

WASHINGTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (HSD)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 18, 2008

Meeting called to order at 8:32 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, Debra DuFour, Mary Knoeck, Angela Schickert, Jim Strachota

Review of Minutes: R. Gundrum made motion, J. Core seconded, to approve the HSD Board minutes from the August 21, 2008, meeting. Carried.

Financial Update: Based on financial statements ending July 31, 2008, Third Floor HSD has \$2,713,847 of County funding remaining, which is 83.8% of the budget. Nearly all revenues from other sources have been received, so County funds will be used for the remainder of the year. With the changes that were implemented, we expect to end the year in decent shape.

Second Floor HSD has 66.6% or \$3,850,481 of its budget remaining based on the July 31, 2008, financial statement. Several items are of concern, including inpatient and Information Services costs exceeding budget amounts. Overall, the financial condition remains on track.

(Chairperson Borman asked to rearrange the agenda, moving "Report from Human Services Work Groups" to be the last agenda item. No one objected.)

Out-of-State Travel Request: D. DuFour has been asked to serve on the Consumer Survivor sub-committee of the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. This group meets twice annually in Washington, D.C. Travel and accommodations are fully funded by a grant.

Motion made by D. Berchem, seconded by G. Young, to approve the request for out-of-State travel as presented. Carried. This request for out-of-State travel will be forwarded to the County Finance Committee for consideration.

Following discussion, D. Berchem made motion, R. Gundrum seconded, to give the HSD Director limited authority to make decisions on employee requests for out-of-State (including the metropolitan Chicago area only) travel. Carried.

Deputy Director Report: M. Bloedorn indicated that in February in-depth reviews will be conducted by the State on about a dozen randomly chosen Washington County Child Welfare cases and possibly a Juvenile Justice case. He also reported on personnel changes at the regional level of Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan and the local United Way fund-raising campaign.

Director Report: A report given by J. Strachota included explanations of formal layoff notices given to three social work employees to be effective October 15, expected closure of the Inpatient/Behavioral Health Unit at St. Joseph's Hospital, an update on the 2009 HSD Budget, the 2009 State/County contract and the Wisconsin Counties Human Service Association. Additionally, Jim reported that there is a current controversial client specific case and requested that anyone contacted by the media or others regarding this situation refer them to the Director for response as this is a confidential matter.

(The group moved from Room 1023 to Room 3005 before continuing the meeting. OTHERS PRESENT: Carolyn Mangan-Casey, Sandy Hoefert, Kay Lucas, Sandy Potter, Sue Thornton, Kay Thuecks)

Report from Human Services Work Groups: Each work group consists of a chairperson and staff members to examine the following areas regarding the Human Services Department: Organizational Structure, Financial, Staffing Issues, Inter-department, Public Notification, Physical Structure and Human Services Board. These work groups are advisory only and not all recommendations coming out of these meetings will necessarily be implemented. Reports were made to the HSD Board, and a follow-up report will be presented to the full County Board of Supervisors next February.

The next meeting of the HSD Board is scheduled for Thursday, October 16, 2008, to begin at 8:30 a.m.

Motion made by G. Young, seconded by C. Puerling, to adjourn. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:56 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.