

Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Health and Human Services and Veterans Service Committee

Date of Meeting: Thursday, September 7, 2023

Location: 3rd Floor County Board Room
Department of Health and Human Services
Buffalo County Courthouse
407 S 2nd Street, Alma, Wisconsin

1. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

Members present were Liz Hoffmaster, Chris Lindstrom, Carol McDonough, Mary Anne McMillan-Urell, Brian Michaels, Nathan Nelson, Steve Schiffli. Kim Beseler was an excused absence. Wendy Kleinschmidt attended via Zoom.

OTHERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING

Dave Rynders, Lee Engfer, Felicia Decker, Jamie Weaver, Misty Rustad, Mary Hildebrand

2. PUBLIC HEARING ON 2024 DHHS BUDGET – to run concurrently with other meeting agenda items.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING MATTERS THAT WILL BE TAKEN UP BY THE COMMITTEE AT THIS MEETING

None

4. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Schiffli and seconded by Ms. McDonough to approve the August 8, 2023, minutes as presented. A roll call vote was taken, Mr. Nelson/Yes, Mr. Schiffli/Yes, Mr. Michaels/Yes, Mr. Lindstrom/Yes, Ms. McDonough/Yes, Ms. Hoffmaster/Yes, Ms. McMillan-Urell/Yes, and Ms. Kleinschmidt/Yes. Motion approved.

5. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – VETERANS SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT

Ms. Decker shared highlights from August. Veterans' office participated in National Night Out, Buffalo County Fair, and Ashley for the Arts. Ms. Decker attended the Camp Victory event, which is a non-profit Veterans retreat involving camping, hunts, maple harvesting, bow hunting, and apple harvest. Ms. Decker was given the opportunity to dedicate the Freedom Bench located at Great River Harbor, Alma along with Krist Beseler, Sr Vice Commander for VFW Post 10406. The monthly expenses and monthly expense report for the CVSO supplemental grant were shared. The August stats were presented. Ms. Decker reported they will participate in the Wisconsin Remembers a Face For Every Name event to be held September 23/24 at Alma American Legion Post 224.

6. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION - VETERANS SERVICES MONTHLY VOUCHERS

The August vouchers were reviewed. A motion was made by Mr. Michaels and seconded by Ms. Kleinschmidt to approve the August 2023 vouchers as presented. A roll call vote was taken, Mr. Michaels/Yes, Mr. Schiffli/Yes, Mr. Nelson/Yes, Ms. Hoffmaster/Yes, Mr. Lindstrom/Yes, Ms. McDonough/Yes, Ms. McMillan-Urell/Yes, and Ms. Kleinschmidt/Yes. Motion approved.

7. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – 2024 VETERANS SERVICES OFFICE BUDGET PRESENTATION

Mr. Engfer explained, in reference to the 2024 budget presentations this year, the county is going through a new financial system transition and due to timelines, the budget went to the Finance Committee first before the Home Committee. Mr. Engfer reported Veterans Services has no significant changes to the budget other than increases in revenue due to grant funding.

8. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

Ms. Jamie Weaver presented the monthly numbers. UW-Stevens Point has completed sample analysis from the private well sampling project and is working on sending out result letters. A free educational session will be held on September 27th at the Martin Center in Mondovi by UW-Stevens Point on well testing and sample results.

Ms. Weaver reported on the Parks Improvement Project with materials ready for mailing when approval is received from Mr. Engfer, County Administrator. Flu clinics will be held at Dairyland Power, the highway shop, courthouse, and all four schools. Ms. Weaver shared an update on the current vacancies. Dyllan Smith, Public Health Educator candidate will start September 25, 2023. There are no applicants for the Public Health Nurse position.

Public Health attended National Night Out and the Buffalo County Fair to promote services and programs within the community.

9. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – REVIEW OF SPECIAL EVENT INSPECTION FEES

Ms. Weaver explained when a vendor (not licensed by Buffalo County) attends an event, they are charged a one-time \$60 event inspection fee. Complaints have been received on the \$60 fee as well as inspections taking place during the event. Ms. Weaver presented a fee chart of area counties to compare fees charged for special events. Mr. Engfer explained the events going on throughout the county are to promote economic development and tourism, with the farmers markets, music festival events, etc. Extensive discussion was held on how to find a balance between vendors and the Public Health department. A motion was made by Mr. Schiffli and seconded by Mr. Michaels to amend the special event fee in resolution form to be brought back at the October meeting, reducing the one-time fee from \$60 to \$25. A roll call vote was taken, Ms. McDonough/Yes, Mr. Schiffli/Yes, Ms. McMillan-Urell/Yes, Ms. Kleinschmidt/Yes, Ms. Hoffmaster/Yes, Mr. Lindstrom/Yes, Mr. Michaels/Yes, and Mr. Nelson/Yes. Motion approved.

10. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION - 2024 BUDGET PRESENTATION FOR DHHS, ADRC, AND AGENT OF STATE

Ms. Misty Rustad, Accounting Supervisor presented the ADRC 2024 budget explaining it is run through Pepin County. The Buffalo County piece of the ADRC budget is for the Elderly Benefit Specialist salary (\$35,502) that we share with Pepin County. The Agent of the State budget involves the inspection fees which generate the revenues to cover salary, training, mileage, etc. The DHHS budget was presented which included the updated costs for the wage increases after the wage study. Ms. Rustad provided a breakdown of categories with a detailed account of what costs are included.

A motion was made by Mr. Nelson and seconded by Ms. McDonough to approve the budget as presented. A roll call vote was taken, Mr. Schiffli/Yes, Mr. Michaels/Yes, Ms. McDonough/Yes, Mr. Lindstrom/Yes, Ms. Hoffmaster/Yes, Ms. Kleinschmidt/Yes, Ms. McMillan-Urell/Yes, and Mr. Nelson/Yes. Motion approved.

11. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS FINANCIAL UPDATE

Mr. Rynders presented the financial update through July 2023. Mr. Rynders highlighted the employee education and training costs due to staff turnover as well as seeing a decrease in salary expenses due to vacancies. The Agent of the State adopted budget was reviewed.

12. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS MONTHLY VOUCHERS

A motion was made by Mr. Lindstrom and seconded by Ms. Hoffmaster to approve the monthly vouchers as presented. A roll call vote was taken, Ms. Hoffmaster/Yes, Mr. Lindstrom/Yes, Ms. McDonough/Yes, Mr. Nelson/Yes, Mr. Schiffli/Yes, Mr. Michaels/Yes, Ms. Kleinschmidt/Yes, and Ms. McMillan-Urell/Yes. Motion approved.

13. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MONTHLY UNIT REPORTS

The monthly unit reports were reviewed, and discussion held.

14. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – WESTERN DAIRYLAND COMMUNITY ACTION

Ms. McMillan-Urell reported she did not attend the meeting but reported HeadStart will not be having the B-3 program at C-FC. HeadStart has been relocated within the C-FC school.

15. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS DIRECTOR REPORT – OPIOID ABATEMENT GRANT UPDATE

Mr. Rynders shared an update on the grant application explaining the State realized what they approved violated DEA (Drug Enforcement Agency) standards. The request was for 3 additional drop-off boxes and drug deactivation bags. The chosen drop-off box locations were not law enforcement locations which the DEA forbids. Sheriff Osmond resubmitted the grant to increase the deactivation bag amount up to the \$5K.

16. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

Ms. McMillan-Urell informed the Citizen members on the wage study which increased the wages \$629K for Buffalo County employees; explaining the study was conducted by taking the person out of the position and setting the wage for the position ONLY comparing to the same position in other counties.

17. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – NEXT MEETING DATE AND TIME

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 5th, 2023, at 6:30 PM with Pepin County. The Buffalo County portion of the meeting will be held from 6:30 to 7:00 PM.

Ms. McMillan-Urell informed the committee she will not attend the November 2nd, 2023, meeting.

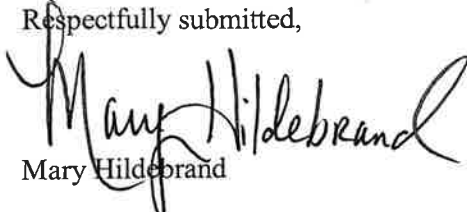
18. PUBLIC COMMENT NOT RELATED TO AGENDA ITEMS

None

19. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:07 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Hildebrand