

OPEN MEETING MINUTES
WAUKESHA COUNTY
TEMPORARY CHAPTER 980 COMMITTEE MEETING
OCTOBER 2, 2019

Members Present: Antwayne Robertson (Chair), Jason Fruth, Erik Weidig

Members Absent: Angela Serwa, Bill Seymour, Dale Shaver, Jason Popp

Guests: Jim Landwehr, Mr. and Mrs. Waite

The meeting was called to order by Chair Antwayne Robertson, Director WCDHHS, at 3:04 p.m. with a quorum of the Committee present.

Motion to approve the minutes of the September 18, 2019 meeting by Weidig, second by Fruth. Motion carried 3-0.

Introductions.

Robertson reported receipt of a new listing of properties for sale and to rent. One vendor responded and questioned whether the amount of rent is acceptable to the State; that being \$1800 to \$2500 per month. Robertson forwarded the question via email to Serwa, DHS for a response. At this time the vendor is not interested in a particular property, but simply asking about the rental value concept. The State is interested in paying a fair value. Robertson will continue to send an updated list of properties to the vendors on a weekly basis. Robertson will follow up with Serwa on responding to the vendor's rental value question.

Of the six properties, four were off the market or sold. The two other properties are being reviewed.

Robertson attended the Waukesha County Police Chiefs Association meeting this morning and shared information about the Chapter 980 Supervised Release Program and this Committee's responsibility to locate housing. Robertson shared handouts with the chiefs of the DHS Frequently Asked Questions and the State Statute.

Weidig stated that regarding the rental property search, DOC is taking the primary lead in contacting landlords. Four of six landlords contacted were not available or not interested. The new property listing will be released tomorrow. Ensure that Popp and the vendors receive the new list.

Mr. Waite questioned "why it would not be acceptable for the state to pay \$2000 rent for say a \$70,000 home if the home meets the location requirements". DHS is willing to pay a fair and reasonable value. It was explained the Temporary Chapter 980 Committee's responsibility is to identify property and then DHS must agree to the rental price. Discussed the \$2000 rent limit, which is based on DHS's history to attract housing vendors. Discussion occurred regarding the housing market. Robertson indicated that any potential properties found by Mr. and Mrs. Waite may be forwarded for mapping.

At the September 24 motion hearing, Weidig stated the state public defender filed a motion for joinder and sanctions for failure to file a report against Waukesha County. Weidig opposed and succeeded in

the court not to impose sanctions at this time. October 18 is the next status conference in court. The next Chapter 980 Committee meeting will be scheduled prior. Weidig reported that the public defender has suggested to reconsider the distance restriction, if a property is otherwise viable as it is only a matter of distance. This would require adjusting the buffer to some degree and run a search to determine if there are any additional properties. Landwehr explained the additional level of work this would entail. Landwehr will advise Kim, who does the mapping. Landwehr suggested and there was discussion regarding changing the variable on the dollar amount of rent per month. The decision was to continue with the \$2000 rent maximum on the system mapping run tomorrow, October 3. If there are no properties, the committee will consider a higher rate for the next run. Fruth believes that most properties would likely fall in the \$2000 or less area. Fruth will examine what the typical medium or average mortgage is in the county and how rent would compare. This information will be helpful to this committee.

Landwehr reported that Popp's assistant has been given access to the mapping system.

Weidig moved to adjourn, second by Fruth at 3:32 p.m.

Minutes approved: *Antwayne Robertson*
Director
Waukesha County Health and Human Services

Date: October 17, 2019