

**DAKOTA COUNTY
COMMUNITY SERVICES COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

Meeting Minutes

**February 11, 2020
Conference Room 520, Northern Service Center**

Call To Order And Roll Call

Commissioner Mike Slavik
Commissioner Kathleen A. Gaylord
Commissioner Thomas A. Egan
Commissioner Joe Atkins
Commissioner Liz Workman
Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg
Commissioner Chris Gerlach

Also in attendance: Matt Smith, County Manager; Peggy Horsch, Assistant County Attorney; Stephanie Radtke, Deputy Director; Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator.

The meeting was called to order at 10:51 a.m. by the Chair, Mary Liz Holberg.

The audio of this meeting is available upon request.

Introductions

Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg initiated introductions of the following staff: from Employment and Economic Assistance, Mohamed Ali introduced Iskander Ararso, Kris Lavik introduced Seiquayia Morris and Ashley Lopez and Lori Hoff introduced Charles Potter; from Public Health, Michelle Trumpy introduced Lisa Klotzbach; from Social Services, Krystal Whisler introduced Summer Mitchell and Taylor Cathey and Pat Kuehn introduced Callan Billings and Carri Kioski.

Audience

Commissioner Mary Liz Holberg asked if anyone would like to address the committee. No one appeared.

Approval Of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

On a motion by Commissioner Mike Slavik, seconded by Commissioner Thomas A. Egan, the agenda was unanimously approved.

Consent Agenda

On a motion by Commissioner Liz Workman, seconded by Commissioner Mike Slavik, the consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

5.1 Approval Of Minutes

5.2 Authorization To Execute Contract For Emergency Shelter Services With Dakota Woodlands Using Emergency Assistance Funding

WHEREAS, the housing section in the Social Services Department contracts for services across the housing

service continuum, including for emergency shelter; and

WHEREAS, in order to ensure high quality services, a Request for Proposals was issued on September 11, 2017, for multiple housing services, including emergency shelter for families; and

WHEREAS, a review committee comprised of staff from across Community Services, the Community Development Agency, and the community reviewed and scored proposals and one vendor applied for family shelter services; and

WHEREAS, Dakota Woodlands, a 22-room shelter in Eagan, was approved through this process to receive County levy funds for emergency shelter services for families; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 19-850 (November 26, 2019), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized a contract with Dakota Woodlands for emergency shelter services for \$150,860 for the period of January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, due to the current mix of funding flowing to Dakota Woodlands, levy funds issued in the 2020 contract will be used to offset costs for children not covered by Emergency Assistance; and

WHEREAS, Emergency Assistance pays for up to 60 days of emergency shelter services at Dakota Woodlands for children eligible for Emergency Assistance funding and has done so historically without a contract in place; and

WHEREAS, to ensure high quality services and accountability, staff now recommends entering into a contract with Dakota Woodlands for emergency shelter services for children eligible for Emergency Assistance funding in an amount not to exceed \$187,500 for the period of March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a contract with Dakota Woodlands for emergency shelter services funded through Emergency Assistance for children in an amount not to exceed \$187,500 for the period of March 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Community Services Director is hereby authorized to amend said contract, within the amount budgeted, to alter the number and types of clients served, types of services provided, service expectations and rates, and the contract term, consistent with County contracting policies; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contract shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contract in the event sufficient funds from state or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

5.3 Authorization To Respond To Request For Assessment Of Need/Letter Of Support From Gateway Recovery

WHEREAS, under Minn. Rules, Part 9530.6800, the need for additional or expanded chemical dependency treatment programs must be determined, in part, based on the recommendation of the county board of commissioners of the county in which the program will be located and the documentation submitted by the applicant at the time of application to the Minnesota Department of Human Services (DHS) for licensing ; and

WHEREAS, under Minn. Rules, Part 9530.6810, when an applicant for licensure for chemical dependency treatment services requests a written statement of support for a proposed chemical dependency treatment program, the county board of commissioners of the county in which the proposed program is to be located shall submit a statement to the DHS Commissioner that either supports or does not support the need for the applicant's program; and

WHEREAS, on January 6, 2020, Dakota County received a request from Drew Horowitz, Owner, Gateway Recovery, requesting a written statement that supports the need for the program; and

WHEREAS, local needs assessment information suggests a need for the type of chemical dependency treatment services proposed; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County is not taking any position about Gateway Recovery's qualifications or ability to meet identified needs; and

WHEREAS, the DHS will process Gateway Recovery's request for a license to provide services in their location in Dakota County.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorizes the Community Services Director to issue a letter to the Minnesota Department of Human Services stating the following; "Please consider this letter as Dakota County's support for a chemical dependency treatment program in Dakota County as proposed by Gateway Recovery."

