

## Buffalo County Minutes

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

**Date of Meeting:** Thursday, September 1, 2022

**Electronic and Hard Copy Filing Date:**

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

### **1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS**

Members present were Kim Beseler, Mary Anne McMillan-Urell, Brian Michaels, Brad Schmidtknecht, and Wendy Kleinschmidt arrived at 6:33 PM. Nathan Nelson attended via Zoom. Richard Mueller, Carol McDonough, and Liz Hoffmaster were excused absences.

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

Dave Rynders, Jamie Weaver, Carri Renchin, Stephen LaValla, Peggy Zeman, Felicia Decker, Ryan VanDeWalle, and Mary Hildebrand.

### **2. PUBLIC HEARING ON 2023 DHHS BUDGET – TO RUN CONCURRENTLY WITH OTHER MEETING AGENDA ITEMS**

Mr. Rynders shared that the public hearing will begin at 6:15 PM.

### **3. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING ANY MATTERS THAT WILL BE TAKEN UP BY THE COMMITTEE AT THIS MEETING.**

None

### **4. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING**

A motion was made by Kim Beseler and seconded by Brian Michaels to approve the August 2, 2022, minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved.

### **5. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – VETERANS SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT**

Ms. Decker reported on three Outreach events the Veterans department participated in: National Community Night Out held in Fountain City, Buffalo/Pepin County Fair, and Ashley for the Arts.

Ms. Decker provided the stats for the month of August.

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

The August vouchers were reviewed. A motion was made by Kim Beseler and seconded by Brad Schmidtknecht to approve the monthly vouchers as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved.

## **7. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – FINANCIAL FOR THE COURTHOUSE AND MEMORIAL WALL**

An update was presented on the Veteran Brick Memorial. The cost of the project is \$33,100 and after November 1<sup>st</sup> an additional 15% will be added to the cost. Ms. Decker reported two more donations were received which brings the total funds available to date of \$17,536.84. A request will be made to the Finance Committee by the Veterans Service department for the balance needed of \$12,400. After discussion, a motion was made by Brad Schmidtkecht and seconded by Brian Michaels to request the support of the Finance Committee to use ARPA funds for the balance of the memorial funds needed not to exceed \$14,000. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved.

## **8. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – 2023 VETERANS BUDGET**

Ms. Decker presented the 2023 budget. A motion was made by Brad Schmidtkecht and seconded by Brian Michaels to accept the budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved.

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

The monthly case/investigation numbers were presented by Ms. Jamie Weaver. An update was given on monkeypox with Dunn County confirming the first case in their County. As of August 19<sup>th</sup>, there were 53 confirmed cases of orthopoxvirus presumed to be monkey pox in Wisconsin. The risk of widespread transmission to the public is low. The PH department attended the Buffalo Co Fair as an outreach event providing various test kits for the fair goers. Starting in September, COVID-19 vaccination clinics will be held the first and third Fridays of the month. Ms. Weaver shared stats on the completed vaccine series and vaccine boosters within Buffalo County. The activities of the Public Health Educator were presented.

## **10. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – COVID-19 RECOVERY COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

Ms. Weaver presented the COVID-19 recovery plan compiled by Ms. Mickey Ganschow, Community Health Educator.

GOAL: By May 2023 Buffalo County Public Health will offer 4 focus groups to expand on information gathered from the recovery survey.

The health department will attend Parent/Teacher conferences this fall to reach out to parents to obtain more feedback on their concerns, and input following the pandemic; information will be gathered, and a report will be ready to share to the board by December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022.

Another priority is to increase Outreach and community engagement which will include more information in newspapers with a goal of 12 articles in the newspaper by December 2023. Outreach (action steps) include attending the Sheriff's Night Out, plan a booth at the dairy breakfast, and increase community exposure by advertising or hosting a Public Health Day at local libraries.

## **11. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – REFILL ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALIST POSITION**

The job description for the Environmental Health Specialist was shared by Mr. Rynders who requested approval to refill the position vacated by Ms. Jamie Weaver who has accepted the Health Officer position. A motion was made by Ms. Beseler and seconded by Mr. Michaels to approve re-filling the Environmental Health Specialist position. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved.

