

Brown County Mental Health Subcommittee

Meeting Minutes

5pm, January 25, 2024

Present: Honorable Donald Zuidmulder, Guy Zima, Eric Drzewiecki, Officer Sheila Carlson, Randy Schultz,
Absent: Erik Hoyer, Ph.D. (excused), Steve Fewell

- 1) Motion to approve agenda by Schultz, second Zima, unanimous consent
- 2) Motion to approve minutes by Schultz, second Zima, unanimous consent
- 3) No public comment
- 4) No Brown County Mental Health Staff in attendance, no EM1 data.
- 5) Previous testimony and requests submitted to HHS and Public Safety have no update as of yet.

Schultz will reach out to Public Safety to determine if the item will be formally added to agenda and update the Task Force on if our attendance would be needed at a future Public Safety meeting.

Zima will reach out to HHS to determine if the item will be formally added to agenda and update the Task Force on if our attendance would be needed at a future Public Safety meeting.

A proposal by Zuidmulder was adopted after motion made by Zuidmulder, second Carlson, unanimous consent:

The Brown County Mental Health Task Force requests that the Brown County Board of Supervisors consider establish/elevate us as a permanent committee with powers sufficient to tackle the challenges that face Brown County within the mental health system. We also request that the Brown County Board of Supervisors appoint members of HHS Staff / Brown County Mental Health Staff as members of the prospective committee, to ensure necessary stakeholders are present, and to maximize collaborative efforts between citizens, elected officials, and health professionals.

A proposal by Drzewiecki was adopted after motion made by Zima, second Schultz, unanimous consent:

The Brown County Mental Health Task Force requests that the Brown County Board of Supervisors pass an advisory request to be delivered to the Wisconsin State Legislature that requests that the State Legislature establish liability protections to allow for 911 dispatchers to be released of liability when transferring mental health related calls to 988 or similar services when the dispatcher reasonably believes the call does not present a public safety risk. The present litigious culture creates a burden on dispatchers and results in law enforcement doing the work of mental health professionals due to liability concerns.

Motion to adjourn until the next meeting is called by the Chair by Drzewiecki, second Carlson, unanimous consent.