

WASHINGTON COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT (HSD)
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

September 15, 2011

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: Les Borman, Jim Core, Mary Goeman, Rick Gundrum,
Jane Schultz, Paul Ustruck

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Sarah Follett, Carol Puerling

GUEST PRESENT: Herb Tennes, County Board Chairperson

HSD STAFF PRESENT: Karen Alt, Michael Bloedorn, Debra DuFour, Sandy Hoefert, Ruth Reines,
Kay Thuecks

Review of Minutes: Motion made by R. Gundrum, seconded by P. Ustruck, to approve the HSD Board meeting minutes of August 30, 2011, as distributed. Carried.

Approval of General Relief Program: Following an explanation by M. Bloedorn, motion made by P. Ustruck, seconded by J. Core, to approve continuation of the General Relief Program as presented and to include this as part of the 2012 HSD budget proposal. Carried.

Income Maintenance Consortium and Wisconsin Counties Association: HSD staff propose that Washington County complete the notice of intent to join an Income Maintenance Consortium, called the Kettle Moraine Consortium, for the period of January 1, 2012, through December 31, 2012, with Fond du Lac, Ozaukee, Walworth and Waukesha Counties, with Fond du Lac County designated as the lead fiscal and administrative agent.

J. Core made motion, seconded by R. Gundrum, to authorize submission of the “Notice of Intent Regarding Consortium Membership” to be included with the application for consortium certification as indicated. Motion carried.

Copies of the “Wisconsin Counties Association 2011 Conference Resolution 3” regarding opposition to the State’s centralization of income maintenance programs as composed by Eau Claire County were distributed. Staff indicated that, although most of the resolution has already been made mute by passage of Act 10 Budget Repair Bill, the paragraph of most current interest reads: “NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Wisconsin Counties Association, in conference assembled, does hereby oppose any changes to the Medicaid law that will reduce the eligibility or increase the co-pays of our most vulnerable of citizens and also go on record opposing the centralization of these services and encourage our State’s legislators to vote against this portion of the Governor’s biennial budget.” HSD staff request that the HSD Board support this resolution.

HSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

-2-

September 15, 2011

Following discussion, J. Core made motion, M. Goeman seconded, that Herb Tennes, as the County’s representative on the Wisconsin Counties Association, indicate Washington County’s support of Resolution 3 as presented. Carried.

Request for Homeless Funds: The United Way of Washington County and the HSD requested a proposal on homeless services, which Family Promise and the Youth and Family Project provided. As a temporary response to the present emergency need, from September 2011 through August 2012, they propose utilizing a scattered site model with a day center office. These agencies, working as a coalition, indicate they are committed to the development of a long-range, community-driven, strategic plan for the future and view this as a community issue, not just a Washington County problem. These agencies have indicated a need in providing the case management component of service to the homeless. Regular meetings are being held on funding issues and another on what is actually occurring.

After further explanation and discussion, motion made by J. Core, seconded by R. Gundrum, to approve transfer of \$25,000 from the Medicaid Audit Settlement Account for use in services to the homeless as outlined. Carried.

Suggestions were made to increase public awareness and education on the homeless issue and to inquire if the Veterans' Service Association would also have funding available for this purpose.

(STAFF PRESENT: Jim Strachota arrived.)

Coordinated Service Teams: \$71,108 was allocated to Washington County as part of a State initiative on Coordinated Services. This funding will be used to purchase a facilitator position; and through the bidding process, the Youth and Family Project was chosen to provide this service in 2012. The Children's Advisory Committee will oversee the services provided to the target population of pre-adolescents who are struggling in school and at home with a priority to mental health issues, prevent out-of-home placements and formal court involvement, eliminate duplication of services, and will build on collaborative efforts of community providers and County-operated services.

Staff Training Day: On October 21, all HSD staff are invited to attend a half-day (either morning or afternoon) training with a general agency overview and report, breakout sessions and a lunch to provide staff with meaningful, useful and educational information and to learn wellness on employment and personal bases. Attendance is not mandatory.

P. Ustruck made motion to approve use of individual training budget funds not to exceed \$2,500 total for the all staff training day; J. Schultz seconded. Carried.

Public Hearing Comments: Board members who attended the HSD Public Hearing (L. Borman, J. Core, S. Follett, M. Goeman, R. Gundrum and J. Schultz) on September 12 indicated that they were encouraged and motivated by and appreciated all of those who attended and commented. H.

HSD BOARD OF DIRECTORS

-3-

September 15, 2011

Tennies said that service recipients were very grateful and that Washington County should be very proud of the assistance it lends to its citizens. He thanked the other County Board Supervisors who attended (Richard Bertram, Ralph Hensel and Lee Krueger) and wished that more could have been present. Copies of a synopsis of all comments made, both verbally and in writing, were distributed.

Outsourcing Request: HSD staff prepared a handout on outsourcing of services for critiquing by the Board before presenting it to the Finance Committee. Most of the services provided through HSD are State and/or Federal mandates. Those present recommended that a list of community providers and

their services be included along with information on the bidding and contracting processes and any savings that may possibly be realized by outsourcing versus County-operated services.

Appointment to Behavioral Health Task Force: After a review of her application, Kim Geisler from Hartford was approved to be a member of the BH Task Force in a motion made by M. Goeman and seconded by P. Ustruck. Carried.

J. Strachota will be presenting the proposed 2012 HSD budget to the County Finance Committee on September 30 at 10:00 a.m.; all HSD Board members are invited to attend.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 20, 2011.

Motion made by J. Core to adjourn; M. Goeman seconded. Carried. Meeting adjourned at 10:28 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.