PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 19.84 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the **Brown County Human Services Committee** was held on Tuesday, February 26, 2013 in Room 200 of the Northern Building – 305 East Walnut Street, Green Bay, Wisconsin

Present:	Chair Evans, Supervisor Hopp, Supervisor La Violette, Supervisor Robinson
Excused:	Supervisor Haefs
Also Present:	Supervisor Clancy, Supervisor Sieber, Supervisor Nicholson, Brian Shoup, Jeremy Kral, Tim Schmitt, Judy Friederichs, Other Interested Parties

I. **Call Meeting to Order.**

The meeting was called to order by Chair Pat Evans at 6:00 p.m.

II. **Approve/Modify Agenda.**

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to take Item 4 following Item 12 and approve as amended. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

III. **Approve/Modify Minutes of January 23, 2013.**

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Comments from the Public

None.

Report from Human Services Chair, Patrick Evans

1. **Review Minutes of**:
   a. Aging & Disability Resource Center of Brown County Board (January 31, 2013).
   b. Children with Disabilities Education Board (January 22, 2013).
   c. Human Services Board (January 10, 2013).
   d. Veterans' Recognition Subcommittee (January 15, 2013).

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to suspend the rules and take Items 1 a-d together. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to receive and place on file Items 1 a-d. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Carryovers

2. **2012 to 2013 Carryover Funds – Health & Human Services Division.**

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Health Department

3. **2013 Budget Adjustment Request (13-10) Category 5: Increase in expenses with offsetting increase in revenue.**

Wisconsin Department of Transportation has offered a grant to the Brown County Health Department Child Car Seat Program to purchase car seats for at-risk families unable to purchase seats on their own. The Brown County car seat program partners with the Woman, Infant and Child Program (WIC) to identify families who could benefit from low-cost car seats and seat installation from the County program. Low-cost car seats have been made available with a co-pay, but many families were unable to meet the co-pay. This funding enables coverage of car seat costs for those unable to meet the co-pay. The program requires an in-kind match for the program which will be met by in-house staff time towards the program and co-pays from clients able to pay.

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Although shown in the proper format here, this item was taken following Item 12.

4. **Request that funds, up to $4,000 be taken from the existing health department budget for the purpose of contracting for the services of an acoustician to research/develop draft language for a low frequency sound ordinance related to multi-sources, with a plan to come back and request an addition to the health department budget if the budget is spent down at the end of the year (original request for this funding came from the Board of Health at its January 10 meeting). *Held for one month.***

La Violette stated that she strongly believes in transparent government and she felt that it was very early in the 2013 budget year to be making changes and questioned why this was not put in the 2013 budget. If this is approved, she felt Board policy should be followed and money should be taken up front from the general fund and not from the Health Department budget.

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to suspend the rules to allow interested parties to speak. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

-Ben Schauer, 6225 Highview Road, Denmark, Wisconsin thanked members of the Committee for the opportunity to speak. He is a combat veteran who has served twice in Iraq and once in Afghanistan. He has three children and a wife and he thought the worst thing he would have to endure while on duty was knowing that his family would worry about him. In reality, what was worse was that he had to hear what his family had to endure with the low frequency sound coming from the wind turbines in the Shirley wind project. He listened about how his oldest son, a teenager, would be awake for hours on end and not able to sleep. He heard his wife and youngest son complain about how they get headaches on a regular basis and how they would have to go into the basement to make their headaches disappear. His middle son also had trouble sleeping at night. Schauer stated that the effects of low frequency noise are real and he found this out when he returned from duty. When a soldier returns from deployment they go

through a lot of physicals to make sure any problems they have are noted. At the time he returned he only had a couple of issues and these were taken care of. Since he has returned Schauer has been getting non-stop sinus infections and other problems. He did not have this problem prior and this is not related to his deployment but has only occurred since he returned in 2012. He gets a sinus infection once or twice a month whereas he used to get about one a year. What he is asking of the Board is to create a low frequency noise ordinance to protect all of Brown County's citizens from the effects of low frequency noise.

-**Darrell Cappelle, Glenmore, Wisconsin** addressed the Committee. He stated that he and his family lived about a quarter mile from the nearest turbine and shortly after the turbines started they noticed sleeping problems in his wife and youngest son. His son then began having a number of ear problems. They put up with this for about a year not knowing what the cause of these problems was. His wife's symptoms worsened and his son could not sleep at night. People suggested to him that the problems could be a result of low frequency noise. They moved from their home last April and within a week his wife's symptoms were gone and his son was sleeping through the night and taking regular naps. Without any definite proof, they came to the conclusion that their problems were attributed to the turbines and low frequency noise. Cappelle continued that they have had testing at their home but without cooperation from the wind company they could not prove that the turbines were the source of the problems. He attended tonight's meeting to ask the Board to consider this problem and do something to prevent it. He felt that a rule that would be passed by the Board would prevent other people from suffering in the same manner. He thanked the Committee for their time and consideration. Evans stated that he had been to the Cappelle home along with Dr. Tibbetts and they did notice some interesting pressures and things of that nature.

