

**Walworth County Board of Supervisors  
Human Resources Committee Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 21, 2023  
Walworth County Government Center, County Board Room 114  
100 West Walworth Street, Elkhorn, Wisconsin**

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Chair Susan Pruessing called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

Roll call was conducted and the following members were present: Chair Susan Pruessing; Vice-Chair Ryan Simons; and Supervisors Kathy Ingersoll, Joanne Laufenberg, and Kenneth Monroe. A quorum was declared.

**Others in Attendance**

County Staff: Walworth County Administrator Mark W. Luberda; Director-Human Resources Kate Bishop; Benefits Manager Josh Pollock; Risk Manager Megan Rogers; Corporation Counsel/Director of Land Use and Resource Management Michael Cotter; Deputy Corporation Counsel Estee Scholtz; and Sheriff Dave Gerber.

Members of the Public: Walworth County Deputy Wayne Blanchard and Angela Blanchard.

**On motion by Vice-Chair Simons, second by Supervisor Laufenberg, the agenda was approved with no withdrawals.**

**On motion by Supervisor Monroe, second by Supervisor Ingersoll, the May 17, 2023 Human Resources Committee meeting minutes were approved.**

**Public Comment**

Walworth County Deputy Wayne Blanchard and his wife Angela spoke in favor of, Item 7c, Discussion of Benefits Offered to Employees Absent from Work due to a Work-Related Injury. Blanchard summarized the horrific events and injuries sustained during his work-shift on August 1, 2021. Blanchard noted the hardships he and his family have endured and emphasized the need for Walworth County to seriously review and consider the benefits offered to employees absent from work due to a work-related injury.

**New Business**

7a) Ord. No. \*\*\*\*-07/23 Amending Section 15-902 of the Walworth County Code of Ordinances Relating to Public Records

Director-Human Resources Kate Bishop stated the proposed ordinance amending Section 15-902 of the Walworth County Code of Ordinances relating to public records requests is to ensure that Walworth County is compliant with the latest laws and practices. Deputy Corporation Counsel Estee Scholtz was present to answer the Committees questions. **Vice-Chair Simons offered a motion, second by Supervisor Laufenberg, to approve proposed Ord. No. \*\*\*\*-07/23 – Amending Section 15-902 of the Walworth County Code of Ordinances Relating to Public Records. Motion carried 5-0.**

7b) Res. No. \*\*-07/23 Authorizing the Increase of a Vacant 0.50 FTE Occupational Therapist Position to a 1.00 FTE Occupational Therapist Position and the Elimination of a 0.10 FTE Occupational Therapist Position at Lakeland School

Bishop referred to and briefly explained the purpose of the proposed resolution (Pages 7-11) and noted the Director of Special Education-Lakeland School, Matthew Huettl, was present to answer any questions. Passage of the resolution will result in an approximate cost of \$5,520 for the remainder of 2023 and an estimated cost of \$34,839 annually. **Supervisor Monroe offered a motion, second by Supervisor Laufenberg, to approve proposed Res. No. \*\*-07/23 – Authorizing the Increase of a Vacant 0.50 FTE Occupational Therapist Position to a 1.00 FTE Occupational Therapist Position and the Elimination of a 0.10 FTE Occupational Therapist Position at Lakeland School. Motion carried 5-0.**

7c) Discussion of Benefits Offered to Employees Absent from Work due to a Work-Related Injury

Bishop, Benefits Manager Josh Pollock, and Risk Manager Megan Rogers collaboratively summarized the Memorandum and supporting documentation found on Pages 12-25 of the packet relative to employee benefits and recommended allowing all employees to earn their full vacation or scheduled time off accruals while off on an approved worker's compensation absence until they reach maximum medical healing. Pollock noted the risks associated with making the recommended changes relative to an employee not on the County's health plan and stated the Human Resources Department feels as though the benefits outweigh the risks. He then explained the rarity of this actually occurring.

Walworth County Sheriff Dave Gerber expressed his concerns and thanked the County Administrator, Human Resources Department, and Committee for considering the proposed changes. Further clarification was provided by Pollock relative to how an employee is paid while on Worker's Compensation – Temporary Total Disability (TTD) at the request of Supervisor Laufenberg.

**Vice-Chair Simons offered a motion, second by Supervisor Monroe, to draft an ordinance for review at the July Human Resources meeting prior to sending it on to the full County Board.** Chair Pruessing expressed her desire to make certain the draft resolution is “what it needs to be and all that it needs to be” and encourage those with questions to contact the Human Resources Department. Blanchard encouraged those listening to reach out to their legislators and noted his situation has been quite the learning experience for all. **Motion carried 5-0.**

7d) Waiver of Competition Walworth County Near Site Clinic

Bishop stated the contract for the Walworth County Near Site Clinic with Aurora began in January of 2019 and is coming to an end and requested a Waiver of Competition to continue those services. Pollock spoke briefly about the services provided, the number of employees seen over the years, the relationships created with the provider, the convenient location of the Lakeland Aurora medical exam room, and requested a favorable recommendation to forward this onto the Finance Committee for approval. **Supervisor Laufenberg offered a motion, second by Vice-Chair Simons, to extend the Waiver of Competition Walworth County Near Site Clinic with Aurora Quick Care, LLC for a Three (3) year contract period with the option to renew for additional two (2) one (1) year periods. Motion carried 5-0.**

**Reports/announcements by Chairperson** – There were none.

**Confirmation of next meeting date and time:** The next meeting was confirmed for Wednesday, July 19, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

**Adjournment**

**On motion and second by Supervisor Monroe and Vice-Chair Simons, Chair Susan Pruessing adjourned the meeting at 4:12 p.m.**