Mr. Ryan VanDeWalle shared an update which will be proposed to the Board on September 12<sup>th</sup> to not have to seek approval to refill a budgeted position.

## **12. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – 2023 DHHS BUDGET**

Mr. Rynders presented the Aging & Disability Resource Center (ADRC) 2023 budget which consists of \$35K in administrative and county wide costs that has been put into the regional budget to capture the revenue.

The only change to the Agent of the State budget for 2023 includes family health insurance for the new Environmental Health position if needed. This budget also includes services. The Agent program has been self-sustaining for the past 10 years. The requested budget amount is \$51,477.

Mr. Rynders provided an overview of the DHHS budget summarizing the significant changes from 2022 to 2023 as well as sharing the detailed budget highlighting the major increases/decreases from the 2022 to 2023 budget. Ms. Carri Renchin shared a presentation on the Children's Long-Term Services-Waiver (CLTS-W) and Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program growth. The CLTS-W program provides respite care, medical equipment, home/vehicle modifications etc. The CCS program serves both children and adults with mental health and substance abuse needs. Ms. Renchin's PowerPoint presentation showed the growth of each program serving 14 individuals in 2017 vs 50 served in 2022 in the CLTS-W and 12 served in 2017 vs 31 served in 2022 in the CCS program. Based on the current enrollment and referral trends, Ms. Renchin is requesting to increase the CLTS-W/CCS capacity by 1.0 FTE in order to serve eligible individuals. Ms. Renchin shared a Social Worker Request worksheet projecting the first 3-month period for start-up and training that would cost the agency \$21K. A mental health block grant for \$10,666 can be utilized through March 15 of 2023 for the additional position. A grant, up to \$25K is being applied for from Home and Community based waiver services which would increase the benefit to the agency.

A motion was made by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Mr. Schmidtkecht to approve the 2023 budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved.

## **13. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – INTOXICATED DRIVER PROGRAM PROVIDER CHANGE**

Mr. Rynders explained that the West Central Wisconsin Behavioral Health Agency in Whitehall has provided services for the Intoxicated driver program for the past 5 years. They now have a staff vacancy and currently cannot provide the services. Community Counseling in Chippewa Falls will be providing the services going forward which also offers remote service. They are a temporary provider until West Central Wisconsin Behavioral Health agency has filled their vacancy.

## **14. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Mr. Rynders presented the financial update through July 2022.

## **15. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS MONTHLY VOUCHERS**

After review of the monthly vouchers through July 2022, a motion was made Ms. Beseler and seconded by Ms. Kleinschmidt to approve the vouchers as presented. A roll call vote was taken. Motion approved.

## **16. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MONTHLY UNIT REPORTS**

The monthly unit reports were reviewed.

## **17. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – WESTERN DAIRYLAND COMMUNITY ACTION**

Ms. McMillan-Urell shared that Western Dairyland had food/gas Kwik Trip cards to distribute to Buffalo County residents in need.

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

Mr. Rynders shared that the midyear request for a Case Manager position has been filled by Ms. Kelsi Black. Mr. Rynders addressed there was a concern by a member of the County Board at their August meeting that unemployment claims by former COVID response workers would be paid out of the levy. Rynders reported he confirmed with DHS this particular cost and all other costs associated with the COVID response positions have been and will be covered by the State provided funding. Listening sessions were held with the meal sites with Mr. LaValla, Ms. Cammi DeWyre, and Mr. Rynders attending. Mr. Rynders shared the feedback and will email to the committee members.

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

None

## **20. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME**

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 6, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Ms. Beseler is excused from the 10-6-2022 meeting. Mr. Schmidtknecht is excused, and Ms. Kleinschmidt will attend via Zoom on the 10-17-2022 joint meeting in Durand at 6:00 PM.

There will be no meeting in November 2022.

Ms. McMillan-Urell brought to Mr. Rynders attention that client names were inadvertently included in the budget documents. The mistake will be corrected, and a revised report will be provided to replace the first version. Mr. Rynders apologized for the error.

## **21. PUBLIC COMMENT NOT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS**

None

## **22. ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. McMillan-Urell called for adjournment.

Respectfully submitted,

Mary Hildebrand