



SOUTHWEST HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

MINUTES

Date: December 18, 2024
Place: Lyon County Government Center
Commissioners Room
Marshall, Minnesota

Opened: 9:00 a.m.
Adjourned: 9:32 a.m.

The monthly meeting of the Human Services Board for Southwest Health and Human Services was held on Wednesday December 18th, 2024 in the Commissioners Room of the Lyon County Government Center in Marshall, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Rick Wakefield. The Pledge of the Allegiance was said.

Members present:	Gary Crowley	Dennis Welgraven
	Steve Hauswedell	Doug Nagel
	Maydra Maas	Jeane Anderson
	Mic Vandevere	Rick Wakefield
	Lois Schmidt	Jackie Meier
	Todd Draper	Greg Burger

Members absent:	Joan Jagt	Les Nath
	Suanne Ohme	Gary Overgaard
	Jim Salfer	Dan Wildermuth

Staff present:	Lisa DeBoer	Beth Wilms
	Chris Cauwels	Christine Harmon
	Chantelle Fogelson	Carol Biren
	Cindy Nelson	Stacy Jorgensen
	Ann Orren	Jennifer VanderSchaaf
	Stacey Strand	Nancy Walker
	Kristin Deacon	Stacey Longtin
	Amy Lueck	Corey Remiger
	Elaine Herrick	Michelle Salfer
	Tyler Looft	Kerry Aberle
	Amy Johnson	Elizabeth Pitzl
	Kristi St. Aubin	Leah Jesser

A. Call to Order-

B. Pledge of Allegiance-

C. Consent Agenda-

Chairperson Wakefield asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. There were no additions however had a change to employee recognition with Jenna Stephenson not being present. Chairperson Wakefield asked if anyone had a conflict of interest to identify. None were identified. He asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the November 20th, 2024 meeting. There were none. Motion by Commissioner Nagel, second by Commissioner Meier to approve the Consent Agenda with the change along with the Board Minutes from November 20th, 2024. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Introduction of New Staff-

Director Beth Wilms came forward to introduce new staff.

- Kerry Aberle, Social Worker- Primary Commitment Specialist, Pipestone

E. Employee Recognition-

Director Beth Wilms indicated that staff are present to receive recognition.

- Christine Harmon, Public Health Nurse, Redwood Falls, One Year
- Amy Johnson, Adult Services Social Worker, Pipestone, One Year
- Elizabeth Pitzl, OSS Sr., Marshall, One Year
- Kristi St. Aubin, Eligibility Worker, Marshall, Ten Years
- Jennifer VanderSchaaf, MnCHOICES Lead Worker, Luverne, Twenty Years

F. Financial-

Lisa DeBoer, Director of Business Management, came forward with the financials for the month of November. The month of November started out with a beginning balance in checking of \$2,399,720 and ended at \$3494,309. We ended November with an overall cash & investment balance of \$14,085,623. When excluding the designated and restricted funds, the ending balance for the month was \$11,164,709; which is down approximately \$900,000 from this time last year. The self-insurance fund was at \$1,485,520 as of the end of the month. Compared to

prior year, the fund is up \$622,729. To date, that fund balance is at \$1,483,424. The Fund Balances for Fund 01 (PH) was \$4,006,179 and Fund 05 (HS) was at \$7,158,530. Looking at the numbers from a budget prospective for month end, Public Health is 1% over budget for revenues and 8% under budget for expenditures. Overall to date, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$36,195. For the Human Services perspective we are 2% under budget for revenues and 2% over budget for expenditures. Overall to date, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$1,367,255. To date, all Public Health levy dollars for the year have been received totaling \$883,692 as well as Human Services tax settlement payments totaling \$13,344,093 from the counties. Motion by Commissioner Crowley, second by Commissioner Draper to move the financials to the Community Health Board. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Caseload-

Director Wilms asked if there were any comments or concerns about the caseload. There were no questions.

H. Discussion/Information-

1. Local Advisory Council

Elaine Herrick, Social Worker, came forward with a yearly update on the Local Advisory Council. The SWMN Local Advisory Council serves Lincoln, Lyon, Pipestone, Murray, Redwood, Rock, and Yellow Medicine County and meets via Zoom or in person on the 2nd Monday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. The Local Advisory Council is comprised of members who have had mental health diagnosis, community partners, as well as representatives from Southwest Health and Human Services children and adult social service programs. During 2024, 22+ community partners and individuals or loved ones with lived experiences attended the meetings. The Council continues to share information in hopes to attract new members. This year some presenters included United Community Action, Minnesota Disability Law Center, Western Mental Health Center, Greater Minnesota, Senior Life Solutions, and WRAP. There were several gaps identified for 2024 with the majority of the gaps being the same we have seen over years but the gaps are getting larger. Some examples of the gaps include transportation, housing, staffing issues, mental health beds, difficulties with insurance changes due to income guidelines post COVID-19. More gaps identified are lack of services in the smaller rural communities, increase in the cost of living, getting medications that are being prescribed in the rural area, alternative school settings for students, and medical assistance.

I. Decision Items-

Chairperson Wakefield asked if there was anything further to bring to the Board. Hearing nothing, he adjourned the meeting at 9:32 a.m.

Approved Date 1/15/2025

Authorized Bick Wakefield
Chairperson, Human Services Board

Christelle Fogelson
Recording Secretary, Human Services Board

Attest: Bedonwice
Director