

**PEPIN COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES  
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**01-25-2010**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Donna Juleff, Patrick Milliren, Mike Murray, Dorothy Peters, Joan Plumer, Peggy Schlosser, Jon Tappe

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Phillip Wicktor, Dave Rynders, Christopher Chouinard, Marge Griep, Sharon Gingras, Sue Hoch (Recording Secretary)

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Patrick Milliren, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 4:45 p.m. The meeting notice had been posted in accordance with the provisions of Section 19.84 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

Public Comments on Agenda Items: None

Roll Call of the Veteran's Service Office Board Members: **Present:** Mike Murray, Peggy Schlosser, Patrick Milliren, **Absent:** Jon Tappe.

Motion by Mike Murray, seconded by Peggy Schlosser, to approve voucher #01-10 for a total amount of \$60.71. Motion carried.

Roll Call of Citizen Members: **Present:** Dorothy Peters, Joan Plumer **Absent:** Donna Juleff

Motion by Mike Murray, seconded by Dorothy Peters to approve the December 28, 2009 Human Services Board Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Marge Griep, Economic Support Supervisor, distributed information regarding the 40% increase in caseloads due to the economy. In a way to help alleviate some of the workload for the counties, the State has funding available to pilot a regional Change/Call Report Center which would allow clients to call in and report changes at the regional center instead of the individual counties. Currently, LaCrosse County is operating a call center and they would expand the center to include all the counties that are currently in the WWC Consortium. There will be additional meetings regarding this pilot, however, the funding needs to be used by December 31, 2010. Marge commented that there are always pros and cons to all changes. The workers would experience fewer interruptions from telephone calls and walk-in changes. They would save time in coding and scanning verifications, and increase accuracy. On the flip side, the change would cause confusion for the customers as to where to report what changes. Some changes will still have to be reported to the individual counties. This system will also eliminate the opportunity of reporting for one program and have this change also carry over into another program. The workers will be less accessible to the customer and every time a change is entered at the call center, the worker will have to confirm the case. Another concern is the fact that the call center personnel will not be familiar with the cases they are reporting for. There are several meetings scheduled to work through the issues, however, a proposal has to be submitted for approval. The Board inquired if counties would continue in 2011 with the Change/Call Report Center, what the cost would be for that service. Mr. Wicktor was unsure, however, at the end of the pilot, each county will have the option to discontinue participation if they wish. The tentative start up for the pilot program could be as early as April 1, 2010. The Board gave their approval to take part in the pilot for the Change/Call Report Center in LaCrosse.

Jon Tappe present at 4:50 p.m.

Dave Rynders presented the revised Policy and Procedure #400 – Transportation Services for the Board's approval. Due to the federal rate change for 2010, the payment to the driver's will go down by 2 ¼ cents. The revised rates would be as follows:

**Volunteer Drivers – MA (Pepin County residents) – Mandated Service**  
Old Rate: 55 cents/mile **New Rate: 52.75 cents/mile**

**Volunteer Drivers – Medical, but Non-MA (Pepin County residents)**  
Old Rate: 55 cents/mile **New Rate: 52.75 cents/mile**

**Volunteer Drivers – Non-Medical (Pepin County residents)**

Old Rate: 55 cents/mile **New Rate: 52.75 cents/mile**

**Volunteer Drivers – School Contract**

Old Rate: 55 cents/mile **New Rate: 52.75 cents/mile**

Motion by Mike Murray, seconded by Jon Tappe to set the billing rate for volunteer driver services at whatever is the current county mileage reimbursement rate, plus 3 ½ cents for Pepin County residents. Motion carried.

Donna Juleff present at 5:02 p.m.

Mr. Wicktor shared a letter with the Board from the Office of Corporation Counsel regarding e-mail communication which may constitute a "Meeting". A copy was given to Peter Adler and Darlene Brunner in case they wanted to share this with the full county board. The letter provided information regarding how e-mails could constitute a "convening of members," depending on how the communication medium is used.

Dave Rynders discussed the 53.10 Grant for Fiscal Year 2010 and 2011. The Human Services Department is applying to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation for a federal grant for vehicles to assist in meeting transportation needs for the elderly and persons with disabilities in Pepin County. The grant is competitive and if Pepin County was offered the grant, 80% of the cost would be offset by the state. The request would be to purchase two mini vans, with lowered floor with ramp at an estimated cost of \$71,000.00. Motion by Jon Tappe, seconded by Mike Murray to authorize the submission of the grant to the Wisconsin Department of Transportation. Motion carried. Due to the age and mileage of vehicles, if the grant is not awarded to Pepin County, and something would happen to the current fleet of vehicles, Mr. Rynders will come before the Board for direction regarding this issue. The counties will be notified in June 2010 regarding the grant.

