

MINUTES
Iowa County – Health and Human Services Committee
April 8, 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, April 8, 2009 at 6:15 p.m. and was called to order by Sup. Bill Ehr.**
2. **Roll call was taken.**
Committee members present: Sups. John Meyers, Mark Masters, Ron Benish, Dan Oleson, Phil Mrozinski, Tom Mueller and Bill Ehr. Excused/absent: Sups. John Lind and Greg Parman.

Also present: Sup. Diane McGuire, Unified Community Services Executive Director Neal Blackburn, Bloomfield Manor Administrator Barbara Linscheid and Randy Terronez, County Administrator.
3. **Motion by Sup. Phil Mrozinski, second by Sup. John Meyers to approve the certification of the meeting. Motion carried.**
4. **Motion by Sup. Tom Mueller, second by Sup. Phil Mrozinski to approve the amended April 8, 2009 agenda. Motion carried.**
5. **Motion by Sup. Ron Benish, second by Sup. Tom Mueller to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2009 meeting. Motion passed.**
6. **Open session – Comments from audience /Committee members: None.**
7. **Department/Agency Reports**

Social Services Department

Dept. Assistant Vacancy

Randy Terronez informed the Committee that a department assistant accepted an ADRC position. Conversations are underway on alternatives and update will be given at next Committee meeting.

Unified Community Services

Proposed Governor's Budget Cuts for Mental Health Services

Neal Blackburn reviewed agenda enclosure. He is the President-Elect of the State Human Services Association and has attended meetings with top state Human Service Agency officials and Wisconsin Counties Association (WCA). The Governor's budget hits human services the hardest. The 1% overall

cut is misleading when it comes to the human services area. Neal reviewed agenda enclosure showing estimated reductions for Grant and Iowa County for programs delivered by his agency.

Currently, when clients (children or seniors) need to go to a state institution, the costs are split federal/state. The Governor's proposal shifts the state costs onto the counties.

He noted that normally, the Grant-Iowa ratio is 2:1. Due to Iowa County's successful use of community-based programming, the Grant County impact is significantly greater than a 2:1 ratio.

In addition to the mental health cuts, he noted that Darin Smith's earlier estimate on Social Services Department will probably have to be increased as a result of clarification from state officials.

Neal commented on agency constraints such as wage and fringe benefit cost increase/union contract obligations.

A handout from WCA was distributed and briefly reviewed showing the impact of the Governor's budget proposal on human services agencies.

Health Department

Governor's Budget Analysis

Agenda enclosure reviewed.

Office Space Lease Update

The Committee was informed that the landlord found a buyer for the building. The department will have to move by November 1. Various office space possibilities are being investigated.

Bloomfield Manor

Dumbwaiter Replacement

Randy Terronez and Barbara Linscheid gave an update and noted the low quote is \$36,480 from Waupaca Elevator of Appleton. Additional electrical work would need to be done. The firm's references checked out including the House on the Rock.

It was noted that Committee – Board approval was given last month to go ahead with the project with a not to exceed amount of \$40,000.

Motion by Sup. Ron Benish, second by Sup. Dan Oleson to approve the dumbwaiter replacement quote to Waupaca Elevator in the amount of \$36,480 and forward to the full Board. Motion carried.

Economic Impact Report

Agenda enclosure reviewed.

Smoking Room Cost Comparison and Related Smoking Ordinance Information

Agenda enclosure reviewed. Discussion on additional cost of venting the outside smoke, installing motion sensor, etc.

Sup. John Meyer noted it was a matter of time before the state bans smoking. Sup. Ron Benish noted his discussions with Sen. Schultz regarding the Governor's proposal which would still allow nursing homes to continue to allow smoking.

Sup. Phil Mrozinski stated his firm belief prohibiting smoking.

Sup. Ron Benish repeated his concern as the representative of the Bloomfield Manor Committee to ensure the quality of patient care. Requiring patients to go outdoors in inclement weather will subject the county to liability risk – and potential state inspection immediate jeopardy situation should a resident fall outside.

Motion by Sup. Tom Mueller, second by Sup. John Meyer to request staff to obtain cost estimate for sensor and duct work. Motion carried with Sup. Phil Mrozinski voting no.

Discussion on the outdoor walkway issue will be discussed after reviewing the smoking room additional cost information.

Long Range Study Consultant Proposal

Agenda enclosure reviewed. Randy Terronez summarized highlights.

Sup. Bill Ehr stated that the County should be taking steps to no longer be involved in the nursing home business and this proposal sends the message that the County will continue to be responsible for the nursing home.

Sup. Mark Masters noted he agrees to study need but raised concern on how a project would be funded and operated without being subsidized by county levy. Randy Terronez noted that several other counties used revenue bonds a means of constructing a facility and were self-sufficient and did not rely upon the tax levy for operations.

Motion by Sup. Tom Mueller, second by Sup. Phil Mrozinski to approve the Long Range Study Consultant proposal for a Market Study to Wipfli in the amount not to exceed \$9,000 with funds to come from the fund balance of Bloomfield Manor and forward to the full Board. Motion carried.

Lobby Day – April 22

Information distributed on the State's efforts to keep additional federal Medicaid funds that generated by nursing homes – titled Supplemental Payment. Monies raised by "taxing" the nursing home beds

are used as match for drawing down additional federal Medicaid funds. The Governor's proposal calls for significant increase in the bed tax without a proportionate share in the additional federal funding.

Bloomfield Manor would lose approximately \$225,000 if the Governor's budget proposal takes effect.

On Wednesday, April 22, WCA is encouraging nursing homes to participate in a lobby day in Madison. Meetings have been scheduled with Sen. Dale Schulz at 11:15 a.m. and Rep. Steve Hilgenberg at 1:30 p.m.. Committee members are encouraged to attend.

Other

The Committee was informed that an update on Family Care will be given at the April 21 Board meeting and will include the Executive Director of the regional Family Care organization – Teri Buros as well as Neal Blackburn from Unified Community Services.

- 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. Ron Benish to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

Minutes by Randy Terronez, County Administrator