



PORTAGE COUNTY

MEETING MINUTES

HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

PORTAGE COUNTY ANNEX
CONFERENCE ROOMS 1 & 2
1462 STRONGS AVENUE
STEVENS POINT, WI 54481

Monday, July 20, 2026

4:30 PM

REMOTE ATTENDANCE & COMMENT

To attend this meeting by telephone : dial 1-872-242-7813, after dialing the number you will then be asked to enter in a meeting number. Use the following meeting number: 940 824 324, then press #

To attend this meeting by video: [Join the meeting now](#)

CALL TO ORDER

Committee Members enter Per Diem and Mileage

The Health and Human Services Board meeting was called to order at 04:30 PM

Members Present: Greg Hakala, Jeanne Dodge, Suzanne Oehlke, Barry Jacowski, Robin Falk, Bev Laska, Amber Garner, Joseph Jarabek

Attending In-Person: Greg Hakala, Jeanne Dodge, Suzanne Oehlke, Barry Jacowski, Robin Falk, Bev Laska, Amber Garner, Joseph Jarabek

Attending Online: None

Members Excused: None

Members Absent: Landon Elgersma

Staff Attending: Jessica Hake, Director; Gary Garske, Public Health Manager; Craig Sankey, Children and Family Services Manager; Gretchen Hintz, Community Programs Manager; Katie Gonzalez Martin, Office Supervisor; Teresa Kovach, Child Protective Services Supervisor; Eric Olson, County Executive

2027 HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING Adjourn the Health and Human Services Board Committee meeting to hold the public hearing. Reconvene to the Health and Human Services Board Committee meeting

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Jeanne Dodge, to adjourn the Health and Human Services Board Committee meeting and convene the 2027 Health and Human Services Budget Public Hearing. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. The Health and Human Services Board Committee meeting was adjourned and the 2027 Health and Human Services Budget Public Hearing was von

No comments were offered.

A motion was made by Amber Garner, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to adjourn the 2027 Health and Human Services Budget Public Hearing and reconvene the Health and Human Services Board Committee meeting. Motion carried by voice vote, with no negative votes. The Budget Public Hearing was adjourned and the Health and Human Services Board Committee was reconvened by call of the chair.

PRESENTATIONS

1. Child Welfare Access and Initial Assessment Presentation - Teresa Kovach, Child Protective Services Supervisor

Teresa Kovach presented on child welfare access and initial assessment.

REPORTS

2. Director's Report
 - Health and Human Services Staffing, Operations, and Activities

Director Hake provided the Director's Report.

3. Special Meeting Attendance Reports (Portage County Ordinance 3.1.47 & 3.1.48)

No reports.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Members of the public who wish to address the Committee on specific agenda items must register their request at this time, with such comments subject to the public comment ordinance and the reasonable control of the Committee Chair as set forth in Robert's Rules of Order.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES**4. July 6, 2026**

A motion was made by Bev Laska, seconded by Jeanne Dodge, to Approve the Health and Human Services Board Committee meeting minutes from July 6, 2026. Motion to Approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

DISCUSSION/POSSIBLE ACTION**5. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Approval of Application for Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Supplemental Award**

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Robin Falk, to Approve the application for the Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Supplemental Award. Motion to Approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

6. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Approval of Acceptance of 2017 Wisconsin Act 260 Foster Parent Grant

A motion was made by Jeanne Dodge, seconded by Amber Garner, to Approve the acceptance of the 2017 Wisconsin Act 260 Foster Parent Grant. Motion to Approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

7. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Approval of Budget Amendment/Transfer Request Form for the 2017 Wisconsin Act 260 Foster Parent Grant

A motion was made by Jeanne Dodge, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to Approve the budget amendment/transfer request form for the 2017 Wisconsin Act 260 Foster Parent Grant. Motion to Approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

8. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Approval of Application and Acceptance of Caring for Communities Grant

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Bev Laska, to Approve the application and acceptance of the Caring for Communities Grant. Motion to Approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

9. Discussion/Possible Action Re: Approval of Budget Amendment/Transfer Request Form for the Caring for Communities Grant

A motion was made by Robin Falk, seconded by Barry Jacowski, to Approve the budget amendment/transfer request form for the Caring for Communities Grant. Motion to Approve carried by voice vote, with no negative votes.

NEXT MEETING DATE**10. August 3, 2026****CLOSED SESSION****11. Enter into Closed Session pursuant to Wis. Stats. Sec. 19.85(1)(F) to consider cases which involve social or personal histories of specific persons which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the person's reputation related to Permanency Planning meeting.**

A motion was made by Barry Jacowski, seconded by Amber Garner, to enter into Closed Session.
The motion to enter into Closed Session carried by the following vote:

8 Yes: Greg Hakala, Jeanne Dodge, Suzanne Oehlke, Barry Jacowski, Robin Falk, Bev Laska, Amber Garner, Joseph Jarabek
0 No: None
0 Abstain: None

OPEN SESSION**12. Reconvene to Open Session**

Meeting did not reconvene to Open Session.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 05:36 PM

DRAFT