



BOARD MINUTES

WRIGHT COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

February 14, 2022

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

DATE APPROVED: March 14, 2022

I. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

STAFF PRESENT:

Alek Halverson, Surveyor's (remote)
Beth Hammer, Social Worker (remote)
Christy Houle, Accounting Technician
Diane Erkens, Social Services Supervisor (remote)
Eric Leander, Sheriff's
Greg Kryzer, County Attorney's (remote)
Jacob Anson, Health Promotion Coordinator
Jennifer Kelly, Case Aide
Jill Pooler, Social Services Manager
Jill VanBeusekom, Social Worker
Jon Young, Public Health Supervisor (remote)
Julie Bemboom, Social Services Supervisor
Kate Dahl, Fiscal Supervisor
Kimberly Johnson, Financial Services Manager
Lee Kelly, County Administrator (remote)
LeeAnn Thimell, Social Services Supervisor
Mason Coaty, Information Systems Specialist
Michael Smith-Nordquist, Surveyor's (remote)
Michelle Miller, Social Services Manager
Morganne Anderson, Social Worker
Noami Blomberg, Administrative Specialist
Sarah Grosshuesch, Public Health Director
Tammi Martens, Financial Services Supervisor (remote)
Tarynn Anderson, Social Services Supervisor

II. MINUTES APPROVAL

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Husom second, to approve the 2022-01-10 minutes. Motion carried

III. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF AGENDA

ACTION: Vetsch moved, Daleiden second, to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

ACTION: Wetter requested to pull *Item A* for questions. Daleiden moved, second Wetter, to approve the remaining items. Motion carried.

- A. AUTHORIZE AVTEX SOLUTIONS STATEMENT OF WORK (SOW) FOR GENESYS CLOUD AGREEMENT FOR PERIOD 2022-02-27 THROUGH 2024-02-27 [\$519,336.00] AND GENESYS CLOUD SUBSCRIPTION FOR PERIOD 2022-02-27 THROUGH 2024-02-27 [83,248.00]

- B. APPROVE JACOB ANSON, ELEANOR VANNASE, MEGAN WARD AND BECKY GRAHAM'S GRANT-FUNDED [MDH & SHIP GRANT] OUT-OF-STATE TRAVEL, NATIONAL RX & HEROIN SUMMIT, ATLANTA, GA, 2022 APRIL 17-21
- C. APPROVE MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY COUNCIL (MHAC) APPLICATION
 - 1. BREANNA HEINTZELMAN, DISTRICT 1
- D. ACCEPT HHS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HHSAC) RESIGNATION
 - 1. GEOFREY NYANYUKI, DISTRICT 3
- E. APPROVE REQUEST TO CANCEL 2022-02-28 HHS BOARD MEETING

ITEM PULLED FOR DISCUSSION:

Item A – AVTEX Solutions Statement of Work Authorization

Fiscal Supervisor Kate Dahl explained that this two-year agreement serves continue the HHS Contact Center. The master agreement was already in place – this is the service level for the next two years

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Husom second, to approve *Item A*. Motion carried.

V. NEW HIRE

- A. Jennifer Kelly, Case Aide, Child Protection (CP1) Team, January 19, 2022
- B. Morganne Anderson, Social Worker, Waiver & Community Supports Team, January 24, 2022
- C. Christy Houle, Accounting Technician, Fiscal Team, February 2, 2022

VI. EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – FEBRUARY & MARCH

Beth Hammer is February Employee of the Month.

Jill VanBeusekom is March Employee of the Month.

VII. REGULAR AGENDA

A. Social Services/Public Health/Financial Services

- 1. PROCLAMATION: MARCH AS SOCIAL WORK MONTH
(JILL POOLER, MICHELLE MILLER)

ACTION: Daleiden moved, Husom second, to proclaim March as Social Work Month. Motion carried via roll-call vote.

- 2. PRESENTATION: [PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY RESPONSE](#)
(JACOB ANSON)

Anson gave a 2020-2021 year-over-year report on Wright County Public Health's COVID19 response. In partnership with local communities, law enforcement, county departments, HHS teams, WCPH administered 17,345 vaccinations in 76 clinics, with 32 percent of its worktime dedicated to COVID19.

