



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, August 26, 2020 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Chair Knudson called the virtual meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, August 26, 2020.

Committee Members Present: Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Shirley Williams, Supervisor; Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Pam Bostwick, Supervisor; Kaelyb Lokrantz, Supervisor; Angelina Reyes, Citizen Representative; Ashley Kleven, Citizen Representative; and J. Russell Podzilni, Supervisor.

Committee Members Absent:

Staff Present: Katherine Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Mark Stevens, Business Services Manager; Bette Trimble, Crisis Intervention Program Manager; Jenna Singer, Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) Program Manager; Maria Delgado, Acting Economic Support (ES) Division Manager; Ali McCalmont, ES Supervisor; Ben Dobson, Children's Long Term Support (CLTS) Supervisor; Kristin Kath, CLTS; Ashley Barrette, Support Services Supervisor; Meghan Pulgarin, Administrative Assistant; Georgia Waterman, Crisis Psychiatric Technician; Julie Butz, CLTS Program Manager; Verence Sandoval, Administrative Intern;

Others Present: Terri Carlson, Corporation Counsel. Patrick Singer, Information Technology (I.T.) Data Systems Manager. Sue Rusch. Peter Pulgarin.

Approval of Agenda: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Podzilni. The agenda was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of August 12, 2020: Supervisor Bostwick moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Kleven. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: None.

Submission of Committee Requests: Supervisor Schulz requested information about what is being done to help people who are getting evicted. Supervisor Williams asked about the suicide rates for Rock County and how things are going in that area.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved two contracts to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Williams. Ms. Mooren provided information about each of the contracts. The contracts were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Rock County Human Services July Employee Impact Award: Ms. Luster introduced Kristen Kath the recipient of the July Employee Impact award. Ms. Kath is a lead worker in the Children's Long Term Support program. Ms. Luster read the nomination which expressed how Ms. Kath is an amazing co-worker and also for her inclusivity and overall positive energy. She is always doing more than what is required of her, often staying late, starting early, or scheduling meetings on her day off, whatever it takes to meet the needs of her families. She reached out to co-workers even if they were not in her unit to ensure they were doing well and feeling connected during this challenging time.

Rock County Human Services August Employee Impact Award: Ms. Luster introduced Meghan Pulgarin. Ms. Pulgarin is an Administrative Assistant for the CCS program. Ms. Luster explained Ms. Pulgarin received three nominations and Ms. Luster highlighted points from nomination which expressed how Ms. Pulgarin goes above and beyond helping workers with day to day functions and procuring PPE. She even offered to come in on a holiday to pick up a shipment. She is consistently even keeled, warm and positive. She has been instrumental with assisting with sending out family therapy resources to families. Her personal touch is appreciated not only by the workers but by the families which are served.

Resolution to Recognize Georgia Waterman: Citizen Representative Kleven moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers. Ms. Trimble introduced Georgia Waterman. Ms. Waterman has served the citizens of Rock County for forty six years as a dedicated and valued employee of Rock County. She began her career in 1974 as a Certified Occupational Therapy Assistant for HSD serving clients at multiple locations. In 2010, she moved into the role of Psychiatric Technician in Crisis Intervention where she has served in a multifaceted capacity to support the crisis intervention unit. She is regarded by many as a dedicated and compassionate presence who will be greatly missed by all. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Resolution Amending the 2020 HSD Budget to Accept Supplemental Funding for the Coordinated Services Teams (CST) Initiative: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Bostwick. Chair Knudson asked for a friendly amendment to make a change from \$8,000 to \$7,200 on line 14. Ms. Singer presented the resolution and explained Coordinated Services Teams (CST) is a program to provide wrap around care for families and support to keep children in the community. She explained how the funding will be utilized. The resolution with the change was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Resolution Reclassification of 1.0 FTE Account Clerk II Position to Account Clerk - HSD: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Kleven. Ms. Mooren presented the resolution and explained that the Account Clerk II position is currently vacant but will be performing similar general accounting duties as other Account Clerk-HSD positions and will provide coverage for each other. When hired this position will primarily be providing account support for CLTS which is continuing to grow. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval to Award Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) to Energy Services: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Williams. Ms. Mooren presented the resolution and explained Rock County HSD issued an RFP for the WHEAP. One agency, Energy Services, submitted a bid and was rated. Energy Services has a long history providing these services with Rock County and will continue. The contract will start October 1, 2020. The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Director's Report:

- **Department Operations and Return to Work Planning:** Ms. Luster advised most HSD staff are continuing to work remotely at this time. HSD has been managing staff who have tested positive and have been collaborating with Public Health Department. These cases have provided strong evidence in support of continuing promoting working remotely. Limiting staff working in the office has made a big difference in limiting exposure to other staff and clients.

HSD has gathered information to confirm hazard pay for higher risk employees. HSD is grateful for the support and recognition from the County Board to receive hazard pay.

- **HSD 2021 Proposed Budget Updates:** Ms. Luster advised that HSD requested a 1.55% increase above last year's budget request. She explained some things have been put on hold and HSD wants to be realistic about what is ahead. There are a lot of unknowns with the move to 1717 and with COVID-19 in general. HSD is doing the best possible even with the unknowns. Ms. Luster shared a power point presentation and reviewed strategic priorities and other highlights. She advised since the pre-budget information was shared previously HSD has added an Equity and Engagement position. This will be a leadership position who will be a member of the HSD Integrated Management team (IMT), and will work across all the HSD departments prioritizing equity, anti-racism and inclusion. HSD meets with County Administrator Smith in September about the HSD Budget request. She advised the HSD Board will be voting on the 2021 HSD Budget at the October 9, 2020 HSD Board meeting.
- **Response to Covid-19 Related Community Needs:** Ms. Luster advised HSD is being responsive to community needs. She informed that Community Action is no longer taking housing applications. HSD is promoting housing for clients and is working on an internal process and criteria for housing support funds. At the Behavioral Health Redesign Steering Committee (BHRSC) there has been discussion about getting information out in Spanish for housing funding and HSD services in general. Alliant Energy is not cutting off services at this time. Return to school is a focus for parents both with the community and for staff. HSD is trying to be as flexible as possible. Ms. Luster responded to questions about virtual schooling and technology.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, September 9, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. – Virtual Meeting.

Adjournment: Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Williams with unanimous approval at 5:15 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD