

Attendees:

Members (marked box indicates *Present*):

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| ☒ Adan, Shirwa | ☒ Nibbe, Vickie (Vice Chair) |
| ☒ Antl, Linda | ☒ Schaefer, Karin |
| ☐ Bobrowske, Dennis (Excused) | ☒ Schugel, Maria |
| ☐ Dahlman, Tammi (Excused) | ☐ Schmitz, Nicki (Unexcused) |
| ☐ Eskridge, Lashale (Excused) | ☒ Tyler, Jeremy (Chair) |
| ☒ Goodrum, Jami | ☐ Williams, Shane (Excused) |
| ☒ Harju, Carl | |
| ☒ Moynagh, Kirby | |

HHS Staff Attendees: Kim Johnson, Jill Pooler, James O'Dell, Stephanie Wiley, Michelle Miller (remote)

Chair Tyler called the regular meeting to order at 2:31 p.m.

1. Approve 2025-01-13 Minutes

ACTION: Antl moved, Schaefer second, to approve the minutes. Motion carries

2. Review and Approval of Agenda

- a. Harju moved, Antl second, to approve the agenda. Motion carries

3. Mental Health Advisory Council Update (Carl Harju, ~~Diane Erkens, Tarynn Anderson~~)

- a. Will provide update at next HHAC meeting – MHAC meets March 11

4. Public Health Task Force Update (Kelsey Collier)

- a. Update from [2025-02-10 PHTF](#) meeting
- i. Presentation by Abby Wacker on Connected Spaces (previously Wright County Family Planning)
 - ii. Finalized the Strategic Planning Overview, led by Joel Torkelson
- b. Update from 2025-03-10 PHTF meeting (*will add link when minutes are approved on 4/14 mtg*)
- i. Presentation by Kelly Ball on the Family Home Visiting Program. The FHV caseloads are at its expected pace

5. Open Forum:

- a. [2025-02-18 Committee of the Whole Public Health Presentation](#) to the County Board (Kelsey Collier)
- i. Discussed areas of [Foundational Public Health Responsibilities](#)
 - ii. Wright County Public Health now offers accredited well water testing for total coliforms, E. coli and nitrate. Foster care and childcare providers who are required to test may now request from Wright County – see link below for more information:
 - 1. [Environmental Health | Wright County, MN - Official Website](#)
- b. [MNBenefits](#) Demo (Kim Johnson, Stephanie Wiley)
- i. As of January 2025, Wright County received 13,913 applications from MNBenefits alone, excluding applications received from other entry points

1. Between December 2024 and March 2025, a total of 3,331 applications were received
 2. Question on the percentage of applicants eligible between counties to check comparison of need between counties – no currently available extrapolated data
 - ii. Uploads for Wright County:
 1. 4,323 applications
 2. 12,401 documents
 3. 11,765 follow-up document submissions from clients
 4. 37,981 follow-up document submissions from other agencies (County/DHS)
 5. Unsure of percentage of applicants that are determined eligible for services. Will check whether other counties may have this data
 - c. Introduce Updated Children's Mental Health (CMH) Guide and New Languages (Michelle Miller/~~Tarryn Anderson~~)
 - i. Michelle Miller presented the updated [CMH Guide](#), with new languages
6. Other
 - a. Feedback on HHSAC meeting topics
 - i. HHS Overview presentations are very helpful/information
 - ii. Expectations from HHSAC to bring items for discussion; use committee representation as a sounding board between community and HHS
 1. Taking a proactive approach, what is the community looking at and ask us (HHS) what services we can provide
 - iii. There are potential changes in the next few years from the state and federal level such as the Medicaid program
 - b. 2022 Cost Report from DHS is now available
 - i. Approximately 20-30 percent of people in Wright County who are eligible for SNAP did not apply – HHS would like to get the word out and encourage participation
 - c. Housing Coordinator Position
 - i. Approved to hire one full-time Social Worker II position to serve as a resource for internal and community partners; as a Subject Matter Expert representing Wright County
 - ii. This position will assess needs and gaps utilizing available funding
 1. Funding was available for two years through the Statewide Affordable Housing Aid (SAHA) grant, which goes to counties and municipalities
 - d. Food Shelf Shopping Spree at Cub Foods last Friday, March 7 – an annual event to support local food shelves. The Wright County commissioners joined the 90-second challenge to race through the aisles grabbing as much food items – with Commissioners Vetsch, Holland and Schoen collecting the most load, hauling 1,188 pounds of food and spending \$3,694.52
7. Items for Next Meeting
 - a. Invite MHAC to the next HHSAC meeting: MHAC as a mental health resource in partnership with mental health agencies

Antl moved, Schaefer second, to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

Submitted by Naomi Blomberg, Administrative Specialist