WCPH recognized and thanked the following departments: Sheriff's, Highway, GIS Team, Facilities and Maintenance, Emergency Management, Communications, Risk Management, HHS staff; and community partners for the success of the operation.

On Kaczmarek's question if there are partners or facilities that were not accessible at the time that HHS would have wished to have had, were the pandemic to happen now, Grosshuesch replied that geographically diverse clinic locations would have afforded better service – Wright County, she said, was not able to expand as much in the eastern and western areas. Wright County, however, recently partnered with Hennepin County for the Hanover area. Additionally, Grosshuesch said that she would have proposed for Wright County to solely provide testing sites in Wright County versus establishing a contract with the State, "had we known that HHS could recoup significant revenue for billing and that we had grant funding to provide this resource." Currently, HHS is running into issues with not having available real estate venues for testing facilities. Grosshuesch also said that regardless of

testing site availability, “we should reset people’s expectations about their ability to self-test at home instead of relying heavily on medical providers.”

3. ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH PROPOSAL
(SARAH GROSSHUESCH)

Grosshuesch brought to the Board’s attention staffing issues in Environmental Health Service Programs that Public Health handles. Public Health has one staff providing environmental support for county ordinance nuisances while also not having access to the current vacant Environmental Health Supervisor (EHS) position in Planning and Zoning (P&Z). In past years, P&Z assisted WCPH with environmental cases. With both positions vacant and especially during the COVID19 pandemic, WCPH lacked the capacity and expertise to provide education and outreach. Many of the duties in this area fell on the Public Health Director. For example, currently, there are three communities dealing with Manganese in their community well system – MDH staff are working from home until the fall and not performing site visits. Likewise, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Health & Human Services and P&Z for EHS is outdated and expired in December 2021. Grosshuesch relayed that if cost-sharing of the EHS position is to continue, an updated and detailed MOU needs to be established on what EHS services HHS is funding.

Grosshuesch stressed the need to consider the capacity and structure of environmental health services in Wright County. For example, at current ordinance, the Public Health Director receives the appeals, while also signing the initial order – which Grosshuesch argued that the Public Health Director should be the neutral party and that there is a need for qualified staff to “sign-off” on these appeals.

PROPOSAL: Form a small group, compliant with State regulations, to do a study on structure and scope of environmental health services in Wright County. The group will explore in developing fee-based programs and research on the “pros and cons” of the County acting as a State local delegate to license food, public pools and lodging establishments. Group composition: County Attorney, Commissioner, HHS Planner, Community Member, MDH (facilitator).

Vetsch agreed, based on community feedback, that most restaurant and pool operators lean toward a locally controlled ordinance for consistency since State regulations are too vague and are subject to different interpretations. Grosshuesch cautioned on the potential complications required by State regulations. Vetsch is interested to see whether analysis of cost-sharing [with the State] will indicate a benefit to the county as far as staffing and other considerations.

Kaczmarek was concerned with the added level of service and would prefer to prioritize resolving the ongoing issues with Planning and Zoning and the Compost Facility that have been put on hold, now that a new P&Z administrator and a coordinator are in place. Vetsch countered that now is the best time to look at that role and what involvement it will entail with the group’s proposal, if it is realistic.

ACTION: Husom moved, Daleiden second, to form the proposed group, with Daleiden and Wetter to represent the Board. Motion carried.

4. INFORMATION: 2022-01-26 HHS ADVISORY COMMITTEE (HHSAC) MEETING MINUTES
(JILL POOLER)

Pooler gave a summary of the January 26 HHSAC meeting.

B. Administration

1. DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS

The March 1 HHS All Staff Training Day is postponed to a later date, potentially in May, due to lack of technology in the conference room at the new Government Center. HHS will inform the Board when a new date is decided.

The Minnesota Housing Finance Agency (MHFA) did not approve funding to the Duffy Development's housing project proposal in Monticello last year.

The 62-bed NorthStar Regional - Riverwood Treatment Center (Men's Residential) in Otsego is now taking referrals.

(Handout) – Wright County Birth Record Rate.

Kaczmarek requested the number of staff turnovers in 2021. HHS submitted six position replacement requests on the February 15 County Board Meeting.

Wetter commended HHS for its participation and representation of Wright County at the Buffalo Strong event.

The meeting adjourned at 2:47 P.M.

Submitted by Naomi Blomberg, Administrative Specialist