



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

WebEx/ Courthouse Assembly Room (B105), 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI

Members	Present/Web-Phone	Absent
Chair Tim Buttke	X	
Vice Chair Michelle Van Krey	W	
Kelley Gabor	Phone	
Dennis Gonnering	W	
William Harris	W	
Donna Krause	W	
Tom Seubert		Excused

Also Present: Lance Leonhard, Jason Hake, and Toshia Ranallo.

VIA Web or Phone: John Robinson, Jean Maszk, Jonette Arms, Craig McEwen, Joan Theurer, Vicki Tylka and Mike Puerner.

1. **Call Meeting to Order**
Chair Buttke called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.
2. **Public Comment (15 minute limit) - None**
3. **MOTION BY; KRAUSE SECOND BY HARRIS TO APPROVE THE FEBRUARY 3, 2021, PUBLIC HEARING AND HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.**
4. **Policy Issues Discussion and Potential Committee Determination:** None
5. **Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution:**
 - A. Acceptance of the Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity for Infectious Disease Funds

Discussion:

Administrator Leonhard gave a brief background on the county’s grant funding policy. Any grant not included in the current year's adopted budget must be reviewed and receive approval by the standing committee of jurisdiction plus the Finance Committee and requires final approval by the County Board of Supervisors prior to acceptance of the award.

Health Officer Joan Theurer explained two grants in the amount of \$675,000 and \$940,000. Both grants became available to the county for the periods of October 2020 thru October 2022. The purpose of these grants is to support Marathon County Health Department’s disease investigation and contact tracing for COVID-19. Local health departments are statutory mandated per WI State Statue 252 to prevent, suppress, and control communicable diseases. Currently, it costs \$35,000 a week for contract tracers and interpreting services. These grants will contribute to the costs for the following services:

- Disease investigation and contact tracing (and subsequent isolation and quarantine)
- Surveillance of the disease by monitoring: 1) testing, 2) the number of cases, hospitalizations, deaths, and 3) vaccinations
- Facilitate testing among health care providers
- Facilitate the planning of the vaccine roll-out with vaccination partners
- Administer vaccinations
- Provide accurate and timely information to residents

These are federal funds distributed to the state and then dispersed to counties. These grants do not require a county match.

Action:

MOTION BY KRAUSE; SECOND BY GONNERING TO ACCEPT BOTH GRANT FUNDS FOR THE EPIDEMIOLOGY AND LABORATORY CAPACITY FOR INFECTIOUS DISEASE. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow-up:

Forward to the HR Finance Committee.

- B. Resolution in Support of Increased County Child Support Funding

Discussion:

Social Services Director Vicki Tylka explained this resolution was passed to the committee for consideration by the Social Services Board. All counties have been asked to support this resolution by the Child Support Association. This is federal funding and supported by the Governor and included in his budget. The resolution can be accessed in the [packet here](#).

Action:

MOTION BY HARRIS; SECOND BY VAN KREY TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT FUNDING. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow-up:

Forward to County Board for the March 18th educational meeting.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

A. Strategic Plan Progress (Craig McEwen)

Discussion:

Vice Chair Craig McEwen recognized the committee's designated 2018-2022 Strategic Plan Objectives. (3.3, 3.7, and 7.2). He requested the committee to consider on the following three questions to be discussed at the next meeting.

1. What was accomplished in 2020 by this committee relating to implementation of the Strategic Plan?
2. What are the plans for 2021 relating to the implementation of the Strategic Plan?
3. Does this committee understand their role for implementing the Strategic Plan?

McEwen will compile updates and accomplishments from all standing committees. He encourages the committee to review the 2020 updated plan and use the template included in the [packet](#) to track progresses.

Follow-up:

Begin to fill out the template and discuss the questions above at the next committee meeting. Administrator Leonhard suggested the committee reflect on last year's agenda item discussions and actions to distinguish what the focus will be for 2021.

B. Discussion of the Governor's Proposed Budget and how it Impacts County Departments over which this Committee has Policy Oversight Responsibility

Discussion:

Administrator Leonhard gave an overview of the Governor's Budget, priorities, and implementation processes. He mentioned the three non-starter funding streams below that have the potential to generate approx. two billion dollars of additional revenue. However, according to the WI Counties Association these funds are most likely to be removed from the proposed budget.

1. Expanding Medicaid
2. Legalizing recreational marijuana
3. Tax increase on high income earners and various business categories

Administrator Leonhard and Chair Gibbs requests each standing committee to review the Governor's budget and identify funding for which the committee has policy oversight responsibilities. They ask the Chairs' to bring the committee's top recommendations to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Health Officer Joan Theurer identified the following and provided detail for each:

1. Medicaid Expansion
2. Postpartum Medicaid
3. Tobacco and Vaping Prevention for Youth
4. Public Health - Communicable Diseases
5. Lead poisoning Prevention
6. Environmental (testing drinking water)

At the direction from Administrator Leonhard, Theurer provided a brief overview of the work the Health Dept. performs outside of the pandemic and why funds pervious allocated for programs is inadequate.

In 2018 there were 33 different communicable diseases reported with 947 confirmed cases in Marathon County. The Health Dept. investigates each case to prevent further transmission and to make sure these individuals have suitable treatment. Following up with individuals who have contracted TB can be a cumbersome process.

The Health Dept. administers an immunization program that operates on some grant funding but not enough to cover all costs. They provide vaccinations, and manage a Sexual Transmitted Disease Clinic for eligible individuals that do not have any other source of insurance.

ADRC Director Jonette Arms reported the resolution that was approved at the November/December meetings to advocate for additional funding, was not put in the Governor's budget. However, some funding is proposed for the following services.

1. Expanding caregiver support
2. Increase for ADRC positions
3. Affordable internet access for the elderly
4. Affordable prescription drugs
5. Transportation assistance
6. Meal programs

Vicki Tylka identified the following areas and gave additional insight for each classification.

1. Increase funding for Child support and Child Protective Services
2. Children's Long-Term Support Waiver Program
3. Family First Prevention Services
4. Foster Care and Kinship Care Rate Increases
5. Youth Justice restructured program

Follow-up:

Administrator Leonhard will check into the timeframe of when the budget proposal is to be passed. Chair Buttke encouraged the committee to review the budget and focus their efforts on specific programs and goals pertaining to this committee and the strategic plan.

7. Next Meeting Time, Location, Announcements and Agenda Items:

- A. Agenda item for next month: 3 questions presented by Vice Chair McEwen regarding Strategic Plan Objectives; continue budget discussion.
- B. Next Scheduled Meeting: **March 31, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.**

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Buttke adjourned the meeting at 5:15pm

Respectfully submitted by
Toshia Ranallo