

**MINUTES**  
**Iowa County – Health and Human Services Committee**  
**March 4, 2009**

1. **The Health and Human Services Committee met in the County Board Room of the Iowa County Courthouse in the City of Dodgeville on Wednesday, March 4, 2009 at 6:15 p.m. and was called to order by Sup. Bill Ehr.**
2. **Roll call was taken.**  
**Committee members present: Sups. Greg Parman, John Meyers, Mark Masters, Ron Benish, Dan Oleson, Tom Mueller and Bill Ehr. Excused/absent: Sup. John Lind and Phil Mrozinski.**  
**Also present: Neal Blackburn, Barbara Linscheid, Darin Smith and Randy Terronez, County Administrator.**
3. **Motion by Sup. Ron Benish, second by Sup. John Meyers to approve the certification of the meeting. Motion carried.**
4. **Motion by Sup. Ron Benish, second by Sup. Tom Mueller to amend the agenda to add Bloomfield Smoking. Motion on amendment passed. Motion by Sup. John Meyers, second by Sup. Tom Mueller to approve the amended agenda. Motion carried.**
5. **Motion by Sup. Tom Mueller, second by Sup. Ron Benish to approve the minutes of the January 7, 2009 meetings. Motion passed.**
6. **Open session – Comments from audience /Committee members:**
  - A. **Sup. Ron Benish introduced Al Jacobson. Mr. Jacobson spoke in favor of allowing patients at Bloomfield Manor to continue to use the smoking room.**
  - B. **Neal Blackburn, Unified Community Services updated the Committee on the following items:**
    1. **Mental Health Inpatient Psychiatric Services- use of the La Crosse-based facility will be ending and leaves the organization the state's facility at Winnebago (Mendota is always full). This will increase costs to the County as well as increase Sheriff's Department transport costs-time.**
    2. **A proposal in the Governor's budget would require the county/Unified to cover the non-federal share of mental health inpatient hospitalization costs. Up to now, the state has covered this cost.**
    3. **Another governor's proposal would require law enforcement agencies to contact Unified of a mental health inpatient client. Approximately 1/3 of clients needing transport do not need to be transported to a mental health facility. 1/3<sup>rd</sup> definitely need to be transported. The remaining 1/3<sup>rd</sup> are "iffy". The governor's proposal would require Unified to be a sort of gatekeeper so that inappropriate people are not transported to a mental health facility needlessly, thereby in some cases eliminating the need for transport and costs.**

4. **Family Care outlook was reviewed. All Family Care organizations in the state are losing money due to high cost clients being the 1<sup>st</sup> to be absorbed into the new system. Eventually (five years and beyond) the Family Care model can be financially stable but until then it will not be financially viable. It is anticipated that levy dollars will be needed to operate the Family Care program. Brief discussion given on the viability of ADRC's.**

**Under the current Family Care regulations, providers have up to 2 years to transition clients from the current waiting lists onto Family Care. The governor is proposing to extend it to three years. According to Neal, speeding up the wait list is not allowed.**

**April 2010 is the implementation date for Iowa and Grant counties, Neal suggested that Unified needs to make a recommendation to both counties. Subsequently, both counties need to make a decision on Unifier's participation in Family Care in the next few months. It was noted that the regional Family Care organization is responsible for providing a provider for Iowa County, regardless if Unified is the provider.**

**It was decided to have Neal and other s make a presentation to the March 17 County Board meeting.**

## **7. Department/Agency Reports**

### **Social Services Department**

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter 2008 Financial Report

Darin Smith distributed updated financial report and reviewed the new format. He asked the Committee for suggestions to improve future quarterly reports. The report focuses on programs that have significant levy funds. A new program is Court Ordered Elderly Care. These clients are on Unified Community's waiting lists and will be served by the Family Care. Overall the out of home costs/care are down from the prior year but this may be temporary.

Darin updated the Committee on the increase in workload/caseload due to the poor economy on the Income Maintenance-Economic Support area.

#### Governor's Budget Analysis

Darin Smith distributed handout and reviewed highlights. A major cut in the Governor's budget proposal includes the elimination of the IV-E program funds that were very flexible on their use. The

total estimated impact on Iowa County Special Services is \$225, 711 or a 16% reduction in state funds. The Department will be having further discussions on how to respond and will update the Committee.

### Strategic planning Update

Darin recapped the Paul Ohlrogge facilitated sessions. He is very appreciative of the outcome. The formal report is being reviewed. The department developed a mission statement and will be embarking on several new initiatives aimed at increasing the understanding of different functions within the department. Drin expressed thanks to Paul Ohlrogge for the excellent assistance.

### Directors Report

The new phone system has been installed and is very much welcome by department staff.

### **Health Department**

#### Agent Status Outlook

No report as the Health Committee has not met since the Grant County Board defeated the program.

### **Bloomfield Manor**

#### Water System State Report

Randy Terronez noted the department will be implementing the report recommendations.

#### Dumbwaiter Replacement

The Committee was informed that the 1962 unit has been inoperable for approximately one week and is beyond repair. In the past two budget cycles, funds have been requested to replace the unit. In 2008, 50% of the replacement funds were allocated amounting to \$18,000 and has been carried over into 2009. Quotes are being obtained and it is estimated that the total costs will be at or under \$40,000.

The Campbell Fund was discussed and it was noted that the Department has sought to use the interest earned off the principal to fund projects that benefit residents. Recent projects included: replacement of a bath tub unit amounting to \$13,000 and the cable TV system upgrade.

Discussion given on the fund balance of the Bloomfield Manor and the County's proposed fund balance policy that will recognize the need for access to emergency funds for Bloomfield and other department capital needs.

It was noted that the dumbwaiter and the elevator are the two high cost infrastructure issues facing Bloomfield Manor.

It is being recommended that the balance of funds needed for the dumbwaiter replacement project come from the Bloomfield Manor fund balance which will still leave the Manor's fund balance above the soon to be established county fund balance policy of 15% of expenses.

Motion by Sup. Ron Benish, second by Sup. Dan Oleson to approve the dumbwaiter replacement project not to exceed \$40,000 with funds to come from \$18,000 in carryover funds and \$22,000 from the Bloomfield Manor fund balance and forward to the Administrative Services Committee. Motion carried.

Resolution Supporting Supplemental Payment/Certified Public Expenditures Program

Agenda enclosure reviewed.

Motion by Sup. Tom Mueller, second by Sup. John Meyers to approve the Resolution Supporting Supplemental Payment/Certified Public Expenditures Program and forward to the full Board. Motion carried.

Bloomfield Manor Smoking Issue

Al Jacobson had approached Sup. Ron Benish about needing to re-visit the new smoking ordinance. His mother has been in the facility for five years and requiring residents who smoke to go outside in the winter will be cruel. Discussion given on the current smoking room and the lack of an adequate ventilation system that results in smoke coming into the hallway. It was noted that the facility is looking into upgrading the exterior area including a canopy walkway. A cost comparison of the outside improvement and the upgrade to the existing smoke room needs to be done.

Sup. John Myers noted that the governor's budget proposal calls for a smoking ban and will override anything the County does in this area.

Committee members are open to having a cost estimate of the inside room developed and item to be added to next month's Committee meeting.

- 8. The next meeting date will be Wednesday, April 8, 2009 at 6:15 p.m. at County Board Room.**
- 9. Motion by Sup. Tom Mueller, second by Sup. John Myers to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:46 p.m.**

Minutes by Randy Terronez, County Administrator