



# MARATHON COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

## MINUTES

Wednesday, September 2, 2020 at 4:00 p.m.

Courthouse Assembly room, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI 54403

Attendance:	Present	Absent
Tim Buttke, Chair	X	
Michelle Van Krey, Vice Chair	W	
Dennis Gonnering	W	
William Harris	X	
Donna Krause	X	
Tom Seubert		X
Romey Wagner		X

**Also Present:** Lance Leonhard, Joan Theurer, Scott Corbett, Mary Palmer, Members of the Public  
**Via Web or Phone** – John Robinson, Dave Mack, Heather Kapitz, Peter Weinschenk

**1. Call Meeting to Order**

Chair Tim Buttke called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

**2. Public Comment:**

**3. Approval of the August 5, 2020, Committee meeting minutes.**

**MOTION BY HARRIS; SECOND BY KRAUSE, TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 5, 2020, HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES, AS CORRECTED. MOTION CARRIED.**

**4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Possible Action:**

A. Second Amended Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement relative to the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Central Wisconsin (ADRC-CW), allowing the ADRC-CW to deliver adult protective services on behalf of member counties if a subsequent specific agreement is reached.

**Discussion:**

The Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement relative to the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Central Wisconsin, allowing the ADRC-CW to deliver adult protective services (APS) on behalf of member counties has been worked on for many months. The agreement would move APS from North Central Health Care to ADRC-CW for Langlade, Lincoln and Marathon Counties. Wood County is not part of this agreement, as they have their own APS program. However as part of the consortium their approval is needed.

APS and ADRC-CW have many of the same clients and this joining just makes good sense.

Section 4.02(E) says the Board shall have the authority to contract with Member Counties for the provision of Adult Protective Services within those Counties. Section 5.06 has to do with use of funds from member counties.

**Action:**

**MOTION BY GONNERING; SECOND BY HARRIS TO ACCEPT THE SECOND AMENDED INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT RELATIVE TO THE AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN (ADRC-CW), ALLOWING THE ADRC-CW TO DELIVER ADULT PROTECTIVE SERVICES ON BEHALF OF MEMBER COUNTIES AND FORWARD TO COUNTY BOARD FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION. MOTION CARRIED.**

**Follow up:**

Send to County Board for approval.

**5. Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution:**

- A. Resolution to Endorse the Creation of Enabling Legislation by the State of Wisconsin for Regional Transit Authorities (RTA)

**Discussion:**

The resolution was approved at the Transportation Coordinating Committee. Nothing has been authorized by the state in recent years to create Regional Transit Authorities. It is being looked at in a number of areas throughout the state. This would allow local governments to create an RTA and go for approval by referendum. In 2011, a lot of local control was lost due to Act 10 and a number of other changes. It was a way to limit taxing authorities.

There are a number of funds that go into transportation. But there are separate funds for capital and operational expenses.

**Action:**

**MOTION BY HARRIS; SECOND BY GONNERING TO ENDORSE THE CREATION OF ENABLING LEGISLATION BY THE STATE OF WISCONSIN FOR REGIONAL TRANSIT AUTHORITIES.  
MOTION CARRIED.**

**Follow up:**

Send to County Board.

**6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion**

- A. Update on the work of the Wisconsin Counties' Association Workgroup on County Communicable Disease Ordinance Guidance (report available here - [https://www.wicounties.org/uploads/legislative\\_documents/guidance-communicable-diseases-final.pdf](https://www.wicounties.org/uploads/legislative_documents/guidance-communicable-diseases-final.pdf) (video of discussion of guidance available here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0FBaxDZwuhw&feature=youtu.be>)

**Discussion:**

Joan Theurer, Health Officer. This documents (see link above) is the result of the Supreme Court decision. It resulted in the local health officers, their jurisdiction and enforcing ability. As part of the work group – four principals were used to guide this:

1. How do we best protect the public's health?
2. How can a local government regulatory process be practically implemented?
3. How will a local government provide an enforcement mechanism?
4. How can we create public awareness, understanding, and support for health and safety in the context of the regulatory process?

Several sections were pointed out that for explanation.