Regular Agenda

6.1 Law Enforcement Social Services Coordinated Response Pilot Update

Evan Henspeter, Director, and Emily Schug, Deputy Director, both from Social Services, presented on this item. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes only. Staff was directed by the Committee that as part of the evaluation measures they are working to better develop, consideration be given to include reporting on the positive financial benefits.

6.2 Authorization To Continue Dakotalink Transportation Pilot And Execute A Contract With Minnesota Coaches, Incorporated, Dba, Hastings Bus Company

Brian Kopperud, Director of Community Corrections, Evan Henspeter, Director of Social Services, and Robin Bernardy, Transportation Coordinator, presented on this item and stood for questions. Staff was asked by the Committee to consider stops in Rosemount and Inver Grove Heights; to continue to look for funding sources; and, to report on the number of missed court dates before and after the pilot with the knowledge that a direct correlation to DakotaLink cannot be made.

On a motion by Commissioner Thomas A. Egan, seconded by Commissioner Mike Slavik, the following resolution was unanimously recommended to the County Board:

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 19-680 (August 20, 2019), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized a Phase II Transportation pilot for a six-month period for loop transportation to and from Hastings three times per day, and the pilot was for individuals accessing Dakota County and District Court services or leaving jail; and

WHEREAS, as a result, staff executed a six-month contract with the Hastings Bus Company to provide transportation services for the DakotaLink Transportation Pilot in a contract not to exceed amount of \$60,870 for the period of September 1, 2019 through March 31, 2020, and used Budget Incentive Program (BIP) funds to fund this pilot; and

WHEREAS, DakotaLink stops at the Hastings Judicial Center, Cedar Grove Transit Center, and Signal Hills Shopping Center, and makes three loops per day; and

WHEREAS, the transportation loop assists individuals leaving jail to reach public transportation hubs throughout the County and it also assists individuals in accessing Dakota County services as well as District Court services; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends continuing the DakotaLink Transportation Pilot for an additional twelve months beginning on April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021, and executing a new contract with the Hastings Bus Company in a not to exceed contract amount of \$121,740 for that time period; and

WHEREAS, staff also recommends allowing public ridership during this new phase of the pilot to maximize utilization of the bus service; and

WHEREAS, during the first six months of this phase, staff will explore options for revenue collection from public ridership, such as farebox recovery, partnerships with local cities, etc.; and

WHEREAS, these options will be reported back to the County Board in September 2020 for consideration and approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to continue the DakotaLink Transportation Pilot for another twelve-months, allowing the general public to ride the loop services, beginning April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a contract with Minnesota Coaches, Incorporated, dba, Hastings Bus Company, in a contract not to exceed amount of \$121,740 for the period of April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That \$60,870 of the contract expense will be funded with Community Services Budget Incentive Program funds and the remaining \$60,870 of the contract expense will be funded with the Transportation Sales and Use Tax; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Community Services Director is hereby authorized to amend said contract, alter the number and types of clients served, types of services provided, reporting requirements, contract amount and contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to the approval of the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contract shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contract in the event sufficient funds from county, state, or federal sources are not appropriated at a level sufficient to allow payment of the amounts due.

6.3 Pathways To Prosperity And Well-Being Overview

Kate Lerner, Director of Community Services Administration, Marti Fischbach, Director of Employment and Economic Assistance, and Evan Henspeter, Director of Social Services, presented on this item and stood for questions. This item was on the agenda for informational purposes only. No staff direction was given by Committee members.

Community Services Directors Report

Matt Smith, County Manager and Acting Director of Community Services, gave the floor to Bonnie Brueshoff, Director of Public Health, who informed the Board that the Minnesota Department of Health has awarded funding to Suicide Awareness Voices of Education (SAVE) to support a four-year Suicide Prevention project to coordinate, implement, and evaluate a comprehensive prevention program comprised of strategies recommended by the CDC and the National Suicide Prevention Resource Center. SAVE selected Dakota County to be the implementation site due to the County's existing work with mental health and strong connections with the community. Key staff from Public Health, Social Services, Community Corrections, Veteran's Services, the Sheriff's Office, and the County Attorney's Office will serve on the Project's Executive Committee. A news conference will be held on February 20, 2020 at Dakota County's Northern Service Center in room 520 from 9:00am to 9:30am to kick-off the project and Commissioner Holberg will provide opening remarks.

Adjournment

On a motion by Commissioner Mike Slavik, seconded by Commissioner Thomas A. Egan, the meeting was adjourned at 12:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator
Community Services Division