

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Supervisor Rick Richard  
INITIATED BY

Human Services Board  
SUBMITTED BY



Corporation Counsel Richard  
Greenlee  
DRAFTED BY

October 30, 2020  
DATE DRAFTED

**DIRECTING THE EXPLORATION OF ALTERNATIVE HOUSING OPTIONS  
FOR SEXUALLY VIOLENT OFFENDERS ON SUPERVISED RELEASE  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH CHAPTER 980 OF THE WISCONSIN STATUTES**

1 **WHEREAS**, the Wisconsin Legislature has enacted Chapter 980 of the Wisconsin Statutes for the  
2 commitment of certain "sexually violent persons" for the purposes of providing treatment and protection  
3 of the public; and,  
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5 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Chapter 980, the State may petition to have a person committed to the custody  
6 of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services and detained at Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center  
7 when that person has been convicted of a sexually violent offense and suffers from a mental disorder that  
8 makes it likely that a person will engage in one or more acts of sexual violence; and,  
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10 **WHEREAS**, a person committed under Chapter 980 and detained at Sand Ridge Secure Treatment Center  
11 must have a periodic review to determine whether they still qualify for commitment,, released from  
12 institutionalization on supervised release , or should be discharged from the commitment; and,  
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14 **WHEREAS**, if an offender is appropriate for supervised release, then pursuant to 2017 Act 184, the county  
15 of residence of the offender must form a temporary committee to locate a suitable residence for the offender  
16 to be placed while on supervised release. The temporary committee must be made up of representatives  
17 from the local department of human services, the Wisconsin department of health services, the local  
18 probation and parole office, the county corporation counsel or his or her designee, and a representative of  
19 the county planning or land information office; and,  
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21 **WHEREAS**, in securing a placement, a county must locate a property that meets certain minimum criteria  
22 listed in section 980.08, Wis. Stats., including that the residence not be within 1,500 feet of any school  
23 premises, child care facility, public park, place of worship, or youth center, and if the offender is a serious  
24 child sex offender, the residence may not be adjacent to a property where a child's primary residence exists,  
25 or if the offender committed a sexually violent offense against an adult at risk or an elder at risk, the  
26 residence may not be within 1,500 feet of a nursing home or assisted living facility; and,  
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28 **WHEREAS**, locating placements for offenders on supervised release is a substantial burden on county  
29 resources, in particular diverting staff away from other duties with no remuneration from the State for time  
30 or resources used to locate placements; and,  
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32 **WHEREAS**, chapter 980 offenders placed into the community on supervised release can have negative  
33 effects on a community, increasing the stress and anxiety of residents, creating community tension that  
34 affects the quality of life for residents and could inhibit the treatment progress and rehabilitation of  
35 offenders; and,  
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37 **WHEREAS**, offender placements are very expensive. Currently, there are six individuals on Chapter 980  
38 supervised release placed in Rock County. For each offender, Wisconsin Department of Health Services  
39 must pay rent to landlords to secure housing. Currently, it costs Wisconsin taxpayers \$110,400 per year  
40 to maintain the placements for all six offenders placed in Rock County; and,  
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42 **WHEREAS**, studying local alternatives to the current system of placing Chapter 980 supervised release  
43 offenders, including the County-funded purchase or construction of a centralized facility or unit to house  
44 multiple offenders, may help offset costs and result in a better outcomes for Rock County communities  
45 and offenders.

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**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 20   does hereby direct the Rock County Administrator to create a group of multidisciplinary stakeholders to study the issue of creating alternative housing resources for offenders placed on Chapter 980 supervised release, and that such group shall make a report to the Board of Supervisors on the feasibility of any such alternatives by \_\_\_\_\_, 2021.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that such group shall consider multiple housing options and locations including constructing a housing complex adjacent to the Rock County Sheriff's Office, the possibility of state funding sources in developing, acquiring, or constructing potential placement resources, and the potential offsets of future rental income from the State for housing Chapter 980 offenders in a County-owned facility.

Respectfully submitted,

**PUBLIC SAFETY AND JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

/s/ Mary Beaver  
Mary Beaver, Chair

/s/ Brian Knudson  
Brian Knudson, Vice Chair

/s/ Jacob Taylor  
Jacob Tayler

/s/ Ron Bomkamp  
Ron Bomkamp

/s/ Danette Rynes  
Danette Rynes

FISCAL NOTE:

Minimal fiscal impact. The stakeholders listed in the resolution do not qualify for per diems.

*/s/ Sherry Oja*

Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

Matter of Policy.

*/s/ Josh Smith*

Josh Smith  
County Administrator

**HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

/s/ Brian Knudson  
Brian Knudson, Chair

/s/ Sally Jean Weaver-Landers  
Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Vice Chair

Absent  
Pam Bostwick

/s/ Ashley Hoffman  
Ashley Hoffman

/s/ Kaelyb Lokrantz  
Kaelyb Lokrantz

Dissent  
J. Russell Podzilni

/s/ Angelina Reyes  
Angelina Reyes

Absent  
Kathy Schulz

/s/ Shirley Williams  
Shirley Williams

LEGAL NOTE:

The County Board is authorized to take this action pursuant to sections 59.01 and 59.51, Wis. Stats.

*/s/ Richard Greenlee*

Richard Greenlee  
Corporation Counsel