

**Minutes of the Health & Human Services Committee
Thursday, December 9, 2021**

Chair Dondlinger called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Timothy Dondlinger, Jeremy Walz, Jim Batzko, Joel Gaughan, and Ted Wysocki.

Absent: Steve Whittow.

Also Present: Legislative Policy Advisor Alex Ignatowski, Chief of Staff Sarah Spaeth, Administrative Specialist Mary Pedersen, Accounting Services Coordinator Lisa Davis, HHS Coordinator Jenny Wrucke, DOA Director Andy Thelke, Accounting Services Manager Danielle Igielski, and Senior Financial Analysts Alex Klosterman and Michelle Czech.

Ordinance 176-O-095 Modify the Department of Health and Human Services 2021 Budget to Accept the Rapid Cycle Grant: Crisis Intervention and Law Enforcement Funding and Appropriate Additional Expenditures

Davis and Wrucke discussed this ordinance which authorizes Health and Human Services to accept \$97,079 of Rapid Cycle Grant: Crisis Intervention and Law Enforcement grant funding from the State of Wisconsin. This funding is intended to facilitate efficiencies for the County's current crisis response system by embedding an existing 1.0 FTE clinical therapist from the Health and Human Services Crisis Division in the Sheriff's Department. This position would be integrated into the internal communications systems at the Communications Center for expedited access and crisis response. Also, this position would conduct face-to-face follow up consultations with people who have experienced a mental health crisis or was recently discharged from inpatient care. Wrucke distributed additional information on the duties and responsibilities of the position.

This ordinance also modifies the 2021 budget to increase personnel costs by \$88,941, operating expenses by \$8,138 and general government revenues by \$97,079. The additional grant-funded personnel appropriation will cover the position costs for the clinical therapist being embedded in the Sheriff's Department. Since this position is already budgeted in the 2021 budget, the existing budget authority for this position will help cover temporary extra help to backfill support in this area for the duration of this grant. There are no new regular positions created for this ordinance. Operating expenses include laptops to expand mobile capability for staff and a mobile printer to pilot printing of response documentation for the client. Since the grant period runs through June 30, 2022, staff will request a carryover of unspent funds at year-end into 2022.

This initiative is funded with temporary grant funding and results in no direct impact to tax levy. If the departments choose to continue the initiative after grant funding has ceased they will need to prioritize the additional position and related costs within future tax levy allocations.

Gaughan supports this ordinance but was worried about the position becoming overwhelmed and asked for a future update.

MOTION: Gaughan moved, second by Batzko to approve Ordinance 176-O-095. Motion carried 5-0.

Ordinance 176-O-096 Apply for and Accept Federal Emergency Management Agency Funds for Eligible Pandemic Related Costs and Accept Wisconsin Department of Health Services Federal American Rescue Plan Act Funding Allocation for Pandemic Related Costs

Thelke, Igielski, and Czech were present to discuss this ordinance which authorizes the Health and Human Services Public Health Division to accept American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding administered through the State Department of Health Services for pandemic response, mitigation and recovery efforts. This ordinance also authorizes the Public Health Division to accept Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) funding to allow for 100% reimbursement of vaccination clinic expenses, public facility mitigation expenses, and personal protective equipment purchases. The department is analyzing costs incurred and prioritizing using funding sources with the most restrictions first. Thelke also gave a brief update on 2021 financials related to the COVID pandemic.

The 2021 budget contains sufficient expenditure authority to cover the estimated pandemic response costs of approximately \$6.9 million. Pandemic response costs of \$4.7 million have been claimed against other funding sources received from the State and \$0.4 million will be funded with the County’s direct ARPA allocation. The funds accepted through this ordinance will be used as follows:

	DHS-ARPA	FEMA
Vaccination Clinic	-	902,000
Contact Tracing and Disease Investigation	730,000	-
Testing	11,000	-
Emergency Operation Center Activities	53,000	-
COVID Call Center/Telehealth	57,000	-
Public Facility Mitigation	-	21,000
Personal Protective Equipment	-	29,000
Total	851,000	952,000

FEMA funding also allows for up to 5% administrative cost recovery (nearly \$50,000) associated with this funding. This ordinance provides grant funding for staff time that was already included in the base budget. Revenues above the base budget will result in a positive fund balance impact.

MOTION: Wysocki moved, second by Walz to approve Ordinance 176-O-096. Motion carried 5-0.

Nomination and Election of Vice-Chair

MOTION: Gaughan moved, second by Batzko to elect Walz as Vice Chair of the Health & Human Services Committee. Motion carried 5-0.

MOTION: Walz moved, second by Batzko to elect Gaughan as Secretary of the Health & Human Services Committee. Motion carried 5-0.

Approve Minutes of October 26

MOTION: Wysocki moved, second by Batzko to approve the minutes of October 26. Motion carried 5-0.

Wysocki left the meeting at 1:44 p.m.

Next Meeting Date

- January 13, 2022

Executive Committee Report of November 8

Dondlinger said the Executive Committee, at their last meeting, approved three ordinances, heard a presentation on the final County Board District Map, and they discussed holding joint meetings at budget time and issuing iPads to County Board Supervisors.

Future Agenda Item

- Update on Ordinance 176-O-095 and the Associated Pilot Program/Position (Gaughan)

Review Correspondence

Dondlinger advised of two Health & Human Services fund transfer requests which are approved by the Finance Committee.

Legislative Update

Ignatowski gave an update on State adoption bills, redistricting, and the opioid settlement. He noted the Sheriff met with members of our legislative delegation last week to discuss bail reform.

MOTION: Batzko moved, second by Walz to adjourn at 1:55 p.m. Motion carried 4-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Joel R. Gaughan

Joel R. Gaughan
Secretary