

CHIPPEWA COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
JULY 17, 2025
CHIPPEWA COUNTY COURTHOUSE, RM 302
7:45 AM

1. CALL TO ORDER

2. ROLL CALL

Attendee Name	Organization	Title	Status	Arrived
Kari Ives	Chippewa County	District 21, Chair	Present	
Lee Hennick	Chippewa County	District 15, Vice-Chair	Present	
James Ericksen	Chippewa County	District 8	Present	
James Meinen	Chippewa County	District 20	Present	
John Halbleib	Chippewa County	Citizen Rep	Present	
Nichole Wallsch	Chippewa County	Citizen Rep	Absent	
Robert Bullwinkel	Chippewa County	Citizen Rep, MD	Late	7:56 AM
Marcia Kyes	Chippewa County	Citizen Rep	Absent	

Others Present: County Administrator Andy Albarado; Human Services Staff: Bobbie Jaeger, Brandi Engel, Paul Brenner, Kyra Secraw, and Sarah Zielke; Public Health Staff: Brittnay Fortuna, Audra Knowlton, and Sarah McQuillan; County Staff: Leah Simington

3. MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC WISHING TO BE HEARD

There were no members of the public wishing to be heard.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

RESULT:	APPROVED [5 TO 0]
MOVER:	John Halbleib, Citizen Rep
SECONDER:	James Meinen, District 20
AYES:	Ives, Hennick, Ericksen, Meinen, Halbleib
ABSENT:	Wallsch, Kyes
AWAY:	Bullwinkel

1. Approve the Agenda

2. Approve the Minutes

Health & Human Services Board - Regular Meeting - Jun 19, 2025 7:45 AM

3. Schedule Next Meeting Date - August 21, 2025

5. BUSINESS ITEMS

1. Public Health 2026 Budget - Brittnay Fortuna/Sarah McQuillan

Health & Human Services Board

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Chippewa County Courthouse, Rm 302

July 17, 2025
7:45 AM

Public Health Director Brittnay Fortuna shared a comparison of the 2025 Budget and the proposed 2026 Budget. She highlighted the following from her budget presentation: personnel costs, revenue sources, tax levy allocation by division, a synopsis of each Public Health Division's funding, and the funding's impact on services. Fortuna shared the department's focus moving forward and concerns.

The Public Health 2026 budget was approved to forward to the County Administrator.

RESULT:	FORWARD BUDGET TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Lee Hennick, District 15, Vice-Chair
SECONDER:	James Meinen, District 20
AYES:	Ives, Hennick, Ericksen, Meinen, Halbleib, Bullwinkel
ABSENT:	Wallsch, Kyes

2. Resolution to Create One Full-Time Social Worker Position in the Department of Human Services as Part of the 2026 Budget Process

Human Services Director Bobbie Jaeger gave a brief overview of the position that is in the Children's Long Term Support program. This position is necessary to maintain the caseload and the no-wait list required by the state.

Resolution approved as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	John Halbleib, Citizen Rep
SECONDER:	James Meinen, District 20
AYES:	Ives, Hennick, Ericksen, Meinen, Halbleib, Bullwinkel
ABSENT:	Wallsch, Kyes

3. Resolution to Create One Part-Time Elder Benefit Specialist in the Department of Human Services as Part of the 2026 Budget Process

Human Services Director Bobbie Jaeger gave a brief overview of the position, which will be funded by an anticipated increase in the state budget. The position is needed due to increasing demands for benefits.

Resolution approved as presented.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Meinen, District 20
SECONDER:	Lee Hennick, District 15, Vice-Chair
AYES:	Ives, Hennick, Ericksen, Meinen, Halbleib, Bullwinkel
ABSENT:	Wallsch, Kyes

4. Human Services 2026 Budget - Bobbie Jaeger

Human Services Director Bobbie Jaeger presented a department budget overview. She highlighted the following: the total levy remains the same as in 2025, and 2026 challenges, including potential Medicaid cuts and out-of-home placement rising costs. The proposed budget includes the Consortium budget, too.

Health & Human Services Board

Minutes
Regular Meeting

Chippewa County Courthouse, Rm 302

July 17, 2025
7:45 AM

The Human Services 2026 budget was approved to forward to the County Administrator.

RESULT:	FORWARD BUDGET TO THE COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Meinen, District 20
SECONDER:	James Ericksen, District 8
AYES:	Ives, Hennick, Ericksen, Meinen, Halbleib, Bullwinkel
ABSENT:	Wallsch, Kyes

6. REPORTS

1. Public Health Director's Program and Financial Report – Brittnay Fortuna
Public Health Director Brittnay Fortuna presented the Public Health Program and Financial Report. Fortuna highlighted from her report: FSRL license renewals, Mass Public Alerting Campaign video through the Public Health Preparedness program to sign up for alerts (Fortuna will send the video to the Board members,) air quality education and the alerting website, WIC food package changes, measles update, communicable disease reports, Red Drive Blood Drive on July 23, tobacco compliance checks, sharps initiative data, and Single Point of Entry data.
2. Human Services Director's Program and Financial Report – Bobbie Jaeger, Paul Brenner
Human Services Director Bobbie Jaeger presented the Human Services Program and Financial Report. They have been dedicating time to the state and federal level budgets/funding, and now they will move to understanding the changes and timelines. Jaeger highlighted the SNAP program's potential funding impacts and the daily rate increase for juvenile corrections. County Administrator Albarado added that changes can be made to the budget if there are funding cuts. Jaeger thanked the Human Services employees celebrating July anniversaries, including Tom Diel, celebrating 37 years of service. She thanked Paul for all his work on the budget.

7. AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

8. ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 8:41 AM.

RESULT:	APPROVED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	James Ericksen, District 8
SECONDER:	James Meinen, District 20
AYES:	Ives, Hennick, Ericksen, Meinen, Halbleib, Bullwinkel
ABSENT:	Wallsch, Kyes