- Page 5 sets out a summary of guidance
- Pages 8 - 11 are the Wisconsin Statutes and history relating to public health
- Pages 10 and 15 looks at legal authority by investigation and reporting explains the difference between isolation and quarantine.
- Page 19 gives more information on public gatherings in be both public and private entities.
- Page 27 – enforcement. The Health officer can make recommendations, give advisement, and issue orders, but there is no authority in place for enforcement.

Explanation was given that when the Safer at Home Order was given, the Secretary exceeded her authority. If you are going to draft an ordinance a time limit should be put in it for review after a certain number of days.

A directive from the Executive Committee was that this committee would need to have public comment session before we go forward with an ordinance.

It was decided that Corporation Counsel will rewrite the ordinance, publish it, provide education in

various formats and have public comment after that.

**Follow up:**

Corbett will bring a revised ordinance next month. The committee was asked to come with suggestions.

B. Update on County's work to make masks available to public accessing county facilities and discussion of how the county will respond at the conclusion of the Governor's mask mandate

**Discussion:**

Masks are required in compliance with existing mandates. We make masks available at all our buildings and are using it as an educational source for the public. We recommend and advise people to wear masks, keep their distance, avoid crowds and stay home when you are sick.

This committee needs to think about if you wish in an order and the amount of resources needed to enforce it. Start with awareness and education. The value of wearing a mask. The online complaint form decreased phone calls to the health department. The amount of resources to follow-up on the complaints to business is considerable. A masking order would be a general order – and only enforced by an ordinance.

**Follow up:**

No follow up needed.

C. Overview of County-Facility Rental Practices in Light of COVID-19

**Discussion:**

Early on we talked about how to handle facility rentals in Marathon County. East Gate Hall as an example. We no longer rent it or adopt with a safety approach. If there is a safe way to rent, we should make it available and encourage through education to do it safely. Is the decision we made early on the right decision? There is no perfect answer. If an event is being held at Marathon Park, we have no safety plan in place right now. We don't require that refuse and garbage be handled. We have a gap for rentals for less than 8 hours and less than 3,000 people. The pandemic has highlighted some of the gaps. Event policies and practices will be reviewed.

**Follow up:**

Policies and practices to be reviewed.

D. Update on NCHC Campus Renovation Project and Upcoming Renovation Planning and Decision-making

**Discussion:**

The NCHC campus project should be completed in 2022. There still remains some important decision points. A high level overview of the project was given on all 3 phases. Phase 3 is the renovation of two floors of Mount View Care Center. In light of the pandemic nursing home numbers are down.

Administrator Leonhard will meet with Mr. Loy to develop a timeline on that nursing home bed census for the renovation. The tower has 96 beds. We could renovation half of Mount View's second floor for more beds.

**Follow up:**

No follow up needed.

E. Discussion regarding County Board educational presentation on implicit/explicit bias and institutional/structural discrimination and their impact on Marathon County's ability to achieve its goals (presentation available here - <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6lxZlSeZJI>)

1. What opportunities do you see to improve our policies and practices to enhance diversity and inclusion and help us meet [Objective 3.8 of the Comprehensive Plan?](#)

**Discussion:**

The County has long standing goals relating to bias. We will be looking at internal recruiting practices. The UniverCity application we submitted had two objectives relating to racial disparity in

incarceration and doing a study of our complete criminal justice system. We haven't heard back if we have been selected.

Are educational requirements being reviewed? Share the YouTube video with staff.

The presenter did a good job highlighting why there is a distrust in the health care profession impacting racial disparity. More education to the public and medical professionals is needed. Increase diversity in health care professionals. What are the general goals in our strategic plan for Health & Human services? We should look at how we institute programs and how we measure effectiveness where those disparities exist.

MLK Day-On will have a group discussion on the video.

**Follow up:**

Each standing committee is asked to have this discussion and bring ideas/comments to the next Executive Committee meeting.

**7. Next Meeting Logistics and Topics:**

A. Committee members are asked to bring ideas for future discussion

- Future items for discussion:
  - Ordinance above
  - Discussion of Rib Mountain Bus Route (Resolution – Johnson/Harris)
- Next meeting Wednesday, September 30, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

**8. Announcements:** None were given

**9. Adjournment**

There being no further business to discuss, **CHAIR BUTTKE ADJOURNED THE MEETING AT 5:54 P.M.**

Minutes Prepared  
By Mary Palmer