

## **APPROVED MINUTES**

Health and Human Services Committee WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. *Health and Human Services Community Room* 303 W. Chapel Street.; Dodgeville, Wisconsin

lowa County Wisconsin

Item	
1	Chairman Nankee called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.
2	Roll Call:
	Members Present in Community Room: Chairperson Dan Nankee, Richard Rolfsmeyer, Joan Davis, Justin
	O'Brien, John Meyers (arrived at 5:09 p.m.)
	Others Present in Community Room: Larry Bierke, Nikki Mumm, Mel Masters, Steve Deal, Tom Slaney,
	Debbie Siegenthaler, Bruce Paull, Richard Jinkins, Mary Lepinske, Mark Lepinske
3	Approval of the December 7, 2022 Agenda:
	Motion by Rolfsmeyer and seconded by Davis to accept the agenda. Aye: 4; Nay: 0. Motion carried.
4	Approval of the November 2, 2022 Meeting Minutes:  Motion by Davis and seconded by O'Brien to accept the meeting minutes. Aye: 4; Nay: 0. Motion carried.
	Davis requested to change the acronym in Section 5 for Southwestern Wisconsin Regional Planning
	Commission from SWRP to SWWRPC.
5	Reports From Committee Members and an Opportunity for Members of the Audience to Address the
	Committee. No action will be taken.
	O'Brien – He shared his wonderful experience working with Renae Kratcha in the ADRC. He and his wife
	met with her regarding Part D, and he stated that it was easy, efficient, and saved them money.
	<b>Davis</b> – She attended the Dementia Live experience where she met the Dementia Care Specialists for our
	Region, Bonnie Beam-Stratz and Ben Biddick. It was a valuable and worthwhile experience.
	Jinkins – He shared information on the wind farm and health hazards associated with windmills in other
	regions of the State.
	Mark Lepinske – He asked if the County Board had a plan to respond to the wind turbines.
	O'Brien – He advised that it might be more beneficial for people to take windmill concerns to the State or
	PSC as they have more ability to make change.
	Nankee – He shared an article from <i>The Dodgeville Chronicle</i> , written by Paull entitled "A Look at Mental
	Health Availability in Iowa County," and he shared the SUN Annual Appeal on the front page of the News
	and Views.
	<b>Paull</b> – He elaborated more on the article he wrote for <i>The Dodgeville Chronicle</i> and shared that he is
	working with the Dodgeville School District to focus on mental health and teaching the <b>Sources of Strength</b>
6	program to children under the age of 18.  Health Department Update:
0	Siegenthaler provided a report and presented. The Federal Public Health Emergency is looking to end mid-
	January. The Health Department put a full-page thank you ad in <i>The Dodgeville Chronicle</i> to thank all of the
	community partners and volunteers who were instrumental in the Covid-19 response. January is Radon
	Awareness Month and they are focusing on testing for radon, as it is the second leading cause of lung
	cancer. There are free testing kits at the Health Department. The Health Department is currently working
	on the Iowa County Community Health Needs Assessment (CHNA). The following needs have been
	identified: mental health and alcohol/drug abuse/misuse, access to transportation, healthy eating/weight
	loss and exercise (Healthy Living), and aging concerns. The next step is the Community Health Improvement
	Plan where they will work with local partners to develop an asset plan and identify specific aims, strategies,
	and goals in each of these need areas. Davis inquired whether private locations like Walgreens will charge
	for Covid-19 vaccines and tests once the pandemic ends. Siegenthaler stated that eventually it will become
	privatized similar to the flu vaccines and testing. O'Brien asked if the Federal Government has put a cap or
	restrictions on what can be charged. Siegenthaler is unsure if that has been defined at this point. Davis
	shared the importance of radon testing and stated that the Iowa County Opioid Settlement Funds
	Taskforce's job was to do a needs assessment that has not yet been finished but have received a draft that

