



Dakota County

Community Services Committee of the Whole

Minutes

Tuesday, November 29, 2022

9:00 AM

Conference Room L139 Western
Service Center, Apple Valley

1. Call To Order And Roll Call

Present: Commissioner Slavik, Commissioner Gaylord, Chairperson Halverson, Commissioner Workman, Commissioner Holberg and Commissioner Hamann-Roland

Absent: Commissioner Atkins

Commissioner Atkins was present via Zoom, but was not part of the voting quorum for the meeting.

Also in attendance were Matt Smith, County Manager; Jen Wolf, Assistant County Attorney; Marti Fischbach, Community Services Division Director; Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by the Chair, Commissioner Laurie Halverson.

The audio of this meeting is available upon request.

2. Audience

Commissioner Laurie Halverson asked if there was anyone in the audience that wished to address the Committee. No one came forward. Written comments were submitted from Jane Ferguson regarding the provision of the quality and quantity of food available at Neighbors, Inc., in northern Dakota County as compared to that provided at other food banks in southern Dakota County.

3. Approval Of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

3.1 Approval Of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions)

Motion: Mary Hamann-Roland

Second: Kathleen A. Gaylord

On a motion by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, seconded by Commissioner Gaylord, the agenda was unanimously approved. The motion carried unanimously.

Ayes: 6

4. Consent Agenda

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

On a motion by Commissioner Workman, seconded by Commissioner Hamann-Roland, the

consent agenda was unanimously approved as follows:

4.1 Approval Of Minutes Of Meeting Held On November 1, 2022

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

4.2 Authorization To Execute Contract With Avivo For Minnesota Family Investment Program Employment Services

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, Dakota County implements Minnesota Family Investment Programs (MFIP) to eligible Dakota County residents; and

WHEREAS, a competitive Request for Proposal (RFP) for MFIP Employment Services was issued on August 29, 2016; and

WHEREAS, upon careful review of the proposals, the Evaluation Committee members of the Dakota-Scott Workforce Development Board (WDB) selected the proposal for Avivo, and the WDB approved the committee's recommendation at its October 21, 2016, meeting; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 21-583 (December 14, 2021), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized execution of a contract with Avivo for the provision of MFIP Employment Services in an amount not to exceed \$983,244 for the period of January 1, 2022 through December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the WDB Executive Committee has recommended executing a contract with Avivo and on October 28, 2021, the WDB approved executing a contract with Avivo in an amount not to exceed \$1,043,244 for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends executing a contract with Avivo in an amount not to exceed \$1,043,244 for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a contract with Avivo to provide employment and obtain case management services and job club services for Minnesota Family Investment Programs participants in an amount not to exceed \$1,043,244 for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, 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, consistent with the Minnesota Family Investment Programs Employment Services grants awarded by the Minnesota Department of Human Services and the Minnesota Department of Employment

and Economic Development, to alter the number and types of clients served, types of services provided, contract amount, reporting requirements, and contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this 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.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 12/13/2022.

4.3 Authorization To Accept A Gift From HealthPartners To Dakota County In Support Of Public Health And Amend 2022 Public Health Budget

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, by Resolution No. 09-246 (May 19, 2009), it is required that gifts of real or personal property exceeding \$500 in value must be accepted by resolution of the County Board; and

WHEREAS, in September 2022, Dakota County received notification of being awarded an unrestricted grant in the amount of \$100,000 in support of the work in the Public Health Department; and

WHEREAS, the goal is that Dakota County uses the grant to benefit HealthPartners Medicaid members which may include the following activities:

- General support done by both public health and social services
- Support family home visiting
- Support behavioral health care and services
- Support services needs post pandemic

; and

WHEREAS, a letter signed by the Board Chair will be sent to HealthPartners to thank them for their contribution to the Public Health Department; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Public Health Department recommends acceptance of this gift and an amendment to the budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby accepts the gift from HealthPartners and expresses its appreciation for this generous gift; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the 2022 Public Health Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Expense

Program Expenses \$100,000

Total Expense \$100,000

Revenue

Grant Revenue \$100,000

Total Revenue \$100,000

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 12/13/2022.

