



BOARD MINUTES

WRIGHT COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

May 10, 2021

DATE APPROVED:

Christine Husom,	District 1
Darek Vetsch,	District 2
Mark Daleiden,	District 3
Mary Wetter,	District 4
Michael Kaczmarek,	District 5

THESE MINUTES ARE IN DRAFT FORMAT AND REQUIRE APPROVAL BY THE HHS BOARD

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Wright County Health & Human Services Board met in regular session at 1:30 p.m. with Husom, Vetsch, Wetter and Kaczmarek present. Daleiden joined remotely. Chair Vetsch presided.

STAFF PRESENT:

Bob Hiivala, Auditor/Treasurer (remote)
Chastity Booth, Case Aide (remote)
Christine Partlow, Business Manager
Christine Treichler, Social Services Supervisor (remote)
Diane Erkens, Social Services Supervisor (remote)
Jami Goodrum Schwartz, Director
Jill Pooler, Social Services Manager
John Holler, Communications Specialist (remote)
Kimberly Johnson, Financial Services Manager (remote)
Kirsten Schieber, Case Aide (remote)
Mason Coaty, Information Systems Specialist
Michelle Braatz, Eligibility Specialist
Michelle Miller, Social Services Manager
Noami Blomberg, Administrative Specialist
Patricia Larson, Office Technician II (remote)
Sarah Grosshuesch, Public Health Director
Tammi Martens, Financial Services Supervisor

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

ACTION: Husom moved, Kaczmarek second, to approve the April 12, 2021 minutes. Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote.

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Kaczmarek moved, Husom second, to approve the agenda. Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

A. ACCEPT PUBLIC HEALTH TASK FORCE (PHTF) RESIGNATION

1. Darlene Lind – District 5

B. APPROVE LETTER-OF-NEED REQUEST SUPPORTING ANCHOR RECOVERY TO OPEN A LOW-TO-HIGH INTENSITY OUTPATIENT TREATMENT CENTER FOR SUBSTANCE MISUSE IN WRIGHT COUNTY

C. APPROVE REQUEST TO CANCEL 2021-05-24 HHS BOARD MEETING

ACTION: Husom move, Wetter second, to approve the consent agenda. Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote.

V. NEW HIRE

A. Michelle Braatz, Eligibility Specialist – Adult Family Financial Services & OT Team, April 19, 2021

VI. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – JUNE

Patricia Larson is June Employee of the Month.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Social Services/Public Health/Financial Services

1. PRESENTATION: 2020 HHS ANNUAL REPORT

(JAMI GOODRUM SCHWARTZ)

Goodrum Schwartz presented the 2020 Annual Report, with Wright County exceeding the State thresholds in all ten performance measures, resulting to no Performance Improvement Plans (PIP) required. One or two areas took a slight downturn compared to last year's but overall, Wright County is on upward trajectory. Vetsch commended the eight percent improvement in Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) processing time and noted the impact of the State's policy on 'one-business-day processing' to the county's improved performance.

Goodrum Schwartz stressed that the \$225M cost incurred primarily goes to community services, recognizing HHS' stewardship role of public funds for needed services and as a contribution to the Wright County's economic health along with the health of its citizens.

Additionally, on COVID Report, the Wright County COVID webpage currently showed 89,252 views in 2020; the vaccine webpage reflected 27,487-page views; the dashboard reported 64,640 views in 2020.

2. VACCINATION UPDATE

(SARAH GROSSHUESCH)

Wright County Public Health, as of last week administered 4,281 vaccinations, with 88 percent of over 65-year-old and 53 percent of over 16-year-old population receiving at least one dose. Grosshuesch highlighted Wright County's success i in vaccinating its 65 plus population; statewide all ZIP codes are reporting over 70 percent vaccination results in this age group., Public Health is looking at different locations across the county to increase vaccination rates in areas with lower rates.

Wright County had been filling up appointments until two weeks ago; currently doing smaller volumes, serving approximately 55 people at last week's clinic in Howard Lake.

