

## Buffalo County Minutes

**Committee/Board:** Health and Human Services and Veterans Service Committee

**Date of Meeting:** Tuesday, May 1, 2018

**Electronic and Hard Copy Filing Date:**

**Location:** Department of Health and Human Services  
Buffalo County Courthouse – 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
3<sup>rd</sup> Floor Conference Room  
407 S 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, Alma, Wisconsin

Meeting was called to order by Mr. John Kriesel at 6:00 PM

### **1. ROLL CALL/BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**

Roll call was taken. Members present were Joette Gillett, Wendy Kleinschmidt, John Kriesel, Nettie Rosenow, Linda Smith, Scott Smith.

### **OTHERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING**

Dave Rynders, James Goss, April Loeffler, Richard Mueller, Nicole Sornson, Mary Hildebrand

### **2. APPROVAL OF COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

A motion was made by Ms. Kleinschmidt to approve the March minutes as presented and Ms. Gillett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING POSTED AGENDA ITEMS**

None

### **4. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – ELECTION OF CHAIR**

A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Rosenow to nominate Mr. Kriesel as Chairman. Mr. Smith made a motion and Ms. Smith seconded it to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Kriesel for Chairman. Motion carried.

### **5. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – ELECTION OF VICE CHAIR**

A motion was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Mr. Smith to nominate Ms. Gillett as Vice-Chairman. Mr. Kriesel made a motion and Mr. Smith seconded it to close nominations and cast a unanimous ballot for Ms. Gillett as Vice-Chairman. Motion carried.

### **6. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – VETERANS SERVICES MONTHLY VOUCHERS**

Mr. Goss presented the monthly vouchers. A motion was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Ms. Gillett to approve the monthly vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

### **7. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – VETERANS SERVICES ANNUAL REPORT**

The WI State Statue 45.80 was shared by Mr. Goss explaining in detail the duties and responsibilities of the CVSO (County Veterans Service Officer). The annual report was presented. Mr. Goss highlighted the 2017 accomplishments which includes the refurbishing project to the Buffalo County Veteran Memorial. The Current Operations and Requests include a robust veteran's benefits application cycle due to increases in health insurance costs and aging Veterans, and 112 requests for VA transportation were fulfilled. Future challenges

include an aging Veterans population and a higher demand for VA healthcare and increased transportation needs. A proposal is before the State Veterans Affairs committee to raise the full-time grant of \$8500 to \$15,000 to cover these costs. The final year-end expenses and the Federal and State benefits were reviewed. Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the annual report as presented and Ms. Kleinschmidt seconded the motion. Motion carried.

#### **8. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT**

Ms. Loeffler gave a brief explanation of the layout of the Public Health report namely the investigation/case report numbers for the new members of the Committee. An update was shared by Ms. Loeffler on a highly contagious measles case cited in La Crosse and Trempealeau County between April 13 – 16<sup>th</sup>. The State was notified on April 21st and began contact investigations with surrounding counties. Follow-up was completed with the contact cases in Buffalo County to determine their immune status and all proved to be immune. It was shared that the measles vaccine is 93% effective with one dose and 97% effective with two doses.

Mr. Kriesel inquired about the water test program. Ms. Loeffler reported the ½ price kits are nearing the end and will contact UW-Stevens Point to find out if the results have been mapped. Ms. Rosenow expressed interest in the water test results to use the information for the Conservation Committee to determine if the poultry barns have any connection with problems with the water.

#### **9. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – AIDS RESOURCE CENTER PRESENTATION – LIFEPOINT SATELLITE EXCHANGE PROGRAM**

Ms. Loeffler introduced Nicole Sornson from the Aids Resource Center of Wisconsin (ARCW) who shared an informative PowerPoint presentation on the Lifepoint needle exchange program. The goal of the program is to provide prevention services. Lifepoint operates on the “harm reduction theory” with goals to prevent disease, reduce mortality, offer medical treatment for drug dependence, referrals for sobriety, and empower communities and reduce stigma. Ms. Sornson provided statewide statistics as well as self-reported data for Buffalo County specifically:

- Needles Distributed: 4,676
- Safer Injection Materials Distributed: 4,518
- Exchanges Made: 64; Additionally helped: 57

Mr. Rynders requested approval to move forward with the Lifepoint satellite needle exchange program. After discussion, the Board fully supports proceeding as a satellite site for the needle exchange program as a preventative activity within the Public Health department.

#### **10. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – AUTHORIZATION TO RE-FILL PART-TIME WIC SUPPORT STAFF SPECIALIST POSITION**

The DHHS org chart was presented by Ms. Loeffler as a visual showing the vacant positions within the Public Health department. A request was made by Ms. Loeffler to re-fill the part-time WIC Support Staff Specialist position. Ms. Gillett made a motion and Ms. Kleinschmidt seconded it to authorize re-filling the part-time WIC Support Staff Specialist position. Motion approved.