will eventually need to be approved by the board. There will need to be communication and collaboration between entities in Iowa County regarding this. O'Brien wondered how much overlap there is between the CHNA and the Iowa County Opioid Settlement Funds Taskforce. Meyers commended Siegenthaler for the "thank you" ad and asked how many Covid-19 tests we have on inventory. Siegenthaler stated that the Health Department continues to order the tests and puts 10-15 out on a table in the entryway for the public to access each day. They will provide them as long as they are able, and are also working with local schools to get the tests out to them. Rolfsmeyer also emphasized the importance of radon testing, and Siegenthaler shared that Southwest Wisconsin is a Radon Information Center that has received national accolades for the number of tests distributed.

## 7 Unified Community Services Update:

Jeff Lockhart provided a report and Davis presented on behalf of Lockhart. The Iowa County Opioid Settlement Funds Taskforce is reviewing the needs assessment from SWWRPC that is still in the draft phase. They will meet again to discuss it on January 11, 2023 to approve and send it to the full County Board on January 17, 2023. Communication and collaboration has been rising to the top as a need in every question. Every law enforcement agency in both counties has been trained to use Narcan. There are more referrals coming in for Children's Long-Term Support. CCS combines AODA and mental health together as behavioral health and gives residents needed support. Lockhart's last day is January 4, 2023; the selection committee has selected an interim Director, and this selection will be presented to both County Boards on December 20, 2022 for their approval. Grant County is doing an assessment and may possibly make changes, which is why they decided to approve an interim director. Nankee inquired about the increase in the use of crisis beds. Slaney shared that Tellurian is a private facility to help get through the crisis phase instead of emergency detaining someone, which causes additional stressors on Winnebago and law enforcement.

## 8 Social Services Update:

12

Slaney provided a report and presented. Annual Holiday Project distribution will be on December 20<sup>th</sup> and 21st. We are serving 120 households this year and utilizing the SWCAP basement to facilitate the program. The Energy Assistance program is up and running again, but our funding allocations for administration of the program have decreased due to the State's partnership with Energy Services. Iowa County can chose to not administer the program and defer to Energy Services like other counties have, but Energy Services is overwhelmed. They currently handle all of the online applications and have had trouble keeping up with those for lowa County as we continue to receive calls from clients who have completed online applications needing support. The SUN Administrative Assistant has resigned. Corporation Counsel from both counties have reviewed the nutrition contract with SUN, but we are waiting on funding allocations from GWAAR before issuing contracts. There continues to be concerns with the SUN program, and we have been helping them out, but need to develop contingency plans. Davis shared the importance of filling the open positions within the SUN Program. Lutheran Social Services let us know that they will not be able to facilitate the Teen Court Program in 2023. Slaney is having a meeting to determine how to keep the program going or to bring the program in-house. He shared the possible program swap with Unified Community Services as we share two programs at this time (Children's Long-Term Support and Adult Protective Services). Grant County took on Adult Protective Services, Unified took on Children's Long-Term Support, and it has been working well so far. Slaney has chosen to wait to make the decision until the future of Unified Community Services is clear, but does have an additional Social Worker in his 2023 budget. The Department currently has three in-home therapy providers for prevention services, and one of them informed us that they are unable to contract with us in 2023. He stated there is a statewide crisis for facilities that take in children with complex needs. Once the public health emergency ends, our Economic Support Unit will have additional work. This is because there were waivers in place during the pandemic where clients did not have to provide documentation as they normally would. The Economic Support team may need overtime, and he has heard there is funding for it, but is unsure of the amount or whether it is enough. The end date will be 60-90 days after the Federal Government notifies the State of the end of the public health

- <u>Wednesday, January 4, 2023</u>: Approved for the next HHS Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m., HHS Center, Community Room, Dodgeville.
- 13 Motion by O'Brien and seconded by Rolfsmeyer to adjourn. Aye: 5, Nay: 0. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.