



**ROCK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**  
**Wednesday, October 9, 2019 – 4:30 P.M.**

**Call to Order:** Chair Knudson called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 9, 2019, at the 1717 Center Avenue Building, Janesville, Wisconsin.

**Committee Members Present:** Brian Knudson, Supervisor; Sally Jean Weaver-Landers, Citizen Representative (in at 5:32 p.m.); Terry Thomas, Supervisor (out at 5:19 p.m.); Terry Fell, Supervisor; Kathy Schulz, Supervisor; Shirley Williams, Citizen Representative; and David Homan, Supervisor (in at 4:38 p.m.).

**Committee Members Absent:** Stephanie Aegerter, Supervisor. Ashley Kleven, Citizen Representative.

**Staff Present:** Kate Luster, Director; Tera O'Connor, Deputy Director; Sara Mooren, Administrative Services Division Manager; Greg Winkler, Behavioral Health (BH) Division Manager; Mark Stevens, Business Services Manager.

**Others Present:** Brent Sutherland, Facilities Management Director. Nancy Rennie, Birth to 3. Sue Rusch, Birth to 3. Jamie Fugate, Birth to 3.

**Approval of Agenda:** Supervisor Fell moved the agenda to the floor, seconded by Supervisor Thomas. The agenda was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Approval of Minutes of Human Services Board Meeting of September 25, 2019:** Supervisor Fell moved the minutes to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Williams. The minutes were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Citizen Participation, Communications and Announcements:** None.

**Submission of Committee Requests:** Supervisor Schulz asked about a resolution to be submitted on the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) program as Supervisor Thomas requested at the last meeting. Citizen Representative Williams referenced a request that she received to have acronyms spelled out in the Human Services Department (HSD) Board meeting minutes.

**Approval of Contracts and Transfers:** Supervisor Thomas moved two contracts to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Williams. Ms. Mooren provided information about each contract. The contracts were unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Review of Bills:** Mr. Stevens highlighted the entries which are distributing the funds to the other six counties in the Southern IM (Income Maintenance) Consortium in which Rock County is the lead.

**Resolution Amending the 2019 Human Services Department (HSD) Budget to Accept a Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Supplemental Award for Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2019:** Supervisor Thomas moved the resolution to the floor, seconded by Citizen Representative Williams. Ms. Luster presented the resolution and explained the additional funds were awarded from the State to be used for adults or children with mental illness. The HSD will be used for psychiatry time for the increased need of services at the Beloit Area Community Health Center (BACHC). The resolution was unanimously approved. APPROVED.

**Discussion of Proposed Federal Rule Changes to Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) Benefit Eligibility:** Ms. Luster distributed two handouts. She explained that the proposed rule entitled "Revision of Categorical Eligibility in SNAP" closes a loophole that allows states to make participants in certain programs "categorically eligible" to participate in SNAP. The loophole allows states to make participants receiving minimal Temporary Assistance for needy Families (TANF) benefits automatically eligible to participate in SNAP. These people are receiving SNAP, which they would not qualify for, because they are receiving (TANF) funds. This is part of a Federal regulatory rule not a law and is just proposed at this time not final. The drawback is that many households who have been dependent on the SNAP benefit would lose it.

There will be a process for some people to remain on SNAP but some may not take those steps to keep receiving it. The Federal Administration will listen to public comment and are expected to do an analysis of the impact. The analysis will be reviewed by the President. A driver in the rationale for this rule is to show a savings, so more funds are available to distribute SNAP to more people who are eligible and most in need. Ms. Luster responded to questions.

**Overview of the HSD Interface with Undocumented Immigrant Populations:** Ms. Luster explained the HSD is required to provide mandated services to Rock County residents. Child Protective Services, Adult Protective Services, emergency Mental Health services are all mandated services that are provided regardless of legal status. She explained the HSD does not track how many served are undocumented. The HSD does not collect data or give data to others about legal status.

Ms. Luster provided an example of a disabled client who is not a legal citizen and is receiving services. Ms. Luster provided information about the Aging Disability Resource Center (ADRC) and Economic Support (ES) on criteria, waiting period and requirements. She explained there are health care services to non-legal residents if it is an emergency.

Ms. Luster responded to questions about the separation of children from parents in federal shelters. Rock County does not have shelters like that.

**Director's Report:**

- **Update on Birth to 3 Transition** – Ms. Luster advised United Cerebral Palsy of Dane (UCP) has hired a Director and they have located office space downtown. They have hired three direct staff and more interviews are scheduled for promising candidates. Next week there will be a meeting with HSD, CESA 2 and UCP. The UCP Director will attend the Birth to 3 conference at the end of October. CESA 2's

last client contact will be Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> to ensure paperwork will be finished by end of the year.

- **Update on 1717 Center Avenue (New HSD location)** – Ms. Luster distributed a handout of Concept 6 which is the closest example of the final plan. HSD is continuing meetings with the architects and still making decisions. The Building committee has looked at carpet, paint, and tile to get a sense of what each would look like in an office setting.

**Tour of 1717 Center Avenue Building:** Mr. Sutherland started the tour of the building at 5:20 p.m. The tour ended at 5:39 p.m.

**Next Meeting:** Wednesday, **October 23, 2019** at 4:30 p.m. at the Rock County Health Care Center, in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room, Janesville, WI.

**Adjournment:** Citizen Representative Weaver-Landers motioned to adjourn, seconded by Supervisor Schulz with unanimous approval at 5:39 p.m.

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Jodi Parson, Secretary

**NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE BOARD**