

# **Minutes of the Combined Health & Human Services Board & Committee**

**Thursday, August 11, 2016**

Chairs Howard and Paulson called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

**Committee Members Present:** Supervisors Christine Howard (Chair), Darlene Johnson, Duane Paulson, Jeremy Walz, Chuck Wood, and Bill Zaborowski. **Absent:** Robert Kolb.

**Board Members Present:** Supervisors Duane Paulson (Chair), Christine Howard, and Bill Zaborowski. Citizen Members Tim Whitmore, Dr. Steven Kulick, Mike O'Brien, and Vicki Dallmann-Papke. **Absent:** Citizen Members Mary Lodes and Jeffrey Genner.

**Also Present:** Legislative Policy Advisor Sarah Spaeth, Health & Human Services Director Antwayne Robertson, ResCare Regional Manager Gary Rudzianis, W-2 Project Director Lisa Boyd, Food Share Employment Training (FSET) Program Manager Steve Reinhold, Economic Support Coordinator Debbie Berg, Veterans Services Officer Mike Johannes, Human Services Supervisor Sarah Vargas, and Economic Services Fraud Investigator Lynnae Boyenga. Recorded by Mary Pedersen, County Board Office.

## **Committee Agenda Items**

### **Approve Minutes of 6-16-16**

MOTION: Paulson moved, second by Zaborowski to approve the minutes of June 16. Motion carried 6-0.

### **Schedule Next Meeting Date(s)**

- September 15

### **Executive Committee Report of 7-26-16**

Howard said the Executive Committee met before the last County Board meeting to approve five Appointments and they heard standing committee reports.

## **Board Agenda Items**

### **Advisory Committee Reports**

O'Brien highlighted the Cops Assisting Addiction Recovery Program, a presentation at the last AODA Advisory Committee meeting. He commended the program and suggested the board and committee also hear the presentation.

## **Items for Discussion and Consideration**

### **Accept 2015 Annual Report of the Veterans Service Office (Committee)**

Johannes reviewed the annual report including financials pertaining to Veterans Administration Guaranteed Home Loans, medical expenditures, compensation and benefits, education benefits,

insurance and indemnities. Federal benefits for Waukesha County veterans in 2015 totaled \$258,750,253 and State benefits totaled \$1,490,055.

MOTION: Walz moved, second by Johnson to accept the 2015 Annual Report of the Veterans Service Office. Motion carried 6-0.

**Overview of the W-2 and FoodShare Employment Training (FSET) programs (Combined)**

Berg introduced Rudzianis, Boyd, and Reinhold and indicated County staff in Economic Support process FoodShare applications and determine eligibility. For a certain percentage of the FoodShare recipient population, there is a work requirement and these individuals, in Waukesha County, are referred to ResCare who administer the FSET Program located at the WCTC campus. Rudzianis gave history and indicated W-2 replaced AFDC in 1995. The Waukesha County caseload in 1995 was 1,100 per month and currently they average less than 100 (unduplicated cases total about 180). Benefits paid in 1995 totaled about \$500,000 per month and now that figure is about \$36,000. In 1995, 2,600 Waukesha County households received FoodShare benefits. Currently, that number is 13,000. Nationwide, 46 million individuals receive FoodShare benefits. Reinhold indicated from April 2015 through March 2016, FSET served 599 Waukesha County citizens. Of those, 267 reported employment during that time, 64% of which were full-time, and the average wage was \$11.61.

Boyd and Reinhold explained services offered by ResCare which include the ResCare Academy, an online training platform that offers more than 4,000 courses. Urgency Assistance offers a small grant for certain hardship cases. The ResCare Talent Market is an interactive employment tool which matches job seekers to potential employers. RoadMaps to Success is a 10-session training module taught by certified facilitators in over 300 career centers. Case Management develops tailored employment plans to meet career goals. Other programs include job retention, skills training opportunities, and ResCare ResumePro. Boyd and Reinhold presented real life success stories. ResCare has operations in more than 300 locations nationwide.

**Overview of Child Protective Services (CPS) (Combined)**

Vargas gave an overview of the Child Protective Services (CPS) Program which investigates reports of child abuse and neglect, works to improve home situations to prevent child abuse and neglect, and refers families to additional resources. Vargas distributed statistics on caseload, response time, placements, etc.

The total number of screened-in CPS cases in 2015 totaled 544. This compares to 574 in 2012, 511 in 2013, 523 in 2014, and 632 estimated for 2016. Vargas explained cases are screened-in when there is enough information to warrant an investigation. Vargas said when a child is in immediate danger, the case is screened-in the same day and unfortunately, these are increasing. In 2015, same day responses doubled from 2014 and this is expected to increase even more in 2016. An on-call worker is assigned daily to handle emergencies. Not only are the number of reports increasing here and statewide, but also the level of seriousness. Vargas said heroin and prescription drugs is the primary reason for the increase, including in pregnant women and teens, and in every economic class. In 2015 there were 32 out-of-home placements and these numbers have remained steady over the last few years. Vargas indicated their goal is to keep families together and kids safe. When this cannot be accomplished, out-of-home placements are necessary. This could include family members taking over the care of the child(ren) or foster care. Regarding in-home services where

the child can remain safely in the home, either voluntary or by signing an informal dispositional agreement, there were 37 cases in 2015 and 58 cases are estimated in 2016.

Vargas noted the division continues to meet state standards and compliance issues which she explained further. Timeline compliance for Waukesha County is 96%. This compares to the statewide average of 68%.

**Overview of Economic Support Services Fraud Program (*Combined*)**

Boyenga gave an overview of the Economic Support Services Fraud Program in Waukesha County which covers FoodShare, Medicaid, and Child Care. She does not investigate W-2 cases but does work with the W-2 fraud agency. Boyenga said her main goal is to protect the taxpayers with state and federal dollars. The consortia, which consists of multiple counties, trains workers to ask the right questions, do follow-up, and perform early investigations prior to issuing benefits to prevent fraud. Boyenga discussed recent fraud cases. The minimum reimbursement from someone who commits fraud is \$20 per month. For some people, this is a lot of money. For those who fail to pay, staff can intercept their taxes. Since January of this year, there were \$662,384 in established overpayment claims. Answering Zaborowski's question, Boyenga said a small percentage is intentional fraud.

MOTION: Wood moved, second by Johnson to adjourn the committee meeting at 2:40 p.m.  
Motion carried 6-0.

MOTION: O'Brien moved, second by Kulick to adjourn the board meeting at 2:40 p.m. Motion carried 7-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Robert L. Kolb  
Secretary