

# COLUMBIA COUNTY

Health and Human Services  
111 E. Mullett Street

608-742-9227  
FAX: 608-742-9700

E-MAIL: [DHHS@co.columbia.wi.us](mailto:DHHS@co.columbia.wi.us)  
WEBSITE: [www.co.columbia.wi.us](http://www.co.columbia.wi.us)

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 136  
Portage, WI 53901-0136

## MINUTES COLUMBIA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2020

### CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Columbia County Health & Human Services Board was called to order at 1:00 p.m., by Chair Eric Shimpach. The meeting was publicly noticed.

### ROLL

An attendance sheet was distributed by Gretchen Halvorsen.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Eric Shimpach; Barry Pufahl; Denise Brusveen; Keith Miller; Doug Richmond; Tom Borgkvist; Tom Drury; Bev Muhlenbeck.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE BOARD MEMBERS EXCUSED: Dr. Michael Walters.

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICE STAFF PRESENT: Katie Day; Susan Lorenz; Becky Mulhern; Kate Young; Gretchen Halvorsen.

OTHERS: Heather Gove; Susan Fisher, Joe Ruf, Corporation Counsel; Cathy Karls, Accounting; Jim Foley, County Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair; Vern Gove, County Board Chair.

### AGENDA/ADDITIONS/ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD AGENDA.

Motion by Keith Miller, second by Tom Borgkvist. Motion carried.

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION: TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE AUGUST 12, 2020 MEETING OF THE COLUMBIA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD.

Motion by Bev Muhlenbeck, second by Keith Miller. Motion carried.

### PUBLIC INPUT

Barry Pufahl spoke about wearing masks in the HHS building as members of the Health & Human Services Board. Bev Muhlenbeck spoke about the support of Public Health by the Pardeeville School Administrator and staff after reported COVID cases in that school district.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 9, 2020 – PAGE 2**

**REVIEW DEPARTMENT BUDGET & COMPENSATORY TIME**

The Department's Comp Time Report and the Expense & Revenue report dated 7.31.2020 were presented to the Board.

**CONTRACTS, ADDENDA, BUDGET TRANSFERS, OUTLAY CHANGES,  
RESOLUTIONS AND LINE ITEM TRANSFERS**

HHS Acting Director Katie Day presented three contracts, two addenda and two Business Associate Agreements to the Board for approval.

**MOTION: TO APPROVE THE CONTRACTS, ADDENDA, AND BUSINESS ASSOCIATE  
AGREEMENTS, AND TO PLACE THEM AS AN ATTACHMENT TO THE MINUTES.**

Motion by Tom Borgkvist, second by Tom Drury. Motion carried.

**AGING & DISABILITY RESOURCE CENTER DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

ADRC Director Becky Mulhern reported safety measures are still in place due to the continuation of COVID. The ADRC submitted the 5310 grant application to purchase two additional vans. The ADRC is working on the 85.21 grant. The next TRIP meeting is on October 20 at 2:00 pm. The ADRC is still in need of volunteer drivers. Aging Advocacy will be in May. No ADRC congregate dining sites are open at this time due to COVID-19. All Home Delivered Meals continue on a daily basis for all county residents 60 years of age and older. The ADRC is continuing to encourage completion of the Census. ADRCs across Wisconsin are concerned about social isolation of the elderly due to COVID quarantines and have encouraged emergency legislation to address this issue. ADRC Director Mulhern reported the Nutrition Council meets on November 10 at 1:30 pm and more members are needed. Currently, there is not a waiting list for the Home Delivered Meals program. ADRC Director Mulhern reported that Senior Farmers Market vouchers are still available for use until the end of October. All Prevention Programs are slowly starting with class sizes of 6 participants or through virtual applications. The ADRC has many tools, resources, and products available to help caregivers in our county. Medicare Part D Open Enrollment hours will be over the phone with people sending in their paperwork. The September/October Newsletters are available and if you aren't on the list let Director Mulhern know. The ADRC is seeing an increase in financial exploitation during COVID-19. September 17 at 9:00 am is the next ADRC Board meeting,

