

WASHINGTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (HSD)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

January 21, 2010

Meeting called to order at 8:30 a.m. in Room 1023 of the Public Agency Center, 333 East Washington Street, West Bend, Wisconsin, by Chairperson L. Borman, who read the open meeting statement.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Donald Berchem, Les Borman, Jim Core, Sarah Follett, Rick Gundrum, Carol Puerling, Jane Schultz, Paul Ustruck, Gregory Young

HSD STAFF PRESENT: Karen Alt, Michael Bloedorn, Stacy Burmeister, Debra DuFour, Sandy Hoefert, Ruth Reines, Angela Schickert, Jim Strachota, Kay Thuecks

Review of Minutes: D. Berchem made motion, G. Young seconded, to approve the HSD Board minutes from the December 17, 2009, meeting as distributed. Carried.

Recommendations Regarding Psychiatric Coverage: Board members R. Gundrum, S. Follett and D. Berchem served on a sub-committee studying HSD psychiatric coverage. Discussion followed a report by R. Gundrum on the sub-committee's findings and recommendations. The sub-committee is recommending the County complete a market compensation study, consider hiring psychiatric staff as County employees and a greater role for the Human Resources Department.

P. Ustruck made motion, G. Young seconded, to accept the HSD sub-committee's report on psychiatric coverage requirements and recommendations and that these recommendations be submitted to the County Administrative Services Committee for review. Carried.

HSD Three Year Planning Process: All County departments have been asked to complete a survey regarding services they provide and County structure as well. Draft responses to the questions were completed by HSD staff and distributed for HSD Board review and approval. Any suggested changes should be directed to J. Strachota. Final surveys will become a part of a three-year plan Countywide.

Wisconsin Act 28 and Mental Health Services for Children: Under Act 28, the State would provide general purpose funding to offset some of the costs resulting from the shift in fiscal responsibility from the State to counties for the placements of persons under 21 or over 65 years of age in State Institutes. Washington County would receive \$55,780 for 2010 and \$66,935 for 2011 under this Act. HSD staff proposes using this money to fund a Service Facilitator position to work in the Children's Resource Project and Comprehensive Community Services programs serving individuals, particularly children, at risk of institutionalization.

Motion made by P. Ustruck to accept the \$55,780 funding from State Act 28 as presented to enhance programming to reduce or prevent institutional placements of children; R. Gundrum seconded. Discussion followed. Motion carried.

G. Young made motion to authorize HSD staff to move forward with the request for a Service Facilitator position with the stipulation that the position be eliminated if the special State funding is no longer available; D. Berchem seconded. By a show of hands, D. Berchem, L. Borman, J. Core, S. Follett and G. Young voted aye; R. Gundrum, C. Puerling, J. Schultz and P. Ustruck voted nay. Motion passed.

Alternative to County Employment: A current HSD clerical employee, whose duties include medical transcription, also operates a personal transcription business out of her home. With the Web-based system used by HSD, she could work from home through a remote. County officials have denied a request to allow her to remain a County employee working at home. Therefore, a plan was developed to contract with her for medical transcription instead.

Motion made by R. Gundrum, seconded by P. Ustruck, to approve a contractual agreement with this employee for medical transcription services as presented. Carried.

Client Loan Program: HSD has money in three separate funds to loan to those in need receiving HSD services. Each fund has specific criteria to be met in order to be eligible for a loan. The current balance of about \$15,000 has been donated by family members of loved ones served by Washington County. Donations of money and goods have also been received from the Newburg Lioness Club and St. Luke Lutheran Church in Slinger to be used for abused and/or neglected children and those in foster care.

J. Schultz and L. Borman attended the Trauma-Informed Care training presented by HSD staff and stated they were impressed with the content.

The Wisconsin Counties Association has chosen March 4 as Human Services Day. Any one interested in this topic is invited to meet with legislators in Madison that day.

The next HSD Board meeting is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Thursday, February 18, 2010.

Motion made by R. Gundrum, seconded by J. Core, to adjourn. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 11:04 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Ustruck, Board Secretary
Karen Alt, Recording Secretary

Copies of all non-privileged material pertinent to this meeting are available at HSD offices.