

MINUTES
Iowa County – Health and Human Services Committee
July 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, July 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, Dan Oleson, Tom Mueller, Greg Parman, Ron Benish, Mark Masters and Bill Ehr. Excused/absent: John Lind and Phil Mrozinski.

Also present: Health Director June Meudt, Social Services Economic Support Supervisor Marlin Harms, Unified Community Services Executive Director Neal Blackburn and Randy Terronez, County Administrator.
3. **Motion by Sup. Dan Oleson, second by Sup. Ron Benish to approve the certification of the meeting. Motion carried.**
4. **Motion by Sup. Greg Parman, second by Sup. Dan Oleson to approve the July 8, 2009 agenda. Motion carried.**
5. **Motion by Sup. Ron Benish, second by Sup. John Myers to approve the minutes of the June 3, 2009 meeting. Motion passed.**
6. **Open session – Comments from audience /Committee members: Sup. Mark Masters inquired on any member who could attend a SW CAP FEMA Board meeting tomorrow.**
7. **Department/Agency Reports**

Health Department

Follow Up on Needs Assessment

June Meudt reviewed enclosure and offered members the Assessment Report. She noted that Iowa County has been successful in the health area and ranks in the top 10 counties in the state. The Needs Assessment is required by the state to be undertaken every five years. Traditionally, the same issues are identified such as alcohol, mental health, etc. A follow up meeting was held last week and efforts are underway to identify ways to address the concerns.

June has submitted a grant that would promote use of fresh, locally grown vegetables and fruits as a means to reduce health risks. There are only two grants available state-wide. The state budget reinstated the Clean Sweep program and will include a medical prescription disposal component.

Office Space Search Update

Negotiations are underway with the prospective landlord Larry Schmit. As the area will be less than the current space, the rent will be about half of the current rent. This will require the relocation of the emergency Management Coordinator.

Social Services Department

State Budget Update

A summary of the state budget was distributed and Neal Blackburn reviewed highlights.

General Relief Program Termination and Burial case Update

The Committee had been previously given notice that the program would be ending sometime this year as the carryover funds have been depleted. Marlin Harms, Economic Support Supervisor updated the Committee on the program and the burial issue. The General Relief Program primarily covered emergency needs of single adults (hospital costs, housing and burials).

In regard to funding of indigent burials, Marlin Harms contacted several surrounding counties and only Green County allocates levy dollars to this function. Iowa County General Relief Program funding of burials was reviewed:

<u>Year</u>	<u>#</u>	<u>Ave. Cost</u>
2006	2	\$2,000
2007	3	\$2,098
2008	0	0
2009 To Date	2	\$2,500

Burial costs include \$1,500 to the funeral home and \$1,000 for the cemetery. Discussion given on cremation as less costly.

Staff was requested to check legal responsibility/liability and check with funeral homes on costs including cremation.

Department Report

No report

Unified Community Services

Ten Year Financial Summary

Neil Blackburn commented on the report June Meudt gave. It is a common misunderstanding that alcohol and/or mental health services- assessments are limited. In fact, an assessment can be performed within 10 days of the request. The difficulty particularly in mental health issues is that the agency lacks the jurisdiction to require a client to receive treatment if it is determined that the person is not an immediate danger to him or herself. This often frustrates family members.

Agenda enclosure reviewed. Neal noted the dramatic decrease in state funding (from 31% of the agency budget to 13%, actual reduction in staff positions while providing increased services.

8. **The next meeting date will be Wednesday, August 5, 2009 at 6:15 p.m. at County Board Room.**
9. **Motion by Sup. Tom Mueller, second by Sup. Greg Parman to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Minutes by Randy Terronez, County Administrator