

**Minutes of the December 12, 2023 meeting of the Sawyer County
Health and Human Services Committee
Of the Sawyer County Board of Supervisors
Board Room; Sawyer County**



Voting Committee Members Present:

- ☒ Chair: **Dale Schleeter**
- ☒ Vice Chair: Kay Wilson
- ☒ Marshal Savitski - virtual
- ☐ Michael Maestri – resigned 12/23
- ☐ Chris Rusk
- ☒ Bill Trepanier
- ☒ Dawn Petit - Virtual
- ☐ Carol Pearson
- ☒ Dr. Sabrina Dunlap - virtual

Others Present:

Andy Albarado
Lynn Fitch
Julia Lyons
Joe Bodo
Sarah Inczauskis
Patty DuJardin - virtual
Harry Malcom
Tweed Shuman
Alicia Carlson - virtual

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. Mr. Shuman introduced new member, Bill Trepanier.

Meeting Agenda

Public Comments – Lauren Peterson, Karen Boylan, Ron Petit, Tom Jewell

Minutes from the previous meeting dated: **November 7, 2023**

Motion to approve made by: Ms. Wilson Second by: Mr. Schleeter
Motion carried without negative vote.

Committee Reports -

LCO Liaison – Mr. Trepanier introduced Dr. Harry Malcom who provided an update. He reported an outbreak of RSV at the LCO daycare and head start which is most susceptible in children under one year old. A vaccine for RSV is available for individuals 65 and older. The vaccine for children under the age of one is very hard to obtain, and roughly 3% of all infected result in a hospital stay.

Senior Resource Center – A written report was provided. The cookie bake sale fund raiser is this Saturday. The meal cost tool is complete and there is a .01 difference over last year. They are still looking for a cook in the Stone Lake facility.

Administration –

A written list of services is attached to the board packet. Ms. Lyons shared a presentation from the department. Patty Dujardin, our Fiscal Manager, has announced her retirement after serving over 33 years with the County; her last day will be January 2nd. The fiscal assistant position may be close to being filled. Governor Evers has declared the year 2023 as the year of mental health, increasing budgeting in these areas. A video message from the Governor and his wife was shared.

Refugee & Homeless Discussion – Mr. Albarado provided a verbal update. To date we have received no updates from World Relief so he has reached out to them. They have not been in contact with us and do not have plans to send anyone to our County at this time. They advised him that they are not going to place people where there is no support system. At this time, it appears as they were just talking only to the City of Eau Claire.

Adult Long-term Care -

Ms. Lyons provided a verbal update. Phone calls continue to be steady in the ADRC, and the ADRC consortium has been notified regionally that we will receive additional funding so they are reviewing spending options. Sixteen staff members have been trained with the Dementia Care materials. They have had 74 open investigation cases open to date in adult protective services.

Behavioral Health Care –

Written reports were provided and reviewed. Ms. Carlson provided a verbal update. Services are still being offered in the Behavioral Health Outpatient Clinic on a limited basis as the two clinicians that are employed by this agency are supervising many different programs and employees as well as trying to provide outpatient clinical services. There are three consumers on the CCS program, eight enrolled in CST, and forty-six on CLTS. Our first collaborative meeting with Iron, Price, Wood, Rusk, Eau Claire and Taylor Counties will be held via Zoom on 12.05.23. The CLTS state review will be held the week of December 15, 2023 so our two SSC's and Supervisor Carlson have been preparing for the review. Mr. Bodo reported that they continue to have transportation issues with crisis situations.

A mental health monthly expense report for 2023 shows a total annual projection of expenses of \$2,797,586.78.

Child Protective Services -

The 2023 Children in Substitute Care report shows total Sawyer County HHS expense at \$66,215.29 and LCO at \$45,187.39. Ms. Inczauskis reported that her former open position has been filled in Youth Justice. They are working on giving youth who have been placed out-of-home for more than two years some sense of permanency.

Youth Justice -

A written report was provided detailing department statistics and a total 2023 YJ referral of 64. Youth Justice is currently in transition of Sarah Inczauskis' Ongoing Case Management role to Supervisor of Youth Justice and CPS. We have hired Kim Lambert to fill that ongoing role. Her start date is December 13, 2023.

Economic Support -

A written report was provided detailing department statistics.

Public Health -

A written report was provided; a recent Hepatitis C in Wisconsin Report shows that while most cases newly reported during 2020-2022 resided in urban areas, rates were highest among counties in rural areas. Sawyer County had the highest rate in the state during this time frame, with 86.2 cases per 100,000 per population reported. We have highlighted the importance of screening and treatment with our providers, clinics, and other stakeholders. In addition, most regions in Wisconsin are now at moderate levels of influenza-like illness activity. The 4-county WIC merger is going well and the merged group will be known as Wild Rivers WIC. Ms. Lyons reported on the current opioid spending process.

Fiscal -

A written report was provided. Ms. DuJardin reported that overall we are looking good on the budget to date, mainly due to a one-time windfall of reimbursement funds from high-cost substitute care expenditures of a couple years ago. Ms. Lyons congratulated Ms. DuJardin on her retirement.

Future Agenda Items –

Meeting Date/Time – The next meeting of the Health and Human Services Board will be Tuesday, January 8th, at 6:30 pm in the Board Room.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34 pm

Minutes recorded by Lynn Fitch, County Clerk