



MARATHON COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MEETING

MINUTES

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

WEBEX/Assembly Room, Courthouse, 500 Forest Street, Wausau WI 54403

	Present	Absent
Tim Buttke, Chair	X	
Michelle Van Krey, Vice Chair	W	
Kelley Gabor	W	
Dennis Gonnering	W	
William Harris	W	
Donna Krause		excused
Tom Seubert	W	

Also Present: Lance Leonhard, Jason Hake, Toshia Ranallo, Mary Palmer, Kurt Gibbs, Scott Corbett
Via Web or Phone – Dave Mack, Jonette Arms, Sandi Cihlar, Eric Giordano, Joan Theurer, Vicki Tylka, Mike Rhea, Jennifer Cummings, John Robinson,

1. **Call Meeting to Order**

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

2. **Public Comment:** None

3. **Approval of the November 4, 2020, Committee meeting minutes.**

MOTION BY VAN KREY; SECOND BY GONNERING, TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 4, 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 and Letter of Support to Increase Funding for Aging and Disability Resource Centers**

Discussion: Jonette Arms requested the committee review and approve a resolution that will increase state funding for ADRC's across Wisconsin. This initiative is supported by the Dept. of Health Services (DHS) and WI Counties Associations. Marathon County is a regional ADRC including Langlade, Lincoln, and Wood Counties. ADRC's are categorized by generations, 1 (receiving the most funds); 2 (receiving less); and 3 (receiving the least). Marathon County is a first generation ADRC. Wood County is a 2nd generation, and Lincoln and Langlade were never classified. DHS put together a committee to identify and create a formula to get ADRC's throughout the state to a higher level in order to provide all their services required under contract. \$27.4 million was calculated to be spread across all the ADRC's in Wisconsin. Review of the resolution and materials can be accessed [here](#).

Action: MOTION BY HARRIS SECONDED BY GABOR TO APPROVE RESOLUTION SUPPORTING INCREASED FUNDING FOR AGING AND DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTERS. MOTION CARRIED.

Follow up: Forward to County Clerk

6. **Educational Presentations and Committee Discussion**

A. **Elderly and Disabled Transportation (Wis. Stats. 85.21) Grant Application**

Discussion: Dave Mack explained the 85.21 grant which is a specialized transportation assistance program that provides services for seniors and individuals with disabilities. The application indicates the County assures \$72,390 in local funds have been budgeted for, and will be available as the required share match.

Follow up: Action on approving the grant application and resolution will be discussed at a special meeting on

December 15th at 6:30 p.m. before it is presented to the County Board.

B. Stepped Enforcement Process under Administrative Code 145

Discussion: Joan Theurer continues to bring awareness to the committee in regards to the Health Officer's authorities and enforcement powers that relate to communicable disease control. In October she received a guidance document linked to Administrative Code 145. This document can be used in the absence of a communicable disease ordinance and can be supplemented, or support an ordinance. These enforcement actions outline are not new, and have been utilized in the past for diseases like tuberculosis. The document is intended to aide health officers, corporation counsel, and county administrators using the following three steps: An advisory, issuing guidelines to individuals, establishments, etc.; issuing a directive to those who do not comply; and petitioning the court.

Theurer identified challenges and indicated that when recommendations are made, majority of residents are supportive of preventative controls that are asked of them. However with COVID-19, there is a segment of the population that feels it is an infringement on their rights. It is also assumed that health departments and county government have the necessary resources and staff to carry out what is required. Time is one of the most important challenges identified. TB is a lengthy disease versus Covid is short term.

Scott Corbett indicated he recently attended a webinar with other corporation counsels around the state, and there isn't anyone pursuing these types of enforcement actions. He encouraged the committee to inform him if they hear of any cases through media or any other sources.

Follow up: No follow up needed.

C. Responding to the Housing Needs of our Covid Positive Homeless Population

Discussion: Administrator Leonhard indicated him and his team of J. Theurer, V. Tylka, and S. Corbett are in the process of working with the City of Wausau to provide shelter to those who are refused entry at other housing resources due to COVID-19. They are also looking into food provisions and 24/7 monitored care during the isolation time frame. The estimated housing component cost is \$20,000. Leonhard indicated there are funding resources in place already and based on financial rules, he is not asking the committee to take any action or make any budget amendments at this time.

Follow up: No follow up needed.

D. Update on Discussions with WIPPS Relative to Community Conversation about COVID-19

Discussion: Eric Giordano gave a brief [presentation](#) on how to engage county residents in meaningful and civil dialogue to lower the temperature around the highly contentious issue of reducing the spread of COVID-19.

Comments:

Getting together with all groups to have discussions to see where people's opinions are and why people are feeling a certain way and then address concerns.

Where do people trust where they are getting there information from? CDC, Health Department, media, etc.

What if the consensus is that masks do not work, where do we go from here if the consensus is opposite of what the CDC suggests?

We hope to get a dialogue but don't think there would be consensus, what we would have is a better understanding of concerns, sources of information and opportunity to dialogue with hope at the end of the day there is some kind of agreement.

How would this be implemented? Moving forward with clinical disease ordinance?

We don't have enough people to enforce, we need to get people to change behavior. How do we try to engage people to change behavior?

Give people opportunities to respond to topics like a Qualtrics Questionnaire, their opinions on masks, vaccinations, etc. and then take their info and frame it to 3 options.

What is the tradeoff, what are we willing to accept?

Follow up:

The workgroup will continue to have discussions and move forward in this process.

E. Review and Update Health and Human Services Committee's Lead Strategic Plan Objectives

Discussion: Buttke explained he will continue to work with Administrator Leonhard and Deputy Administrator Hake on the process and will be forth coming as they move forward.

Follow up:

No follow up needed.

7. Next Meeting Logistics and Topics:

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

- Next meeting Wednesday, January 6, 2020, at 4:00 p.m.

8. Announcements: None

9. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, Chair Buttke adjourned the meeting at 5:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Toshia Ranallo