

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors
Health and Human Services Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114
100 West Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. by Chair Monroe.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present, either in person or by remote attendance: Chair Kenneth Monroe; Vice Chair Kathy Ingersoll; Supervisors Brian Holt, Joseph H. Schaefer, and Ryan G. Simons; Citizen Representatives Monica Los (arrived at 2:02 p.m.), Penny Scheuerman, Dr. Richard Terry and William Wucherer. A quorum was declared.

Others in Attendance:

County Staff: Corporation Counsel/Director-Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) Michael Cotter; Director of Health and Human Services (HHS) Carlo Nevicosi; Deputy Director of HHS Trista Piccola; and Pandemic Supervisor Gabrielle Manders.

On motion by Supervisor Holt, second by Supervisor Simons, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.

On motion by Supervisor Holt, second by Supervisor Simons, the December 15, 2021 Health and Human Services Board meeting minutes were approved.

Public Comment Period – There was none.

New Business

7a) Update on Chapter 980 Sexually Violent Persons

Director of Health and Human Services (HHS) Carlo Nevicosi provided a brief overview of his Memorandum (Page 4) relative to community placement for sexually violent persons. Nevicosi informed the Board of a recently discovered rental property specifically for Chapter 980 individual(s) and noted the property will require some work prior to occupancy. He then presented the option of executing a private lease agreement and making early rental payments using county funds to secure the property until Anthony Teifke is able to take possession.

Discussion then focused on:

- The risk of incurring penalties due to the County's inability to find suitable housing for Mr. Teifke.
- The preference of Walworth County renting over privately purchasing and managing a property.
- The possibility of Walworth County bringing the purchase price of a property within the landlord's price range by offering a no interest loan and placing a lien on the property.
- Whether or not the Public Works Department could complete some of the work required on the newly discovered rental property in order to bring it up to code in a timely fashion.
- Notification has been given to the adjacent property owners of the newly discovered rental property that a sexual predator may potentially be moving in.
- What action would be required of Walworth County should a child move in near a Chapter 980 individual prior to or after placement. Corporation Counsel/Director-Land Use and Resource Management (LURM) Michael Cotter noted time is of the essence and expressed the urgency of obtaining a contract prior to a child moving in near the property.
- The State of Wisconsin ultimately has the authority to approve or deny a location.

Nevicosi requested guidance and potential action from the Board relative to: 1) Directing the Housing Sexually Violent Persons (HSVP) Committee with pursuing the possibility of making early rental payments to secure rental property for Anthony Teifke; and 2) for the HSVP Committee to pursue solutions related to supplementing a private purchase of a property.

Supervisor Holt offered a motion directing the Housing Sexually Violent Persons (HSVP) Committee to: 1) Pursue the possibility of making early rental payments to secure acquisition of a rental property until the individual can take occupancy; and 2) for the HSVP Committee to pursue alternative solutions with perhaps supplementing with loans or other alternatives to privately purchase a property by an outside buyer. Discussion then offered the request of requiring a health/home inspection to protect a no interest loan in the case of a purchase by Walworth County. **Supervisor Simons seconded the motion. Motion carried 9-0**

Report(s)

8a) COVID-19 Update

Deputy Director of HHS Trista Piccola introduced Pandemic Supervisor Gabrielle Manders who manages the logistics around COVID related operations. Piccola then provided a comprehensive COVID-19 update addressing disease trends, testing, vaccine updates and mandates. Manders provided further details regarding:

- The backlog of samples in the Wisconsin Electronic Disease Surveillance System and what the state is doing to improve their performance.
- The 5-day isolation period requirement in relation to local lab testing, reporting, and turnaround time for case management/contact tracing.
- Limited availability of hospital and Intensive Care Unit beds within Walworth County and the surrounding region.

HHS continues to focus primarily on outbreak mitigation, vaccination, and guidance to those who require it.

8b) Holiday Care Recap

Nevicosi briefly summarized the Holiday Care Day of Giving program and noted its success.

8c) Hope Squad Update

Piccola provided an update of the countywide Hope Squad initiative and community Question, Persuade, Refer (QPR) Program. Refer to Page 9 of the packet for further information.

Correspondence

9a) Caseworker Contact Recognition Letter

Nevicosi gave a brief overview of correspondence from the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families and noted Walworth County is one of the highest performing counties statewide. HHS continues to focus on reducing the number of days a child is placed in foster care, monitoring the child closely, and getting the children home safely. The Board congratulated HHS for their achievement and recognition.

Announcements – There were none.

Confirmation of Next Meeting – The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 2:00 p.m.

Adjournment

On motion by Supervisor Simons, second by Supervisor Holt, Chair Monroe adjourned the meeting at 2:43 p.m.