

PIERCE COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD AGENDA
APPROVED MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, February 16, 2023; 5:00 pm
 County Board Room, Courthouse Annex (lower level)
 124 N. Oak St., Ellsworth, WI 54011

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/84611587663?pwd=R2NyY084V0RYZzMrUVRUMFprQ1lpZz09>

Join By phone:

(US) [+1 312 626 6799](tel:+13126266799)

PASSCODE: 467144

#	Action	Presenter
1	Call to order at <u>5:00</u> pm by <u>M. Kahlow</u> Members present Neil Gulbranson Michael Kahlow Rod Gilles Members Absent/Zoom Ben Plunkett-Zoom Cindy Symes-Zoom Lynn Paatalo-Zoom Stephanie Stark-Zoom Bonnie Jones-Witthuhn-Zoom Staff Members Present: Julie Krings, Jennifer Albarado By Zoom: Luann Berger, Michelle Drury, Danielle Turner, Elizabeth Anez, Jennelle Wolf	
2	Discuss and take action to establish and approve the agenda Motion by B. Jones-Witthuhn, second by S. Stark to approve the agenda. Motion passes unanimously.	Members
3	Discuss and take action to approve meeting minutes of January 19, 2023. Motion by N. Gulbranson, Second by R. Gilles to approve agenda. Motion passes unanimously.	Members
4	Public comments—members of the public wishing to address the Board must register in writing before the meeting begins There were no public comments.	Members
5	Review monthly vouchers No questions/comments on vouchers.	Krings
6	Financial Report: Financials were in board packet for review by board members. Overall outlook is positive, expecting to end in the black. All bills have been paid, still waiting on some revenue to come in. 2022 bills will continue to be paid through February.	Drury
7	Discuss Co-Responder Program:	Krings

	<p>River Falls Police Chief has approached Pierce County asking if we would have interest in participating in a Co-Responder Program.</p> <p>Program would have Human Services Mental Health staff being dispatched on calls with law enforcement when mental health issues are involved.</p> <p>Human Services worker would wear a 'soft uniform'.</p> <p>St. Croix County has been participating for just under a year, they have offered to partner with Pierce County within the city limits of River Falls as a pilot program, considered Phase One. St. Croix County is offering to have their current Mental Health Professionals cover all calls within the city of River Falls as well as using their ARPA Funds to cover the cost during the pilot program. ARPA funds are expected to remain available through sometime in 2026.</p> <p>St. Croix County is currently running the program during peak call times, not 24/7.</p> <p>The Co-Responder Program saves law enforcement time, the Mental Health workers are able to assist in de-escalation and crisis prevention plans allowing officers to be cleared from the scene in a timely manner and at the same time preventing some arrests.</p> <p>The program has proven to reduce the number of arrests and hospitalizations as well as reducing the number of repeat crisis callers.</p> <p>Phase Two would be staffing to serve all of Pierce County.</p>	
8	<p>Discuss and take action on 2022 Annual Report: Question regarding verbiage discussed and answered. Motion to approve by R. Gilles, Second by L. Paatalo. Motion passed unanimously.</p>	Krings
9	<p>Director's Report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *Governor came out with the budget for the bi-annual budget process. *DHS budget priorities for 2023 are focused on adult protection and community support. *Pierce County buildings have become warming houses for the homeless, workers have been networking for options and resources for these individuals. *Number of vacant positions within DHS is currently much lower than in the recent past. Currently 2 CCS positions are open, these are newly created positions. CPS has 1 open position, a hold has been placed on hiring until some of the current new hires have been trained in. One Mental Health Therapist remains open. Lead ES worker has resigned. Signing bonus seems to have helped with number of quality applicants. *Public Health Emergency is coming to an end, Economic Support workers are gearing up to be ready when it ends. *Grant received in coordination with Barron, St. Croix, and Polk counties aimed at creating resources for higher activity 	Krings

	<p>children. Pierce County has several individuals with complex mental health issues and are having a hard time finding resources, many of these cases end up in out of home placement.</p> <p>*Nutrition Coordinator position is coordinating informational seminars at senior dining sites. This month is ID Theft Prevention.</p>	
10	<p>Future Agenda items: Transportation options within ADRC and "Stay Incentives" for current employees.</p>	Members
11	<p>Next meeting date: March 16, 2023</p>	Members
12	<p>Adjourn Motion by <u>N. Gulbranson</u> Second by <u>B. Plunkett</u> to adjourn meeting. Motion passes unanimously. Meeting adjourned at <u>5:38 pm</u>.</p>	Members
	<p>Questions regarding this agenda may be made to <u>Pierce County Human Services</u> at 715-273-6766.</p>	
	<p>Upon reasonable notice, efforts will be made to accommodate the needs of individuals with disabilities requiring special accommodations for attendance at the meeting. For additional information or to make a request, contact the Administrative Coordinator at 715-273-6851.</p>	

A quorum of County Board supervisors may be present.

JA: /2023