4.4 Authorization To Execute Joint Powers Agreement With Independent School District 196 For Infant Feeding Support Group

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, research shows that breastfeeding offers many health benefits for infants and mothers, as well as potential economic and environmental benefits for communities; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County Public Health identified a need for services around lactation and breastfeeding support to residents in Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, lactation support is limited in Dakota County, not only within the community, but also within the health care setting; and

WHEREAS, of the three hospitals that are located within Dakota County, Fairview Ridges Hospital had the largest percentage of births at 48 percent (data from 2018 births) and most hospitals offer outpatient lactation support, but transportation can be a barrier, especially considering that majority of births of Dakota County residents occur outside of the county according to the 2015 Dakota County Community Breastfeeding Assessment; and

WHEREAS, the assessment also identified many clinics refer lactation concerns to one central clinic, which typically was outside of Dakota County; and

WHEREAS, the first twelve weeks of an infant's life are a critical time for infant nutrition, especially breastfeeding; and

WHEREAS, Dakota County Public Health and Independent School District 196 (ISD 196) Early Childhood Family Education are partnering to provide a weekly infant feeding support group at the Dakota Valley Learning Center in Apple Valley; and

WHEREAS, the group facilitators include Family Home Visiting nurses, Women, Infants and Children lactation consultants, and an ISD 196 parent educator; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the group is to provide families an opportunity to have access to lactation support, information, and assistance from peers and lactation professionals on a consistent and regular basis at critical points during early infant nutrition with the target audience being families providing human milk to their infants within Dakota County in the target age of newborn to 12 weeks; and

WHEREAS, there is no cost to families, and they can continue to participate after 12 weeks of age if they desire; and

WHEREAS, the group will be open to pregnant individuals looking for lactation information, support, and connection with others in the community; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends executing a joint powers agreement (JPA) with ISD 196 for the parties to agree to their respective responsibilities, effective upon execution of the JPA through June 30, 2024; and

WHEREAS, staff recommends authorizing approval for an amendment for one year through June 30, 2025, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, The Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a joint powers agreement with Independent School District 196 for an infant feeding support group effective upon execution of the parties through June 30, 2024, 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 joint powers agreement contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 12/13/2022.

4.5 Authorization To Execute Amendment With 360 Communities For Family Homelessness Prevention And Assistance Utilizing Minnesota Housing Finance Agency Program Grant Funds

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, the Minnesota Legislature established the Family Homelessness Prevention and Assistance Program (FHPAP) in 1993 to assist families with children, youth and single adults who are homeless or are at imminent risk of homelessness; and

WHEREAS, by Minn. Stat. § 462A.204, FHPAP grant funding must be administered by counties in the metro area who, in turn, may sub-grant some or

all funds to other entities; and

WHEREAS, funding is awarded through a competitive grant application process with predetermined criteria in four categories: planning, project design, program capacity/performance and need; and

WHEREAS, Minnesota Statute also requires the establishment of an advisory committee to assist in preparing the project proposal and the design, implementation, and evaluation of the project; and

WHEREAS, the Dakota County Affordable Housing Coalition (AHC) acts as the FHPAP Advisory Committee and a community-based subcommittee has been established by the AHC to help inform project direction and priorities; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution 21-260 (May 18, 2021), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized executing contracts for the provision of FHPAP, utilizing the grant funds that were authorized under the same resolution; and

WHEREAS, this resolution included authorization to contract with 360 Communities in an amount not to exceed \$293,308 for homelessness prevention services; and

WHEREAS, due to changes in the provision of FHPAP grant services approved by the Minnesota Housing Finance Agency, staff recommends amending the 360 Communities FHPAP contract by an additional \$136,967 to an amount not to exceed \$430,275 through September 30, 2023; and

WHEREAS, 360 Communities will provide additional homelessness prevention services as well as rapid re-housing services.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That, the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute an amendment with 360 Communities in an amount not to exceed \$430,275 for the Family Homeless Prevention and Assistance Program for the period of September 1, 2021 through September 30, 2023, 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 contracts, within the amount budgeted, to alter the number and types of clients served, type of services provided, and the contract term, consistent with County contracting policies, subject to approval by the County Attorney's Office as to form; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the contracts shall contain a provision that allows the County to immediately terminate the contracts 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.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 12/13/2022.

