



HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, August 4, 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	X	
Kelley Gabor		X
Dennis Gonnering	W	
William Harris	W	
Donna Krause	X	
Tom Seubert	W	

Also Present: Lance Leonhard, and Toshia Ranallo.

WebEx/Phone: John Robinson, Joan Theurer, Julia Wicke, Julia Gadke, Amy Leitzer and other members of the public.

1. Call Meeting to Order

Chair Buttke called the meeting to order at 4:00 pm.

2. Public Comment

Amy Leitzer, 500 Grand Ave, Wausau, WI 54403 expressed concerns with increases of COVID infections throughout Marathon County due to large gatherings and unvaccinated people.

3. MOTION BY KRAUSE; SECOND BY VAN KREY TO APPROVE THE JUNE 2, 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. Request to County Board to Abolish Vacant 1.0 FTE Administrative Assistant Position and Expand .5 FTE Social Service Specialist to 1.0 FTE

Discussion:

Julia Wicke explained restructuring these positions would better align staff to meet customer needs, support services for families, and decrease the net levy.

Administrator Leonhard explained the process which is illustrated in the Marathon County Code of Ordinances. Any new position or expanded position must be approved by the administrator first, then by the related standing committee, next forwarded to the HR Finance & Property Committee and lastly approved by the full county Board. Administrator Leonhard approves the request.

Action:

- B. **MOTION BY HARRIS; SECOND BY KRAUSE TO MOVE TO ABOLISH A 1.0 FTE ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT POSITION AND EXPAND A .5 FTE SOCIAL SERVICE SPECIALIST TO 1.0 FTE. MOTION CARRIED.**

Follow Thru:

Forward to the HR & Finance Committee for consideration at their meeting in August.

C. 2022 Budget Position Requests:

- 1) Two 1.0 FTE Social Workers (C42) for The Children’s Long Term Support Program (Julia Wicke and Julie Gadke)

Discussion:

Julie Gadke explained these positions would allow the county to serve more children and eliminate the waiting list for programs. The positions are funded by state and federal Medicaid dollars and not by the tax levy. Sustainability for this funding is stable and long term.

Action:

- MOTION BY VANKREY; SECOND BY GONNERING TO MOVE TO RECOMEND TWO 1.0 FTE SOCIAL WORKERS (C42) FOR THE CHILDREN’S LONG TERM SUPPORT PROGRAM. MOTION CARRIED.**

Follow Thru:

Forward to the HR & Finance Committee for consideration in August.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

A. Update on the Start Right Program (Joan Theurer)

Discussion:

Health Office Joan Theurer gave an update on the Start Right Program and explained what the program is about, and the need and purpose as to why it is important for Marathon County. The presentation can be viewed in the packet on our [website located here.](#)

B. Health Officer Announcement

Discussion:

Administrator Leonhard praised and extended sincere gratitude to Joan Theurer for her years of service working for Marathon County and her efforts throughout the State of Wisconsin.

Leonhard reported after an extensive interview process, current Health Department employee Laura Scudiere was chosen to take over for Theurer as Health Officer. Her wide-ranging qualifications and resume can be viewed in the packet on our [website located here.](#)

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

A. Next Scheduled Meeting: September 8, 2021, 2021 at 4:00 p.m.

8. Adjournment

MOTION BY VAN KREY; SECOND BY KRAUSE TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 5:15PM. MOTION CARRIED.

[Recorded meeting can be view here.](#)

Respectfully submitted by,
Toshia Ranallo