The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) will be reviewing a request from Pfizer to allow for vaccination for children aged 12 to 15 – this will be administered by health care providers due to Pfizer's freezing requirements. Additionally, it is anticipated that parents would prefer to access this vaccine through their providers at local clinics. Public Health also provides staffing to help vaccinate in schools for students to be vaccinated on school sites.

Wright County, similarly with the metro area, averaged 11 percent of its population responding, *"probably not or definitely not"* to a CDC survey when asked about the likelihood of accepting a vaccine. Carver, Olmsted and Rochester at 9 percent, Sherburne at 13 percent, Hennepin at 10, Anoka 11, Ramsey 11, Washington, 10, McLeod 12, Meeker 12, Stearns 12. Grosshuesch said that Minnesota is fourth highest in case rate state in the nation and that Wright County is still dealing with high case transmission.

3. INFORMATION: 2021-03-24 HHS ADVISORY MINUTES

(JAMI GOODRUM SCHWARTZ)

Goodrum Schwartz highlighted areas of discussion.

ACTION: Husom moved, Kaczmarek second, to approve the HHSAC minutes. Motion carried via roll call vote.

B. Administration

1. 2021 1ST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT (CHRISTINE PARLOW)

The budget is at 25 percent of the year, with 12 percent revenues and 21 percent expenditures. The rest of revenue sources are the same or above last year's, except for State revenue which is largely impacted by State grants funding Public Health, as most of its grant sources are reallocated to the vaccine projects.

Wright County is leading other counties in collecting vaccination administrative fees from insurance providers, collecting \$43K in the first quarter, \$111K through April. Although the County is not charging individuals with no health insurance, most clients provided their insurance information, averting significant costs to the County.

Partlow clarified the Administrative Services and Charges budget allocation of 449 percent – this is the administrative cost that was lumped into HHS Administrative line last year while planning for ERP – this will be reallocated to Services and Charges line in Public Health, Social Services and in Financial Services. The Auditor and Treasurer's Office agreed to leave it as-is and will be corrected next year.

Other items brought into question:

- Recovery Maxis at negative 22 percent (page 11) – needs further investigation
- Emergency Shelter at 900 percent (page 16) – the cost of one child placement for one month from the only facility that met the specific placement needs; this item has never been used for this type of placement – needs discussion with Fiscal what line to use going forward on similar scenarios
- Multiple facilities not related to HHS (pages 34-41) – system reporting error

The Income Maintenance Random Moment Study (IMRMS) is at 24 percent.

The Social Services Time Study (SSTS) at 20 percent, reporting a down trend on state and federal MnCHOICES lines compared to last year's. The drop might be attributed to this year's staff remote work status versus last year's face-to-face. This change may also be due to a change in other counties' MnCHOICES processes as Wright County is part of a statewide pool.

The Targeted Case Management (TCM) has taken a slight dip in the last two quarters but should reflect an uptrend in the next report due to recent uptick in placements.

Waiver saw a slight decline, sitting at 21 percent. Fiscal and Social Services are currently working on re-billing back to April 2020, anticipating \$45K revenue, bringing the budget closer to 24 percent.

Public Health revenue is at 17 percent. The Out of Home Placement (OHP) is at 25 percent.

2. DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Social Service Manager Michelle Miller introduced and read the proclamation recognizing [May as National Foster Care Awareness Month](#).

ACTION: Husom moved, Wetter second, to acknowledge and proclaim May as National Foster Care Awareness Month. Motion carried 5-0 via roll call vote.

The Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) 2021 Legislative Report highlighted local public health roles in communities, commending efforts in building effective response to the pandemic.

Material handout – staff appreciation comments for excellent work.

PH Director Sarah Grosshuesch informed the Board of PH Supervisor Mary Nesseth's May 28, 2021 retirement. The Board congratulated Nesseth on her successful time with the county and wished her a happy retirement.

HHS and Human Resources approved this month 16 additional teleworkers, out of 30 candidates, bringing the total teleworking staff to 46. Husom commended HHS' efforts toward the program, holding its process to high standards and an increase in efficiency.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Submitted by Naomi Blomberg, Administrative Specialist

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