**HEALTH OFFICER'S REPORT**

Public Health Officer Susan Lorenz reported on COVID case numbers in Columbia County. As of today, there have been 400 confirmed cases; 38 cases are currently active; 3 cases currently require hospitalization; 2 deaths have occurred; 12,363 tests have been negative; and 10 active investigations are currently open. The highest outbreak is currently occurring in the age group of 20-29 year olds. Public Health Officer Lorenz announced that Columbia County Public Health will be offering free COVID testing on Friday, September 18 at the Columbia County Highway Department with the assistance of the WI National Guard. The testing site will be a drive-thru site, operating from 9-4 on the 18<sup>th</sup> and no appointment will be needed. Residents can pre-

**COLUMBIA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 – PAGE 3**

register online. Public Health Officer Lorenz discussed a letter received last week from the County's School District Administrators. The letter was sent to all County Board members. Public Health Officer Lorenz reported that the Department of Health Services (DHS) held a meeting with schools and Public Health officials from around the State in late August during which the schools asked for metrics and guidance about reopening. Public Health Officer Lorenz advised that so far, DHS has not provided a metrics to the schools, as requested.

**ACTION ON APPOINTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR**

Assistant Corporation Counsel Susan Fisher described the steps taken thus far to recruit and interview candidates for the HHS Director's vacancy. Attorney Fisher reported that upon the conclusion of the recruitment and interview process, Heather Gove was selected as the new HHS Director. Attorney Fisher shared Heather Gove's professional background. Heather Gove provided some additional background information of her own to the Board and expressed appreciation for being chosen for the position. Attorney Fisher described the additional process for final approval beginning with the HHS Board's approval at today's meeting. Heather Gove will start as the new HHS Director on September 28. County Board Chair Vern Gove thanked Katie Day for her support of the agency as Acting Director.

**MOTION: TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF HEATHER GOVE AS THE NEW HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES DIRECTOR.**

Motion by Barry Pufahl, second by Keith Miller. Motion carried.

**TRAINING REQUESTS**

None.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

No report.

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Health & Human Services Acting Director Katie Day reported on 2 new graduates from the Drug Court program. Drug Court will return to in-person participation later this month. Acting Director Day reported on a new virtual platform project being initiated by the MIS Department through the use of Skype for Business which will assist HHS workers in providing services virtually to consumers through secure software. Currently, there are 2 Public Health Nurse vacancies in the Division of Health, and 1 Social Worker vacancy in the Division of Behavioral Health & Long Term Support. The Social Worker position remains vacant due to a pending 2021 budget request to move the position from the CCS program to the CLTS program. The ADRC is continually recruiting drivers and meal site managers. Acting Director Day thanked the Board for everyone's support over the past several months.

Keith Miller requested adding the RN vacancies to the next HHS Board agenda in October.

**COLUMBIA COUNTY HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING  
SEPTEMBER 2, 2020 – PAGE 4**

**ACTION ON PAYMENT OF VOUCHERS/FINANCIAL REPORT**

MOTION: TO ACCEPT THE HHS VOUCHER REPORT AS PRESENTED.

Motion by Barry Pufahl, second by Keith Miller. Motion carried.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next regular monthly meeting of the Columbia County Health & Human Services Board is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 1:00 p.m.

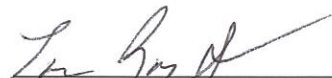
**ADJOURNMENT**

MOTION: TO ADJOURN THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING AT  
1:51 P.M.

Motion by Keith Miller, second by Doug Richmond. Motion carried.

The Columbia County Health & Human Services Board will reconvene at their regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. in Meeting Rooms #2 & #3 of the Columbia County Health & Human Services Building.

Respectfully submitted,



Tom Borgkvist, Secretary  
Col. Co. H & HS Board



Gretchen Halvorsen, Executive Secretary  
Col. Co. Health & Human Services Dept.

cc: County Board Chair Vern Gove  
County Board 1<sup>st</sup> Vice James Foley  
County Board 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair Bob Koch

gh