



Florence County Human Services Department  
501 Lake Avenue, Courthouse Lower Level  
PO Box 225 Florence, WI 54121

Ann Price, Director

Charles Kellstrom, Chairperson

Phone 715-528-3296

FAX 715-528-3341

TTY 715-528-5023

---

**Florence County Human Services Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, January 23, 2025 @ 6:00PM**  
**Upstairs Conference Room**

**Present:** Chase Erickson, Dwaine Drewa, Al Williams (by phone), Karen Thompson, Tom Jonet, Cindy Donahue, Sherry Johnson, Charles Kellstrom, Vicki Antonini

**Others:** Ann Price, Erica Hallgren

**Excused:** N/A

**Roll Call:** The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Charles Kellstrom at 6:05pm. Roll call noted members present with those noted either excused or absent.

**Agenda:** Motion by S. Johnson, supported by, C. Erickson to approve the agenda as posted. The agenda was approved unanimously.

**Minutes:** Motion by S. Johnson, supported by V. Antonini, to approve minutes from December 12 & December 19, 2024. The minutes were unanimously approved.

**Reports:**

**Financial Reports:**

Motion by S. Johnson, supported by D. Drewa, to accept December expenditures. Unanimously approved. The Financial Manager also handed out information on the 2024 budget and what the projected overage would be and why. The financial manager updated the board members on the County Program and Grants Spreadsheet that all HSD grants are in the spreadsheet but working on the increase or decrease of the dollar amounts quarterly with the finance director. An appointment has been set to discuss this with Finance Department in February 2025.

**Unit Reports:**

**Child & Family Unit- Discussion & Community Services Unit Discussion:**

The Director updated the board on the heavy caseloads the department is facing and she explained the year-end totals. C. Erickson asked if the board could get a spreadsheet with year-to-year totals. The Director informed the board that there could be a spreadsheet created but it would have to be from 2022 to current because that is when she on boarded.

Respectfully submitted by: Erica Hallgren

### **NIMC:**

The Director informed that the staff is still getting 100% on their feedback reports. She also informed the board that current contracts have not been signed because of another county has not signed yet. There are multiple concerns from the consortia counties that there is State mandated services not being provided from one county which is increasing the workload and related NIMC duties for all of the other counties because the one county cannot provide all required services. This questions if the Director would want to combine services if we are to start up a CCS program. Price feels that the board should be aware as this failure to provide services in one county may potentially increase the cost to Florence and the other consortia counties by having to provide those services to the members of the non-participatory county Price will keep the board updated on this matter as she learns more.

### **Coordinated Services Team (CST):**

As of right now Price is putting in the time required for this program to keep our funding going, and if a new staff were to be hired, they would be working out of this program.

### **Recovery Coach:**

Director updated the board on the services that are offered from the Recovery Coach and that she would be running our State Opioid Grant (SOR) for our youth.

## **Directors Reports:**

### **Out of County Training Log:**

E. Koski would like to attend Elder Abuse Training on 3/12/2025 in Green Bay. There was a motion by S. Johnson, supported by, C. Donahue. Unanimously approved.

### **Staffing Log Updates:**

The Director updated on staffing.

### **Purchasing of a Mini Van:**

There was discussion on HSD purchasing a second vehicle, the board recommended going to Finance to see if funds are left over from 2024 to move to 2025. After a discussion with county finance director, HSD will gather up information on purchasing a new vehicle and put as an agenda item for the board to vote.

### **Hiring of New Employee:**

Director informed the board on a new grant that she applied for, this would help HSD becoming DHS, ch.34 Certified, and with that and the position, we currently have vacant, discussion followed. There was a motion by V. Antonini, supported by S. Johnson to have a blanket motion to review/change job description to a caseworker if needed and also to post and advertise. Unanimously approved.

### **WCHSA:**

Director updated the board on the fall conference that she attended she also noted that at the conference there was discussion on the CALM App and how beneficial it

would be for staff to have because of the high stress that the department deals with. Price asked the board for approval to order the CALM App for staff the cost would be around \$100.00 for 5-6 accounts and two accounts would need to be purchased for the number of staff in HSD. There was a motion by S. Johnson, seconded by D. Drewa. Unanimously approved.

**Board Member Questions:**

There was a question from K. Thompson about ADAPT and staff providing transportation. The Director discussed that if all resources are exhausted and a client still needs a ride, staff would provide that, but as last resort.

There was also a youth question, the Director updated board and discussion followed.

**Board Member Comments for Future Agenda Items:** None voiced.

**Next meeting: Thursday, March 27, 2025 at 6:00pm in Upstairs Conference Room**

**Adjourn**