

**Minutes of the August 10th meeting of the Sawyer County
Health and Human Services Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Assembly Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- Chair: Dale Schleeter
- Tweed Shuman
- Chuck Van Etten
- Dale Olson
- Dawn Petit - Virtual
- Lorraine Gouge
- Jennifer Vobornik
- Carol Pearson
- Dr. Sabrina Dunlap

Others Present:

Tom Hoff
Alex Butterfield
Lynn Fitch
Paul Grahovac
Patty Dujardin
Julia Lyons
Joe Bodo
Tibissum Rice
Shawna White
Janet Getting
Julia Lyons
Joey Johnson
Laurie Perlick

Call to Order – Chair Dale Schleeter called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Certification of Compliance with the open meeting law was met. Roll Call was taken; a quorum was met.

Meeting Agenda

Public Comments

Minutes from previous meeting – A motion was made by Mr. Shuman to approve the minutes of the July 6, 2021, meeting; second by Ms. Pearson. Motion carried without negative vote.

Committee Reports – Ms. Gouge presented the LCO Liaison report stating that LCO currently has 18 active Covid cases; tracing and quarantine measures are in place. The LCO day care center has about 60 children now and expects continued growth. The men’s shelter is at capacity and the women’s shelter is now open. Mr. Shuman stated that they continue to have weekly ARPA meetings.

Senior Resource Center – A written report was provided. Ms. Johnson stated that the Senior Resource Center bus transported 1281 passengers in the 2nd quarter and they have nearly \$30,000 raised for the new bus project. Meal counts are increasing and they are still seeking applicants for several vacant positions.

Opioid Litigation/Settlement Update – Mr. Hoff reviewed a presentation regarding the opioid settlement process. Wisconsin counties will share 70% of the approximately \$400M settlement amount determined for the State of Wisconsin. Once the process has completed its four stages, the funds will be distributed directly to the states to be used expressly for opioid abatement and treatment programs. Funds may be available in 2022.

Adult Long Term Care – A written report is provided. Ms. Perlick explained the complexities of tracking financial abuse cases.

Behavioral Health – A written report was provided. Mr. Grahovac advised they are still trying to recruit for vacant positions and existing staff are working many extra hours to cover the void. A written mental health report was provided. The County continues to project approximately \$1.5M in out-of-county placement costs this year.

Child Protective Services – A written report was provided to summarize caseloads. CPS is also down by one staff position.

Substitute Care – A written report was provided. Ms. Tibissum Rice, LCO ICW Director, provided an update of the LCO children/youth out-of-county placements, particularly in residential care centers (RCC).

Economic Support – A written report was provided.

Public Health – Ms. Lyons presented a Covid 19 update. Sawyer County is currently in the orange risk level. A background of the variants was provided.

Fiscal – Written reports were provided. Ms. Dujardin reviewed the County car fleet report stating that a savings of \$5,617 has been realized this year. Much of the training travel time has converted to ZOOM thus saving miles driven by many departments. Mr. Hoff advised that the budget is currently projecting a \$1.8M overage if the county continues to pay the out-of-county mental health costs as expected. An increase in sales tax and stumpage revenue is already built into this projection.

Youth Justice – At 7:48 pm, a motion was made by Mr. Olson regarding Northwest Oasis Group Home to enter closed session pursuant to Wis. Statute § 19.85(1)(e) for the purposes of deliberating or negotiating the purchasing of public properties, the investing of public funds, or conducting other specified public business. Mr. Shuman seconded the motion. Motion carried without negative vote.

At 7:58 Mr. Shuman made a motion to enter open session; second by Ms. Petit. Motion carried without negative vote.

A motion was made by Mr. Olson to accept the Separation Agreement and Termination of Memorandum of Understanding between Sawyer County and Northwest Oasis Group Home and move it forward to the August 19th County Board meeting for ratification. Ms. Petit seconded; motion carried without negative vote.

Future Agenda Items

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee will be Tuesday, September 7, at 6:30 pm in the Assembly Room.

Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm
Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk