

**BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**  
**EOC & Virtual**  
**September 21, 2022**

**FINAL:**  
**Approved at the**  
**9/21/22 BCDHS Board**  
**meeting**

**Board Members Present:** James Crandall, Jeremy Oswald, Lona Schmidt (virtual), Susan Rosa, Mary Dougherty, Stephanie Defoe-Haskins (virtual), Patrick Irvine, Marty Milanowski (virtual)

**Board Members Not Present:** Madelaine Rekemeyer

**Others Present:** Elizabeth Skulan, Mary Anich, Tom Croteau, Jeanine Spuhler (virtual), Carrie Linder, Heather Gilbertson, Stephanie Eder, Carolyn Novak; Mark Abeles-Allison (virtual)

**Call to Order and Introductions**

Crandal called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m. and introductions were made.

**Opportunity for Public Comment** (Limit 3 minutes please.)

No Public Comment

**Discussion and Possible Action** – Reviewed the June 23, 2022, meeting minutes.

Motion by Milanowski, second by Oswald to approve the June 23, 2022, meeting minutes as presented. Motion passed.

**Program Presentation – Congregate Senior Meals, Aging and Disability Services, Aging Coordinator-Carolyn Novak**

- Cornucopia, Port Wing and Washburn congregate meal sites opened in March.
- Volunteer hours for the three congregate meal sites and the Cable home delivered meal route have amounted to a financial impact of approximately \$30,000 in six months. The federal rate per volunteer hour of \$29.95 is used to determine the impact.
- There has been tremendous community support for all Nutrition Programs.
- Congregate Meal Sites are not charging rental fees for facility use. Cornucopia orders supplies, napkins, and coffee for use at the congregate meals. St. Louis provides janitorial services for set-up and clean-up of the meal site.
- Meal sites are not just for eating. Power of attorney parties, medication take backs, Judicare lawyers for estate planning are some the programs/education/outreach provided during the meals.
- Community Resources (CORE) had partnered with the home delivered meal program. CORE provides twenty-five clients with a frozen meal once a week which is delivered with their home delivered meal. The Northwest Wisconsin Community Services Agency also provides boxes of commodities that are delivered once per month to some home delivered meal participants.

**Monthly Section Reports**

**Support Services – Stephanie Eder**

- Nikki Falk accepted an offer of employment and will fill the vacant support staff position. Falk's first day is August 15, 2022.
- Spent several weeks working on the budget.

**BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**  
**EOC & Virtual**  
**September 21, 2022**

- Support Staff is working on cross training tasks.

**Behavioral Health & Community Programs – Tom Croteau**

- The behavioral health case management positions were transition to the section on July 1, 2022, and the section was renamed.
- Jamie Allen was hired to fill the vacant Behavioral Health Case Manager position.
- Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) continues to receive referrals. The program has also recently experienced several discharges due to participant relocations and lack of contact and/or follow through, which leads to being administratively discharged.
- In September, August Gordon will begin a paid internship position. She will work with CCS two days per week.
- Croteau received in a new Community Support Program (CSP) referral. There are now ten participants in the program. CSP provides community based intensive case management to individuals with severe or persistent mental illness.
- The Wisconsin Primary Health Care Association (WPHCA) partnered with Northlakes to apply for a rural community crisis grant which would provide \$750,000 a year for four years. The grant was written to provide five staff to respond to mental health crises, prior to Law Enforcement stepping in. Notice of whether a grant will be awarded should be available in September.

**Family Services – Mary Anich**

- Family Services held a retreat to work on team building activities. It was an excellent opportunity for the team to learn more about each other and the skills and knowledge they possess.
- Met with Red Cliff Indian Child Welfare to discuss out of home placements made by the Tribal Court. Bayfield DHS is required to provide funding for all tribal out of home placements.
- Anich attended the monthly Human Service /Law enforcement staffing.
- Anich reported one youth will be placed at Lincoln Hills Juvenile Corrections. Once placed there the youth will be admitted to the Mendota State Forensic Mental Health program. Youth can access this highly rated program for youth through Lincoln Hills.
- Anich accepted resignations from Richard Kamm and Ashley Miller.

**Economic Support Services – Jeanine Spuhler**

- Energy Assistance crisis payments are available through the summer fill program for homeowners who heat with propane. Spuhler reported \$109,000 in funds were issued to 257 households in Bayfield County. There was an 11% increase in cases this past heating season.
- Anthony Perkins submitted a resignation.
- Katy Hansen completed New Worker Training and Isabel Ford is nearing completion. Training can take up to four months to complete. Once completed workers obtain a state certificate of completion.
- So far there has been no notification the public health emergency will end.
- Each month over \$350,000 is issued in food share benefits to Bayfield County Residents.
- August Emergency Food Share benefits will be issued on August 28, 2022.

**Aging & Disability (A & D) Services – Carrie Linder**

- The Birth to three is recruiting a Physical Therapist and CESA 10 has a Physical Therapist who would like to expand into our region. This option is being pursued.

**BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**  
**EOC & Virtual**  
**September 21, 2022**

- CLTS currently has 37 youths enrolled in the program. Hayley Weyers, the Youth Support and Service Coordinator, is unable to remove any additional youth from the waiting list with compromising the quality of care.
- A second Youth Services position is still posted, and recruitment continues.
- Disability Benefit Specialist Jamie Mackin currently has 89 clients on his caseload. Social Security is taking approximately ten months to render a decision.
- BART reported they expended their annual gasoline budget as of July 31, 2022.
- To retain drivers BART is increasing wages by \$2.00.
- Door to Door services has shown a steady increase in ridership.
- The Transportation Assistance Program (TAP) has increased usage as well.

**Monthly Reports**

Monthly Financial and Training reports were reviewed and placed on file.

**Discussion and Possible Action – Confirm the committee supports an Increase in the Department’s Risk Reserve.**

Motion by Oswald second by Rosa to Confirm the Committee supports a \$200,000 increase in the Department’s Risk Reserve. Motion passed.

**Discussion and Possible Action – Appointments of Richard Avol, Tracey Snyder, and Eric Lindell as community members to the Aging and Disability Services Advisory Committee.**

Motion by Dougherty second by Irvine to approve the appointments of Richard Avol, Tracey Snyder, and Eric Lindell as community members to the Aging and Disability Services Advisory Committee. Motion passed.

**Social Work Tech Position** – A Social Work Tech position was developed and is being posted. This position will allow students in the process of securing a degree in a field that qualifies them for a Case Manager or a social worker position the opportunity to work while completing school. A commitment to Bayfield County will guarantee the student a full-time position once they have obtained their bachelor’s degree.

**Discussion and Possible Action – Review and Approval of DHS 2023 Draft Budget.**

Motion by Rosa, second by Dougherty to recommend approval of the 2023 Draft Budget. Motion passed.

**Discussion and Possible Action – Opioid Settlement Funds, review securitization options and discuss recommendation.**

- The county board is leaning toward receiving the settlement funds in a lump sum.

**Other (Informational Items)**

- CCS 2021 Quality Assurance Report
  - Referrals increased by 44% and Contracted Services decreased by 17%.
  - Participant targeted outcomes
  - Participants fully participate in service planning.

**BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING**  
**EOC & Virtual**  
**September 21, 2022**

- Satisfaction surveys are sent to eligible participants annually. These surveys are anonymous. For each survey completed, the participant or Guardian is given a gift card to Wal-Mart or Hansen's IGA.
- Participants are encouraged to participate in the Coordination Committee. One third of the committee members must be participants.
- WCHSA Priority Papers
  - Eleven topics were included. Counties will vote to identify the top three will issues. Those issues presented as priorities to be included in the Governor's budget. The remaining eight issues will continue to be highlighted as well. However, they will not be prioritized as items to include in the Governor's budget.

**Future Meetings**

- A. Wednesday, September 21, 2022, in the EOC due to a conflict with an Executive Committee meeting
- B. October 27, 2022
- C. Combined November/December Meeting, Tuesday December 6, 2022. Note: The meeting will begin with a holiday potluck.

**Crandall Adjourned the meeting at 6:11 pm.**

Submitted by Heather Gilbertson, Clerk III