



MARATHON COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

Wednesday, September 30, 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	W	
Donna Krause	X	
Tom Seubert	W	

Also Present: Lance Leonhard, Joan Theurer, Jeff Johnson, Scott Corbett, Mary Palmer, Members of the Public

Via Web or Phone – John Robinson, Peter Weinschenk, Michael Loy

1. Call Meeting to Order

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

2. Public Comment: Rebecca Teichroew, 236851 Sunrise Road, Wausau 54403 Her comment was on the proposal that powers be given to unelected officials such as the Health Officer.

3. Approval of the September 2, 2020, Committee meeting minutes.
MOTION BY HARRIS; SECOND BY SEUBERT, TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 2, 2020, HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES. MOTION CARRIED.

4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Possible Action: None

5. Operational Functions required by Statute, Ordinance, or Resolution:
A. Resolution on Weekly Bus Route Pilot Program from Wausau to Rib Mountain

Discussion:

This Weekly Bus Route Pilot Program Resolution was passed at the last meeting of the Transportation Coordinating Committee.

One Supervisor shared that Wausau Metro Ride received more than \$3 million in grants and they need to use it or lose it. The majority of riders are lower income and do not drive, who need access to reasonably priced shopping. The committee worked with Greg Seubert, City of Wausau, Transit Director and same up with 6 hours of service on Fridays from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with one hour loops at various drop off and pick up points. The Mayor is on board to share the cost. The City's portion would be between \$4,000 and \$5,000.

The committee would also like bus service out to Weston. If it can done within the \$10,000 or less for both municipalities, it would be beneficial for residents who do not have other transportation.

The funding source would not have to be added in the budget for the pilot there are two contingency funds that could be tapped. The HR/Finance contingency fund. If not approved by HR/Finance Committee, then move it to county board to come out of the regular contingency fund. That would require a 2/3rds vote. If successful, the pilot would be included in the budget for 2022.

Action:

MOTION BY HARRIS; SECOND BY VAN KREY TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION ON THE WEEKLY BUS ROUTE PILOT PROGRAM FROM WAUSAU TO RIB MOUNTAIN AND FORWARD TO HR/FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR FURTHER CONSIDERATION AND FUNDING. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow up:

Move to HR/Finance for further consideration.

6. Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion

A. Update on the Ongoing Discussions Relative to Transferring Adult Protective Services (APS) from North Central Health Care (NCHC) to the Aging & Disability Resource Center of Central Wisconsin (ADRC-CW)

Discussion:

At the last County Board meeting a resolution was passed to allow for the transfer of APS from NCHC to ADRC-CW. This will be delayed until firm numbers are received.

Right now APS is performed by NCHC. The transition is not quite ready to happen. The physical move has been made so APS is in close proximity to ADRC-CW.

Follow up:

No follow up needed.

B. Update on COVID-19's Impact on Nursing Home Operations and Census Projections and How these Impacts may Change our Campus Renovation Plans

Discussion:

Michael Loy, CEO, North Central Health Care gave an update on Mount View Care Center. Although many counties no longer operate nursing homes, Marathon County has a nice mix of beds and business is doing well. We have gone from 226 beds to 176 which was part of the master plan. Long term care has been reduced from 80 to 40 and with people staying in their own homes, it will probably be reduced to 20.

Covid has accelerated our plan and census has dropped to 154 beds. Right now there are only outdoor visits and this has made family visits difficult. People do not have a positive view of nursing homes right now and that will shape the perception and the industry. In 5 to 10 years traditional long term care will probably not exist. There is also difficulties in finding workers. With the new private/ for profit rehab hospital being built it will impact the nursing home and ventilator unit. This will impact our workers and the types of services provided. In the next 6 months the original project plan will need to be reviewed to see if we need to scale back Mount View Care Center mvc and expand behavioral health. It will change the mix and volume of beds for the organization.

Successes – keeping county owned nursing home viable; partnered with Pine Crest in Merrill with 180 beds and 140 employees. Got them into a positive dollar margin. Also speaking with Portage County about potential regionalization.

Suicides are on the increase relating to COVID 19 especially in the teenage group. It will be multi-year and maybe generational. Substantial stressors are housing, food, and employment.

Crisis contacts are increasing. Inpatient is down a little, but counseling has been done through virtual visits. There is a possible need to expand outpatient clinic.

May want to look at the reestablishing the Mount View Care committee.

Follow up:

Will be brought back at a future date.

C. What Public Engagement Strategies Should be Utilized Before the County Board Considers Adoption of a County Communicable Disease Ordinance?

Discussion:

The Executive Committee asked Health & Human Services to find a public engagement strategy. What does public engagement look like and what level of engagement is appropriate?

Although some supervisors wanted a draft to work from and share with the public, it was decided that public engagement – listening and information sessions – should be done prior to any document being drafted to take the public information into consideration.

It was suggested to use the public engagement strategy we have used before, IAP2's public participation spectrum to Inform, consult, involve, collaborate and empower.

After much discussion, it was decided that Supervisors, Buttke, Van Krey, and Robinson and Administrator Leonhard will help devise a listening session and draft a plan before the November meeting.

Follow up:

Supervisors Buttke, Van Krey, Robinson and Administrator Leonhard will be meet prior to the November meeting.

7. Next Meeting Logistics and Topics:

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

- Future items for discussion:
 - What Public Engagement Strategies Should be Utilized Before the County Board Considers Adoption of a County Communicable Disease Ordinance
 - Ask Law Enforcement Departments to Address the Issue on Crime in the Area as it Relates to Health Concerns
 - Update on Community Partners Campus
- Next meeting Wednesday, November 4, 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 5:30 P.M.**

Minutes Prepared
By Mary Palmer