4.6 Authorization To Execute Contract With 360 Communities For Dakota County Housing Clinic Housing Support Workers

Motion: Liz Workman

Second: Mary Hamann-Roland

WHEREAS, Dakota County Social Services staff, Dakota County Courts and partners have collaborated to create an eviction court clinic called the Dakota County Housing Clinic (DCHC); and

WHEREAS, the DCHC is a voluntary program that offers support, including legal assistance, financial assistance, and access to housing support services, to tenants at the first appearance for eviction cases; and

WHEREAS, housing support workers are present at court hearings scheduled three days per week; and

WHEREAS, these positions work with the courts, do pre-court outreach to tenants, connect tenants to resources and services, provide support for applications for federal Emergency Rental Assistance (ERA), Emergency Assistance and Emergency General Assistance funds, and assist with communication and coordination between tenants, landlords and courts; and

WHEREAS, on August 1, 2021, Dakota County entered into a contract with 360 Communities to begin this work for \$99,000 for the period of August 1, 2021 through September 30, 2022; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution 21-415 (August 24, 2021), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized an amendment to add an additional \$56,000 for additional services in the same contract period, for a total not to exceed contract amount of \$155,000 effective upon execution which was fully funded with Emergency Rental Assistance funds for Housing Stability Services, including court coordination services; and

WHEREAS, with the passage of the Eviction Moratorium Off-Ramp legislation, the DCHC planning committee anticipated a high volume of evictions to be filed and a high volume of cases to flow through eviction court; and

WHEREAS, to accommodate this work, Social Services proposed to add three additional Housing Support Worker positions to DCHC via a contract with 360 Communities; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution 22-295 (July 19, 2022), the Dakota County Board of Commissioners authorized an amendment to add an additional \$82,835 to the

contract for a total of \$237,835 and extend the term to December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the additional time has allowed this team to continue serving clients in eviction court and the additional funds will allow this team to expand by one full-time Housing Support Worker; and

WHEREAS, to support continued Housing Clinic activities, staff proposes a new contract with 360 Communities for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, for a total not to exceed amount of \$359,276.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Dakota County Board of Commissioners hereby authorizes the Community Services Director to execute a contract with 360 Communities for housing clinic housing support workers funded by the Emergency Rental Assistance funds for Housing Stability Services for a total not to exceed contract amount of \$359,000, for the period of January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023, 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, subject to the approval by 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.

This item was approved and recommended for action by the Board of Commissioners on 12/13/2022.

5. Regular Agenda

5.1 Update On Dakota County Opioid Settlement Response

Gina Adasiewicz, Public Health Director, and Madeline Goebel, Management Fellow, presented on this item and stood for questions. Members of the audience also addressed the Committee: Brian Wicke, South St. Paul Chief of Police; Mikael Dahlstrom, Rosemount Chief of Police; Dave Wilske, Hastings Chief of Police; Kelly McCarthy, Mendota Heights Chief of Police. The Committee requested that staff return to the Community Services Committee of the Whole on January 10, 2023, with additional information: 1) Data on what the cities want, provide an analysis on the amount of funding we could give the cities who did not receive any State funds, 2) Analysis of current county programs and a cost estimate along with evidence and outcomes, and 3) Three to five year funding estimate.

Information only; no action requested.

5.2 Update On Emergency Shelter Development

Evan Henspeter, Director, and Madeline Kastler, Deputy Director, both from Social Services presented on this item and stood for questions. Staff was asked to return to a future Community Services Committee of the Whole with updated cost estimates and site or other options for the shelter build.

Information only; no action requested.

6. Community Services Directors Report

Marti Fischbach, Division Director, highlighted a few items in the written report that was provided to the Committee. Ms. Fischbach noted that there was a recent news article on Bridges, a group home provider, and additional information is coming from the Minnesota Department of Human Services at which point a more detailed report will be provided to the Commissioners.

7. Adjournment

7.1 Adjournment

Motion: Mike Slavik

Second: Kathleen A. Gaylord

On a motion by Commissioner Mike Slavik, seconded by Commissioner Kathleen A. Gaylord, the meeting was adjourned at 10:40 a.m.

Ayes: 6

Respectfully submitted,

Colleen Collette, Administrative Coordinator
Community Services Division