**JOINT MEETING OF THE RACINE COUNTY**

**HEALTH AND HUMAN DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

**2025 BUDGET PLAN PUBLIC HEARING**

**Monday, July 22, 2024**

**Ives Grove Office Complex - Auditorium**

**14200 Washington Avenue**

**Sturtevant, WI 53177**

**HHD Present:** Valena Lena Coleman, Eric Hopkins, Scott Maier, Ernie Rossi

**HSB Present:** Brenda Danculovich,Scott Maier, Rae McWhorter, Don Trottier,

Rhonda Zuck

**YIG Present:** Luis Garcia

**Staff Present:** Steve Bedwell, Val Danculovich, Melvin Hargrove, Jelena Jones, Ed Kamin, Katie Kasprzak, Tom Kramer, Jeff Langlieb, Kristin Latus, Obed Medina,

Hope Otto, Mary Perman, Mikayla Schowalter, Tony Veranth, Amberlyn Yohn

**Others Present:** Tim Zuck

**Excused:** Robert Miller, Anneliese Oswald, Q.A Shakoor II

**Call to Order/Roll Call**

Vice Chairman Maier called the meeting to order at 5:58p.m.

**Chairman Comments/Youth in Governance Statement**

Mr. Garcia read the YIG statement.

**Public Comments**

There were no comments.

**Discuss Public Hearing Comments**

There were no public hearing comments to discuss.

**Approval of Minutes from the June 10, 2024 Joint Meeting of the Racine county Health and Human Development committee & Human Services Board**

Sup. Rossi moved for the committee to approve the minutes as submitted. Sup. Coleman seconded. Sup. Trottier moved for the board to approve the minutes. Ms. Zuck seconded.

YIG – Garcia -- Aye

**Motion carried.**

**Report N. 2024-18 Report by the County Executive Making Reappointments to the Racine County Human Services Board**

Sup. Don Trottier and Sup. Scott Maier will continue to serve on the Human Services Board.

**Review of Resolution Regarding Individual Health Decisions Pertaining to Covid-19 Government Lockdowns, Vaccine and Mask Mandates from Lafayette County**

The resolution was received and filed.

**Resolution No. 2024-37 Resolution by the Finance and Human Resources Committee Authorizing the Creation of 1 FTE Lead Youth and Family Case Manager (N126) Effective October 5, 2024 and Transfer of $24,190 within the 2024 Human Services Department Budget**

Director Otto shared that turnover is high in the Youth & Family Division, Initial Assessment area. The work they do is extremely difficult. Because of that and various factors, there is a need to build-in stability by having the career ladder to lead worker and trainer. With the amount of reinvestment and family preservation efforts initiated by Administrator Bedwell, there has been a savings close to $3M over the past couple years. Director Otto expressed the importance of reinvesting that into the staff. This request is to add a lead worker position to help support the critical Initial Assessment area.

**Resolution No. 2024-38 Resolution by the Finance and Human Resources Committee Authorizing the Reclassification of 1 FTE Safety and Security Supervisor (E060) to 1 FTE Deputy Superintendent (E065); Reclassification of 1 FTE Youth Programming Supervisor (E060) to 1 FTE Youth Program Manager (E065); Reclassification of 1 FTE Youth Program Coordinator (N125) to 1 FTE Lead Youth Program Coordinator (N126); Reclassification of 6 FTE Safety and Security Coordinators from Pay Grade N123 to N125; Creation of 3 FTE Safety and Security Workers (N120); Reclassification of 2 FTE Youth Mental Health Counselors from Pay Grade N125 to BE20 and BE30; Creation of 1 FTE Facilities Custodian (N095); Change in the Start Date of 2 Youth Program Coordinators from November 1, 2024 to October 5, 2024 and Use of Sufficient Funds in the 2024 Human Services Budget**

Director Otto described these positions and why they are necessary.

Sup. Trottier inquired about the youth mental health counselors pay grade paragraph being changed as discussed at a previous meeting. Director Otto acknowledged it had not been changed, however it will be, BE30 will be removed.

**Acceptance of the Department of Children and Families and the Department of Health Services**

**Grants**

Director Otto shared that Jelena Jones wrote her first grant and was successful, receiving the $200,000. The funds will expand the 988 crisis line services.

Steve Bedwell received $81,000 to support wrap around services with family preservation.

Vice Chairman Maier complimented the leadership team and their departments.

Sup. Hopkins moved to accept the DCF and DHS grants. Sup. Coleman seconded.

