



ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
Wednesday, October 14, 2020 – 4:30 P.M.

Call to Order: Vice Chair Weaver-Landers called the virtual meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 14, 2020.

Committee Members Present: Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative; Shirley Williams, Supervisor (in at 4:34 p.m.); Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Pam Bostwick, Supervisor; Kaelyb Lokrantz, Supervisor; Angelina Reyes, Citizen Representative; Ashley Hoffman, Citizen Representative; and J. Russell Podzilni, Supervisor.

Committee Members Absent: Brian Knudson, Supervisor.

Staff Present: Katherine Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Greg Winkler, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Manager; Verenice Sandoval, Administrative Intern; Mark Stevens, Business Manager; Jennifer Thompson, Aging Disability Resource Center/Adult Protective Services (ADRC/APS); and Bette Trimble, Crisis Program Manager.

Others Present: Randy Terronez, County Administrator Assistant. Terri Carlson, Corporation Counsel Risk Manager. Patrick Singer, Information Technology (I.T). Sue Rusch. Mary Beaver, County Board, Supervisor. Terry Thomas.

Approval of Agenda: Supervisor Lokrantz moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Bostwick. The agenda was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of September 23, 2020: Supervisor Bostwick moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Hoffman. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements: None.

Submission of Committee Requests: Supervisor Bostwick requested an update on the B-3 program/United Cerebral Palsy (UCP). Ms. Luster advised an update on B-3 is scheduled for the next HSD Board meeting.

Approval of Contracts and Transfers: Citizen Representative Hoffman moved three contracts to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Lokrantz. Ms. Mooren provided information about each contract and responded to questions about how providers are selected for respite and rates. The contracts were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

Review of Bills: Mr. Stevens responded to questions about the Southern Consortium entries.

Review and Discussion of County Administrator’s Aging Disability Resource Center – Counsel On Aging (ADRC-COA) Integration Recommendation:

Mr. Terronez provided some of the history regarding the discussions about possible integration between the ADRC and COA. Last year there was an Advisory Committee created and a consultant was hired to conduct a study to provide information to help answer some questions about the integration; and to show the pros and cons of an integration. After the study was completed the results recommended were to move forward with an integration. The next step was for County Administration to submit a memo of recommendation which is the memo that was sent to the HSD Board members prior to this meeting to review. Moving forward the recommendation will need approval from the HSD Board, the Advisory Committee and the County Board. Ms. Thompson added that there are benefits to the integration and the ADRC and COA do partner now and share an overlap of some clients. Being integrated would improve communication and collaboration; and would help with any gaps that may be occurring. Integration would also mean that some ADRC services would receive Medicaid reimbursement. Mr. Terronez and Ms. Luster responded to questions about the merge and how retaining staff, pay scales and qualifications would be handled. Supervisor Williams communicated her desire that plans to retain all staff and not increase required educational requirements be honored should integration occur.

Discussion Regarding HSD Board Meetings Being Held In-Person: Discussion took place and lead to agreeing to stay with virtual HSD Board meetings until January then revisit.

Discussion Regarding 2021 Human Services Budget: Ms. Luster advised that the County Administrator presented the 2021 County Budget to the County Board last Thursday which included the 2021 HSD budget information. She advised in two weeks at the next HSD Board meeting on Oct. 28th there will be an agenda item to vote on the approval of the 2021 HSD Budget.

Ms. Luster distributed a summary of the HSD Budget request for 2021. She explained there had been a few changes since her last budget update to the HSD Board. The total of tax levy that originally was reported has changed to less than 1% increase over last year and she explained the factors.

Ms. Luster explained in detail the additional full time employees (FTEs) that are included in the budget request. She highlighted that there was a decrease in costs in the Child Protective Services (CPS) area but an increase in the Behavioral Health (BH) Division. Ms. Luster responded to questions about additional funding that has been received and questions regarding federal and local taxes. Ms. Luster advised that HSD is focusing on long term and trying to be strategic by prioritizing prevention efforts.

Ms. Luster highlighted the HSD personnel new position requests which included an Equity Manager; Reclassifications; Reallocations; and Deletions. Ms. Luster responded to questions.

Ms. Luster asked HSD Board members to contact her anytime from now until the next meeting if they have any budget related questions, advising they do not need to wait until the next meeting. If there is further information that a Board member would like presented at the 10/28 meeting, she asked them to please contact her ahead of time so staff can be prepared and responsive.

Director’s Report:

- **Department Operations and Return to Work Planning:** Ms. Luster advised that HSD is on the same trajectory as previously reported. Most staff primarily are

working remotely. Staff are focusing on reducing risk of exposure but are meeting face to face where needed.

- **Response to Covid-19 Related Community Needs:** Ms. Luster advised HSD is continuing to provide housing supports and trying to be flexible for families reducing stress and anxiety. Safe and Sober Living funds can be used for housing when there are mental health needs as well.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, **October 28, 2020** at 4:30 p.m. – Virtual Meeting.

Adjournment: Supervisor Williams motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Bostwick with unanimous approval at 5:50 p.m.

Jodi Parson, Secretary

NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD