety risk assessments first before the County proceeds with any action.

Vetsch stated that if the township were to ask the county to proceed with the inspection, it will be P&Z’s domain to look at structural safety.

Husom commented that the potential health issue is a significant concern if there is no septic system. Kaczmarek concluded that with no evidence on the sewer system and no law requirement to have running water, the issue is limited to the refuse and structure, which he said might rest on P&Z. Kryzer replied that currently, the county is not at a level where it can require an inspection, as can happen when a property sale triggers an inspection and certification for compliance. A recourse may be to apply MN Statute Chapter 463 – declare a hazardous building abatement – Wright County’s current practice is to refer the assessment to the township; P&Z will perform building inspection at township’s request and township officials will follow through with issuing a resolution either to order repair or removal of a hazardous building.

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Husom second, to defer this matter to Clearwater Township and bring it back to the Board later. Motion carried.

Clarification: The Board defers the entire matter to the township to decide, since, at this point, it does not amount to an ongoing public health nuisance.

3. SET COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE (COTW) MEETING FOR TRUANCY DISCUSSION
(MICHELLE MILLER)

ACTION: Vetsch moved, Daleiden second, to approve proposed COTW meeting between HHS, County Attorney and Court Services, 2022-06-20, 10:00 a.m. Motion carried.

4. APPROVE REQUEST TO APPLY FOR CONTINUATION OF THE FAMILY PLANNING
SPECIAL PROJECTS (FPSP) GRANT [5-YEAR CYCLE] THROUGH MDH FOR PERIOD 2023-
01-01 TO 2027-12-31

(SARAH GROSSHUESCH)

Collier presented on the FPSP program.

Kaczmarek asked if contraceptives can be excluded from the grant, otherwise, he will decline from supporting, citing religious views. Grosshuesch explained that since contraception is tied directly to the counseling program, which is the staff cost, it is a required provision to receive the grant. Daleiden stated that he shares the same faith as the Chair’s, but conceded that this grant also provides educational services such as prevention of sexually transmitted diseases and other natural family planning practices.

ACTION: Vetch moved, Daleiden second, to approve request to apply for continuation of the FPSP grant for period 2023-01-01 to 2027-12-31. Motion carried, 4-1, with Kaczmarek opposing.

5. DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION COMMITTEE; EMPLOYEE RELATIONS COMMITTEE
(ANNA RADLOFF, JESSICA SHAUGHNESSY)

Shaughnessy and Radloff provided background on the two employee-run committees that HHS sponsors: Employee Relations (ER) Committee and the Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Committee. While the ER Committee has been established early 1990s, the DEI group started in Social Services in 2021, looking to expand HHS-wide to promote education and recognition of diversity– social and economic status, peer-to-peer population, holding fun and inclusive events – educational or celebratory. Goodrum sought a motion from the Board in support of HHS’ DEI and ER Committees.

Daleiden proposed to expand DEI to county departments, recommending that one member from HHS DEI join the Wellness Committee and vice versa for consistency.

ACTION: Vetsch moved, Husom second, to support and expand DEI to departments countywide. Motion carried.

6. PRESENTATION: 2021 HHS ANNUAL REPORT
(JAMI GOODRUM)

Goodrum highlighted HHS’ much improved performance report, meeting above the threshold set by the Department of Human Services (DHS), with no Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) required. HHS recently developed an internal and a public-facing scorecard on Agency’s performance in several areas, allowing the public to review HHS’ work and highlighting service areas. Goodrum also presented a retrospective of HHS from 1999 and up to 2021 - its expansion in budget, services provided and staffing growth.

ACTION: Vetsch moved, Husom second, to approve the 2021 HHS Annual Report. Motion carried.

C. Administration

1. 2022 1ST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

The budget is at 25 percent of the year, with 12 percent in revenues and 23 in percent expenditures.

Administrative cost is at 32 percent, compared to last year’s 22 percent. Building rental has increased due to the cost of the new building and \$6K higher than what was budgeted. Personnel hiring is still a challenge – \$763K lower than anticipated.

Partlow to follow up with Finance on mobile home taxes – why no budget is applied.

Income Maintenance Random Moment Study (IMRMS) – revenue is a little shy of the quarterly budget for this year, partly due to decreased expenses, compared to the prior quarter.

Social Services Time Study (SSTS) – revenue is lower than anticipated while expenses stayed the same; trending at the same rate as other counties in the statewide pool.

Targeted Case Management (TCM) - \$22K underbudget. Fiscal completed a re-bill of approximately \$60K, which will bring it closer to projections.

Waiver reimbursement is below the target for the quarter; new staff and training time impact staff time dedicated to billable services.

Public Health Revenue – below target; will review line by line to assess potential billing issues.

Out of Home Placement (OHP) cost – this area is doing very well.

2. DIRECTOR’S COMMENTS

Proclamation: May as Foster Care Awareness Month

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Husom second, to declare the month of May as Foster Care Awareness Month. Motion carried via roll call vote 5-0.

The HHS All Staff Training Day is June 21, 2022, 10:30 -3:30, Government Center.

Wright County HHS (WCHHS) scored 78.1 percent over the 55 percent State threshold on Expedited Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Applications Processed within One Business Day for 2021 January to December; also garnered 81.8 percent over the 75 percent State threshold on SNAP and Cash Assistance Applications Processed Timely.

WCHHS ranked fifth statewide on Relative Care placements in 2021, at 78.3 percent well over the 35.7 percent State standard.

The 2022 County Health Ranking Report is now available to review. Overall, Wright County ranks third out of 87 counties for good health outcomes and fourth out of 87 for health factors.

The MnCHOICES program currently has 15 clients on waitlist, a significant reduction from approximately 100 waitlisted nine months ago.

As of May 9, 2022, approximately 1,059 clients from Wright County submitted applications to [RentHelpMN](#) with \$5.95M in assistance requested by applicants from Wright County.

“Thank-you” to Court Services for stepping in and assisting HHS with drug testing services after HHS dropped its contract with Total Compliance Solutions last year.

Handout – *Letter of Support* for First Steps MN, an entity formed by Benton, Sherburne, Stearns and Wright Counties to continue family home visiting services in the region.

The Opioid Response Bill passed the House Friday; going to the Governor’s desk for signature.

Meeting adjourned at 3:09 p.m.

Submitted by Naomi Blomberg, Administrative Specialist