**Human Services Financial Report:** Christopher Chouinard presented the Financial Report as of December 31, 2009. As of December 31, 2009, total revenues were \$2,382,902.63 which is 59.33% of the total budget and total expenses were \$2,390,305.54 which is 59.51% of the total budget.

**Aging Services Financial Report:** Christopher Chouinard presented the Financial Report as of December 31, 2009. As of December 31 2009, the Aging Services total revenues were \$364,942.83 which is 59.39% of the total budget and their total expenses were \$511,110.24 which is 83.18% of the total budget.

**Child Support Financial Report:** Christopher Chouinard presented the Financial Report as of December 31, 2009. As of December 31, 2009, the Child Support's total revenues were \$66,422.98 which is 102.07% of the total budget and the total expenses were \$68,647.93 which is 116.45% of the total budget.

**Approval of Vouchers:** Motion by Peggy Schlosser, seconded by Joan Plumer, to approve 2009 vouchers #09-13001 through #09-13087 plus eWISACWIS Batch 1-7-2010 and 1-13-2010 and 2010 vouchers #10-01001 through #10-01016 for a total amount of \$78,636.06. Motion carried.

There were no conference requests.

**Human Services Director's Report: Phillip J. Wicktor**

The issue regarding the hauling of garbage from the Durand Meal Site up to the dumpster at the Government Center has been resolved.

Phillip informed the Board that Human Services has scheduled meetings with Dave Rynders, Marge Griep, Christopher Chouinard, Sue Hoch, and Phillip Wicktor regarding collections for the agency. These meetings will continue to see if there are any new revenues that the agency can collect.

Larry Krcmar, Phillip Wicktor, Dave Rynders, and Christopher Chouinard met to discuss the computer work that Christopher has been doing for Human Services and other departments. The new plan is to reassign the computer duties that Christopher was doing to CR Solutions of LaCrosse. All computer requests will now be going through Larry Krcmar and he will monitor the work that CR Solutions is doing. Christopher will only be responsible for the eWISACWIS, WISSIS, and the Main Frame at the State.

There was an issue regarding the closing of the Meal Sites in Durand and Pepin on January 22, 2010 due to inclement weather. The contract was followed correctly.

Mr. Wicktor shared with the Board some new information regarding Act 78 and Act 79. There will be some training regarding notification of relatives when kids are removed from their parent's custody. There will be new rules by the State regarding the reporting a death of a child or if a child was sexually abused while in placement. There will be additional meetings regarding these acts; however, they go into effect on February 1, 2010.

The Arbitration Hearing for the Seniority Issue with the Merger is scheduled for February 19, 2010 at 10:30 a.m.

Phillip provided the Board with the yearend report for the Program and Aging Workers time for 2009.

Chippewa County would like to do a feasibility study with Dunn, Polk, Buffalo, Eau Claire, Chippewa, Pierce, St. Croix, and Pepin County in regards to utilizing Badgerland, which is currently a juvenile shelter, for adult emergency detentions, detoxification, and for children as a crisis stabilization alternative. Mr. Wicktor stated there could be a potential cost savings; however, if the cost to be involved in the study is more than \$2,000.00, Pepin County will not participate.

Mr. Wicktor reviewed the Emergency Detention Log with the Board. There were a total of 30 emergency detentions in 2009.

**Committee Reports:** Peggy Schlosser reported on the ADRC Board Meeting that was held in Osseo. Prior to the meeting some members met to go over the by-law changes. There will be an election of officers after the April 2010 elections. They plan to meet every other month.

**Future Agenda Items:** Presentation by Carol Kadinger, Director from the Bridge

There were no public comments.

Next Board Meeting: Monday, February 22, 2010 at 4:45 p.m. in the County Board Room of the Government Center.

Next Finance Meeting: Monday, February 22, 2010 at 3:45 p.m. in the County Board Room of the Government Center. Finance Members will be Donna Juleff and Jon Tappe

Motion by Jon Tappe, seconded by Mike Murray to go into Closed Session per 19.85 (1) (c) of the Wisconsin Statutes for considering employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility – Meal Site Manager 20 Day Trial Period and Volunteer Driver Application. Roll Call Vote: Dorothy Peters – Yes; Joan Plumer – Yes; Peggy Schlosser – Yes; Jon Tappe – Yes; Donna Juleff – Yes; Mike Murray – Yes; Patrick Milliren – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Murray, seconded by Jon Tappe to reconvene to Open Session. Roll Call Vote: Joan Plumer – Yes; Peggy Schlosser – Yes; Jon Tappe – Yes; Donna Juleff – Yes; Mike Murray – Yes; Dorothy Peters – Yes; Patrick Milliren – Yes. Motion carried.

Motion by Jon Tappe, seconded by Mike Murray to accept Dave Rynders recommendation of the Meal Site Manager's evaluation. Motion carried.

Motion by Mike Murray, seconded by Jon Tappe to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.

Adjournment at 6:49 p.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Sue M. Hoch, Office Manager

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson of the Human Services Committee