

**Minutes of the October 12th 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
Joey Johnson
Patty Dujardin
Julia Lyons
Tom Jewell
Aaron Halberg
Joe Bodo
Alicia Carlson

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 September 7, 2021, meeting; second by Ms. Pearson. Motion carried without negative vote.

Committee Reports – LCO Report: Ms. Gouge provided an update on the LCO Health Center, stating 30 positive C19 cases at this time, mostly the Delta variant. The LCO Clinic has mandated the vaccine for LCO employees but are allowing religious and medical exemptions with wearing N95 masks. They continue holding vaccine clinics in the area and are working on building processes for tackling the opioid epidemic. A transitional housing program, expansion of the AODA programming within the community and educating the public are current measures.

Senior Resource Center: Ms. Johnson provided an overview of the meal programs. They are averaging 152 meals/week/month and costs are going up approximately \$100/week to furnish meals. The State just finished a food cost analysis and results indicated that Sawyer County is averaging \$10.69/meal while the state average is \$13+ (includes staff and all other costs). The availability of food and supplies is intermittent when ordering. Numbers for home delivered and carry-out means remain high.

Ms. Johnson provided the 85.21 Grant Resolution for renewal. A motion was made by Mr. Shuman; second by Mr. Olson to approve this grant and move forward to County Board. Motion carried without negative vote.

Administration – Mr. Hoff reported that the opioid settlement amount is still unknown but it is moving forward in Wisconsin; the timing and amount should be made available before we sign off on the agreement that is moving through the courts. The lawsuit payment is a formula-based amount and is unknown at this time.

Out of county placements were the topic of conversation with Senator Petrouske the last time we met with CAP team. We have since met with WCA lobbyists, several other county administrators, and other county HHS staff to help draft a document that can be moved forward to Senator Petrouske for consideration in legislation. The request will provide

alternatives that may help counties address the costs that put small budgets at risk; however, results of this effort may not be available for a couple years.

Adult Long-Term Care – Written reports are provided. Ms. Dujardin advised that the department is still short two staff members. The ADRC of the North was awarded \$200,000 for a dementia care specialist programmer and the new plan is to use the funds to fill a half-time ADRC specialist and half-time INA specialist to make up one full-time position. Carol Martin was recognized at the state level for outstanding work on our website.

Behavioral Health – Written report provided. We have again lost a CST Coordinator position. To adjust, some duties are being combined within the department for the foreseeable future. A written report was provided for the mental health costs by client. A barrier to services is the fact that licensed marriage and family staff are not allowed to give a diagnosis on functional screens so it makes it difficult to get people through the program. Ms. Carlson sent these concerns with recommendations to the state, and the state immediately implemented her ideas statewide.

Child Protective Services – A written report was provided. This unit is also short-staffed by four people and struggling with the workload.

Economic Support – Written report provided.

Public Health – Ms. Lyons provided a Covid update. As of October 11th, Sawyer County was in the Red risk level but numbers are trending down. The Delta variant remains the current prevalent strain in Sawyer County. A new vaccine clinic and testing site is now available at the Oasis Building on Hwy 63; vaccines can be obtained there on an appointment basis.

Fiscal – Written reports were provided along with the 2022 department budget. Mr. Hoff reported that the budget does reflect grant and match funds and identifies the expected increase in funding needed for the Winnebago site. Some funds balance usage will be expected to meet the 2022 budget.

Youth Justice – At 7:46 pm Mr. Shuman made a motion; second by Mr. Olson to go into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. § 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. A roll call vote was taken and all votes were “aye” (Schleeter, Shuman, Olson, Petit, Gouge, Pearson and Dunlap).

At 7:57 Mr. Olson made a motion to come out of closed session; second by Mr. Shuman. Motion carried without negative vote.

Future Agenda Items

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Health and Human Services Committee will be Tuesday, November 2, at 6:30 pm in the Assembly Room.

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