#### **11. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – AUTHORIZATION TO RE-FILL PUBLIC HEALTH NUTRITIONIST/WIC DIRECTOR POSITION**

A motion was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Ms. Gillett to authorize re-filling the Public Health Nutritionist/WIC Director position. Motion approved.

#### **12. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – AUTHORIZATION TO RE-FILL COMMUNITY HEALTH EDUCATOR POSITION**

A motion was made by Mr. Smith and seconded by Ms. Smith to authorize re-filling the Community Health Educator position. Motion approved.

**13. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – WRRWC PROGRAM EXPENSES & REVENUES**

WRRWC (Western Region Recovery and Wellness Consortium) is comprised of nine counties providing mental health and substance abuse services to 250 participants since January 2016. Mr. Rynders presented an expense/revenue report of the two certified programs, Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) and Crisis Intervention. Fiscally, this financial overview represents the revenue captured through billable medical assistance reimbursement. Buffalo County is 5% of the consortium.

**14. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – RESOLUTION TO APPROVE TRANSFER OF \$49,790 WORKING CAPITAL TO CHIPPEWA COUNTY TO SUPPORT WESTERN REGION RECOVERY AND WELLNESS CONSORTIUM PROVIDER REIMBURSEMENT**

Mr. Rynders stepped through the resolution explaining the cash flow problem of approximately one million dollars which the lead county, Chippewa County, has been shouldering on behalf of the contracted service providers serving the nine counties in the consortium. The RWC (Recovery and Wellness Consortium) leadership has determined Buffalo County is responsible to loan \$49,790 to Chippewa County to use as working capital in 2018 to pay CCS providers for services to Buffalo County participants. The contribution will be adjusted annually and will be authorized by the Finance Committee moving forward. The \$49,790 amount remains the property of Buffalo County. Ms. Smith made a motion and Ms. Kleinschmidt seconded it to approve the resolution to transfer of \$49,790 working capital to Chippewa County to support WRRWC provider reimbursement. Motion carried.

**15. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION DHHS FINANCIAL UPDATE**

The 2017 budget through December was reviewed highlighting the purchase/contracted services. Mr. Rynders shared a graph representing a breakdown of the out-of-home placement numbers from January 2017 through April 2018. Mr. Rynders pointed out the April 2018 caseload is at 23 and historically that number is at 10. In January 2018 the County Board approved a temporary position to assist in the caseload; the goal is 11-12 caseloads per worker. Ms. Smith inquired about the office expense through December 2017 at 168%; Mr. Rynders will check into it and report back at the June meeting. The Agent of the State budget was reviewed. The Agent program provides inspections of eating establishments and campgrounds. This is a separate budget that is self-sustaining with revenues received from inspection fees. The 2018 budget through March was reviewed. The purchases/contracted services are monitored closely by Mr. Rynders. The Agent of the State budget through March 2018 was reviewed.

**16. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS MONTHLY VOUCHERS**

The 2017 vouchers were reviewed. A motion was made by Ms. Gillett and seconded by Ms. Kleinschmidt to approve the vouchers as presented. Motion carried. The February and March 2018 vouchers were reviewed. A motion was made by Ms. Smith and seconded by Ms. Gillett to approve the vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

**17. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MONTHLY UNIT REPORTS**

Mr. Rynders reiterated that the monthly reports are furnished ahead of time for review. If there are any questions, they will be addressed as needed.

**18. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS DIRECTOR REPORT**

Mr. Rynders extended an invitation to the new committee members, Mr. Mueller, Ms. Rosenow, and Mr. Smith to visit the department of Health and Human Services to receive an orientation of the department and all the services offered. Mr. Rynders updated the committee on upcoming events. A half-year report will be presented to the Finance Committee and Mr. Rynders will be recommending the temporary caseload position be made a full-time permanent position. A goal of the Aging and ADRC integration plan with Pepin County was to pull in grant funding for dementia friendly community services and to provide APS (Adult Protection Services) for two

counties. Newly emerging issues are prompting a mid-year request to create a new position to do this work. A detailed presentation along with a resolution will be presented by Mr. Rynders at the June 2018 meeting.

**19. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT**

None

**20. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018 at 6:00 PM.

**22. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING UNRELATED AGENDA ITEMS**

Ms. Smith noted her term expired in April 2018. Mr. Rynders requested Ms. Smith’s permission to put her name forward to be reappointed.

**23. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:11 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Hildebrand