YIG – Garcia – Aye

**Motion carried.**

**Review Human Services 2025 Budget Plan and 2024 Impact Report**

Director Otto praised Mikayla Schowalter for her creativity and talent in putting together the most impressive Impact Report to date. Ms. Schowalter and the leadership team created the yearbook with the goal of helping employees to see the value of the work they do. The second goal was educational for others to learn what everyone does within the department.

This report will be posted on-line. Members were offered additional copies.

**Racine County Childcare Certification**

Administrator Latus gave an overview of what was going to be presented. She introduced Katie Kasprzak, Economic Support Division Manager, and Tasha King, Childcare Unit Supervisor.

Ms. Kasprzak described the role and responsibility of the Childcare Unit. Racine County is authorized by the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to certify in-home childcare providers. There are three categories of childcare in Wisconsin: licensed facility, certified in-home, and unregulated. Racine specializes in category two, certified in-home. The call center staff tests for eligibility of Wisconsin Shares, childcare subsidy. Ms. Kasprzak described how this is confusing and frustrating to providers and parents.

Ms. King described the levels of family childcare certification. There are two types of certifications: regular and provisional. Ms. King went through the requirements for each.

Ms. Kasprzak noted that one of the most challenging parts of the childcare staff’s job is maintaining compliance of DCF. There is an extensive list. The Childcare Unit is audited by DCF to assure Racine County is in compliance. DCF processes payment and the money comes from the state.

Administrator Latus shared that there is a new partnership between Racine Literacy Council, United Way, and Racine Co Public Health Home Visiting Program to bring more literacy opportunities and curriculum activities into homes. A contract position will be hired through United Way and trained by Racine Literacy Council to support in-home childcare providers. This new role can also help parents enroll in Pre-K and kindergarten. Director Otto added that childcare certification funds are extremely underspent, so this position is fully funded. Ms. Kasprzak informed members that providers are needed, especially west of the interstate, as well as third shift. Ms. King added that as of July 1, the income limit for eligibility increased to 200% of the federal poverty level from185%. More people are now eligible for funding.

**Correspondence and Other Business**

In response to Sup. Rossi’s earlier inquiry about ARPA funds ending, Director Otto explained that she is proposing a budget that will need to fill the gap. The executive office and finance committee will review and help determine how to make up that shortfall. She described potential options; a contingency fund reserve account or look at other areas departments to cut in the county. She indicated she has prepared the most responsible budget moving forward.

**Next Meeting Date**

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 12, 2024, at Ives Grove Office Complex, Auditorium.

Vice Chairman Maier thanked staff for their support and Chairman Kramer for attending the meeting.

Vice Chairman Maier closed the Public Hearing portion of the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

**Adjournment**

Sup. Coleman moved to adjourn. Sup. Rossi seconded. The meeting adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

**Action**

* Corporation Council remove B30 from Resolution No. 2024-38
* Send the childcare presentation to members.

**Distributions**

* Report No. 2024-18 Report by the County Executive Making Reappointments to the Racine County Human Services Board
* Resolution 8-24 Individual Health Decisions Pertaining to Covid-19 Government Lockdowns, Vaccine and Mask Mandates from Lafayette County
* Resolution No. 2024-37 Resolution by the Finance and Human Resources Committee Authorizing the Creation of 1 FTE Lead Youth and Family Case Manager (N126) Effective October 5, 2024 and Transfer of $24,190 within the 2024 Human Services Department Budget
* Resolution No. 2024-38 Resolution by the Finance and Human Resources Committee Authorizing the Reclassification of 1 FTE Safety and Security Supervisor (E060) to 1 FTE Deputy Superintendent (E065); Reclassification of 1 FTE Youth Programming Supervisor (E060) to 1 FTE Youth Program Manager (E065); Reclassification of 1 FTE Youth Program Coordinator (N125) to 1 FTE Lead Youth Program Coordinator (N126); Reclassification of 6 FTE Safety and Security Coordinators from Pay Grade N123 to N125; Creation of 3 FTE Safety and Security Workers (N120); Reclassification of 2 FTE Youth Mental Health Counselors from Pay Grade N125 to BE20 and BE30; Creation of 1 FTE Facilities Custodian (N095); Change in the Start Date of 2 Youth Program Coordinators from November 1, 2024 to October 5, 2024 and Use of Sufficient Funds in the 2024 Human Services Budget
* Racine County Memo Re: Acceptance of DCF Grant Award
* State of Wisconsin Department of Human Services 988 Improvement Funding Award Letter
* Human Services Strategic Plan 2025 Budget Recommendations
* Racine County Human Services Impact Report 2023 - 2024

Respectfully submitted by,

Kimberly R. Bartel