

MINUTES OF THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Thursday, April 20, 2017

12:00 p.m.

Chair Wood called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m.

Present: Supervisors Christine Howard, Robert Kolb, William Zaborowski, Citizen Members Jeffrey Genner, Steven Kulick, Mary Lodes, Michael O'Brien, and Tim Whitmore. **Not present:** Vicki Dallmann-Papke

Also Present: County Executive Paul Farrow, Health and Human Services Director Antwayne Robertson, Health and Human Services Deputy Director Laura Kleber, Health and Human Services Administrative Services Division Manager Randy Setzer, Health and Human Services Accounting Services Coordinator Will Emslie. Recorded by Julie Bartelt, Health and Human Services Departmental Secretary.

Presentation to County Executive – 2018 Budget Recommendations

Chair Wood explained the matrix created to summarize the March 23, 2017 advisory committees' recommendations of community needs and the April 6, 2017 public hearing input. The matrix was used by the HHS Board to prioritize and highlight those items to the County Executive for consideration in the 2018 budget.

Share Advisory Committee Input with County Executive

A summary of the Department of Health and Human Services Board's Advisory Committees 2017 Unmet Needs Presentations and a summary of comments and letters from the April 6, 2017 Public Hearing were shared with County Executive Farrow.

Discuss Budget Picture and Process with County Executive

Wood shared these top priorities, with additional commentary of the HHS Board members:

- 1) Utilizing contract service providers results in cost savings versus the county providing those services on their own. The Children and Family Services Advisory Committee feels that a 6% increase in the 2018 budget for contract service providers is critical. The Mental Health Advisory is asking for a 2% cost of living increase for purchase of service contracts. The increase is necessary to maintain the current essential and valuable providers.
- 2) AODA Peer Support Specialists. There is a request for approximately \$10,000 to obtain a Peer Support Specialist, and to train and credential approximately 20 Peer Support Specialists under the plan to assist with the increased Opioid and Heroin addiction issue.
- 3) Add one FTE to the Mobile Crisis Team. This as an unfunded mandate by the State last year. Adding someone to the team, available 24/7 for crisis intervention, provides a huge return on investment, by responding quickly keeping people out of hospitals, court systems, and redirecting families to better support systems.

- 4) Group Homes. Setzer explained the need for group homes for children. He suggested seed money or Request for Information to determine if a developer exists to develop group homes, which is a huge cost savings over the alternative residential homes. It would be a onetime cost that would provide savings for years. For one year, it is almost \$125,000 for one child to be in a residential facility. Kleber added there are certain waiver programs for adolescents and children that we could utilize in a group home, but cannot in a residential home, i.e. Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) program funds. Wood stated that Community Block Grant is a possibility for the physical plant for this operation, and the difficulty would remain to staff it.

County Executive Farrow appreciates the input and recommendations. In the last eight to ten years, the county has gone on the premise of holding the average home in Waukesha County to a zero increase in taxes. HHS is the largest county department in the needs basis area. The county will continue to be good fiscal stewards. They will change the narrative. Last year the growth rate was 1.6%, so technically the county could levy to 1.6. Last year the levy was just over \$800,000. Look at where funds are allocated to get the best value. He talked about AODA and the opiate epidemic. Prevention, awareness, getting people in a better state is everything HHS works toward. There are ideas in the works to change how services are delivered, and in the process, there might be additional funding from the state in how things are being done. The ideas are admirable in what should be accomplished – looking at \$520,000. Farrow is meeting with the Sheriff's Department regarding their request for a significant increase to address concerns in the county. The goal is to continue to weigh what can be done with each dollar and where we can collaborate. Farrow reported he is attending an event with the Waukesha County Business Alliance, an Evening of Giving, which is an opportunity for businesses to engage with the non-profits. He talked about how important the non-profits are. County Executive Farrow indicated his door is always open as the budget is worked through.

Lodes suggested more public relations with the taxpayers, creating more awareness of valuable, needed services provided throughout the community. Farrow agreed. The county public information officer has done a tremendous job getting information out on the good work done by departments on a daily and cost efficient basis. Businesses realize there are operational ways to do things more effectively. Ten percent of the county's staff have been through Lean training. Part of the county's strategic plan over the next three years is to embed in continuous improvement and give people the message that we are not trying to reduce the number of employees, but trying to make every employee hour as effective as it can be.

O'Brien added that marketing what we do is very important. He talked about the importance of medication assisted treatment, and Vivitrol and Narcan training. Farrow talked about the new federal grant starting in a couple of weeks, allowing expansion of Narcan training.

Whitmore stated he is relying on HHS staff to represent the HHS Board to the best means possible, to deliver required services in the county efficiently and cost effectively. Farrow praised the HHS team for presenting their priorities and needs, backed by data.

Adjourn

MOTION: Zaborowski moved, second by Howard at 12:43 p.m. Motion carried 8-0.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Howard, Secretary
Health and Human Services Board