
Buffalo County Minutes

Committee/Board: Health and Human Services and Veterans Service Committee

Date of Meeting: Tuesday, March 3, 2020

Electronic and Hard Copy Filing Date:

Location: Department of Health and Human Services
Buffalo County Courthouse
2nd Floor Conference Room
407 S 2nd Street, Alma, Wisconsin

1. ROLL CALL/BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT

Roll call was taken. Members present were Joette Gillett, John Kriesel, Butch Schreiner, and Linda Smith. Wendy Kleinschmidt, Nettie Rosenow, and Richard Mueller were excused absences.

OTHERS PRESENT FOR ALL OR PART OF THE MEETING

Felicia Hager, Dave Rynders, Sarah Nix, Josie Knauber, Mary Hildebrand

2. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion was made by Mr. Schreiner and seconded by Ms. Gillett to approve the minutes as presented from the February 4, 2020 meeting. Motion carried.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT REGARDING POSTED AGENDA ITEMS

None

4. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – VETERANS SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT

Ms. Hager presented the monthly Veterans Services report. She attended the NWVSOA (Northwestern Veterans Services Officer Association) meeting with discussion on issues Veterans are having trouble with community care, which is when the Veteran is outside the mileage for getting to a VA facility and they must use a local healthcare facility. It was suggested Ms. Hager write a letter listing the issues Veterans are having with healthcare. The annual meeting was held on the fundraising for the brick memorial. The American Legions and the VFWs decided to join Social Media – Facebook to get information out to the public on the funding, maintenance, and care of the memorial. The VFW honored eleven Vietnam Veterans on February 22, 2020. Ms. Hager also reported she is waiting for confirmation on the grant money that was awarded to the VSO. The stats were presented and reviewed.

5. VIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – VETERANS SERVICES MONTHLY VOUCHERS

The monthly vouchers were presented by Ms. Hager. A motion was made by Mr. Schreiner and seconded by Ms. Gillett to approve the vouchers as presented. Motion carried.

6. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – PUBLIC HEALTH REPORT

Ms. Loeffler handed out a flyer on the Bridges Health schedule which provides services and support through collaborative efforts of Winona State University, neighborhood family clinics, and the WSU Foundation. The monthly investigation/case reports now include inspections, TNC (Transient Non-Community) water system samples which are facilities that serve the public and have a private well and water sample activity.

Ms. Loeffler presented the Public Health report highlighting the novel coronavirus outbreak. Staff continue to participate in regular situation update calls with the State and pandemic preparedness plans are being reviewed.

7. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH FAMILY PLANNING

Ms. Loeffler presented the mission statement of Buffalo County Public Health which is to empower communities to live better longer by preventing disease, protecting health and assuring safety. Ms. Knauber shared data regarding family planning and how it allows people to access healthcare related to reproductive health. Family planning is often the first point of healthcare for most women. Service levels in Wisconsin include dual protection and comprehensive services. Ms. Knauber shared what Dual Protection includes versus what Comprehensive services entails. Information was presented on the need in Buffalo County, the tools to ensure success and eligible funding. Statistics were shared on the return on investment which are:

- In 2010, every public dollar spent on family planning saved the federal/state governments \$7.09.
- The average annual cost of teen childbearing to US taxpayers is estimated at \$9.1 billion, or \$1430 for each teen mother per year.
- The cost of STD's to the US health care system is estimated to be as much as \$16 billion annually.

Ms. Knauber expanded on why Buffalo County would consider providing comprehensive family planning services:

- Prevent unintended pregnancy by providing (IUDs) and contraceptive implants, followed by hormonal contraceptives.
- Provide more complete care.
- Maintain a caseload instead of referring individuals to another comprehensive site.

Ms. Loeffler explained the Public Health department planned on starting dual protection services January 1st, 2020 but are waiting on a contract. Updates will be shared by Ms. Loeffler as more information is available as well as revisiting expanding to comprehensive services when a level is reached.

8. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – REVISE PUBLIC HEALTH – SOCIAL SERVICES SUPPORT STAFF JOB DESCRIPTION

Ms. Loeffler explained that every two years there is a management evaluation through the WIC program looking at policies and procedures. Preparing for the evaluation and reviewing the job description, it was discovered that it has wording that still includes Pepin County; updates were made to the job description. A motion was made by Ms. Smith to accept the revised Public Health-Social Services Support Staff job description and Mr. Schreiner seconded the motion. Motion approved.

9. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – REVISE PUBLIC HEALTH – DIETITIAN – WIC DIRECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION

Ms. Loeffler presented changes to the Public Health Dietitian/WIC Director job description which included removing Pepin County language and a title change from Nutritionist to Dietician that had not been updated. Ms. Smith made a motion to approve the revisions to the Public Health Dietician/WIC Director job description and Ms. Gillett seconded the motion. Motion approved.

10. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – REFILL ECONOMIC SUPPORT SPECIALIST POSITION

Mr. Rynders reported on the resignation of Ms. Alicia Knecht, Economic Support Specialist. A motion was made to refill the position by Mr. Schreiner and seconded by Ms. Gillett. Motion approved.

11. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – ENERGY ASSISTANCE REVIEW

Mr. Rynders reported on the completed Energy Assistance program on-site review. The audit required minimal changes which were made and communicated to the State. The State was very satisfied with the intensified Outreach efforts in the program.

12. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS FINANCIAL UPDATE

The 2019/2020 financial updates were presented by Mr. Rynders and reviewed by committee members.

13. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS MONTHLY VOUCHERS

The 2019/2020 monthly vouchers were reviewed with discussion on the multiple US Bank entries; US Bank is the new credit card vendor. A motion was made by Mr. Schreiner and seconded by Ms. Gillett to accept the monthly vouchers as presented. Motion approved.

14. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – MONTHLY UNIT REPORTS

The monthly unit reports were reviewed. Mr. Kriesel inquired on the current number of placements there are; Mr. Rynders reported there are 31. Mr. Rynders reported that The Cove, the Buffalo City congregate meal site is going through a change in ownership which will not interrupt the meal site meals.

15. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – CHAIRPERSON’S REPORT

None

16. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – DHHS DIRECTOR REPORT

None

17. REVIEW/DISCUSSION/ACTION – NEXT MEETING DATE AND AGENDA ITEMS

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 7, 2020 at 6:00 PM.

18. PUBLIC COMMENTS REGARDING UNRELATED AGENDA ITEMS

None

19. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting ended at 7:05 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Mary Hildebrand

Ms. Gillett will not be at the May 5th meeting.