-**Robert Ehrfurth, 2048 Mary Queen Road, Green Bay, Wisconsin** stated that his problems are related to a cooling tower and the problems have been ongoing for six years. He continued that specialist Rick James has been to his house and set up equipment with Ackers and Supervisor Andy Nicholson for two days. Ehrfurth stated that there is nothing that can be done at this time about the low frequency sound coming from the cooling tower. Ehrfurth said it would be nice if the Committee and Board could pass an ordinance to prevent others from going through what he and his wife have gone through.

Robinson asked Ehrfurth if something changed six years ago that caused these problems to develop and Ehrfurth answered that the problems began about the same time that St. Bernard's Church was added on to. Ehrfurth stated that it was noted to them that the low frequency noise is now bouncing off the church and coming their way. Evans stated that the City of Green Bay looked into this and then determined that this is a health issue and that is how it got to the Health Board. Ehrfurth stated that the symptoms are hard to explain, but he gets sick to his stomach and gets dizzy and they do not sleep well. Robinson asked if when Mr. James came and did the measurements, if he measured just the low frequency noise present in the Ehrfurth home or if he went to the cooling tower. Ehrfurth answered that James set up equipment both at their home and at the location of the cooling tower. James also told Ehrfurth that he could feel vibrations in his car himself.

-**Nancy Peotter, Glenmore, Wisconsin** stated that she lives about two miles from the turbines. As far as she knows, she has been physically affected by the turbines. She would like to testify that when Duke Energy got involved in the turbine business they held a meeting that she and

her husband attended. They listened to Duke and Duke assured them that they wanted to be good neighbors. From the very beginning she has read articles about how the turbines affect health. Although there were a lot of issues, everything with Duke went through and Duke's representatives said repeatedly that they wanted to be good neighbors. They were told by the previous people that if there was an issue or a problem and they called and reported it, that the turbines would be stopped and investigated and the problem mitigated. This is what they were repeatedly told. The reason she is here is because Duke Energy is not cooperating in getting the tests done. She felt the turbines need to be shut off completely and then they have to cooperate and have to be honest. She does not feel Duke has been cooperative and that is why those at the meeting are coming to the County asking for help to get the testing done.

-**William Acker, 3217 Nicolet Drive, Green Bay, Wisconsin**. Acker is the President of his own engineering and consulting firm and he appeared before the Committee last month. He would like to add some brief comments to what he spoke of previously. First, four countries have written codes to protect their people from low frequency noise and infrasound and they are asking the Board to allow them to do the same here. The first duty of the Board is to uphold the safety, health and welfare of the people of Brown County and he is asking the Committee to have the courage to pass the funding to allow the writing of the code.

Acker continued that the town of Falmouth, Massachusetts was covered on the news recently. Falmouth made the decision to remove two brand new wind turbines because of the illnesses caused in their community. This was a ten million dollar project funded by the Town and to tear the turbines down, they will be lucky to recover $600,000 according to their own engineering consultants. This would leave the town a deficit of $9.4 million dollars that the town will have to pay as a result of tearing the project down, but the town decided that it was the right thing to do. They did not question whether the illnesses were real or not, they just accepted that they were. Acker is asking the Committee tonight to approve the budget to allow the writing of the code. In the meantime, they are working on proving that the illnesses are real. Acker provided the Committee with a copy of the news report on Falmouth, MA, a copy of which is attached. Acker hopes to have some medical proof perhaps as early as the end of the year. Acker concluded by thanking the Committee for the opportunity to address them.

-**Terry Desotelle, 4423 Shirley Road, Denmark, Wisconsin**. Desotelle stated that she has had a lot of health issues related to the windmills. She has also had letters written by her daughter and her nine year old grandson. They came from England in August, 2011 and stayed with the Desotelles until last June. Her grandson's bedroom faced two of the windmills which were located about a half mile away. He did not sleep the whole year he was with the Desotelles and he was almost flunking out of school although in England he made good grades and he now lives in Texas and is making straight As. Her husband could testify that her daughter and she would find a reason to go to town to get out of the house. She gets mad at the least little thing and her husband says she is grouchy when she answers the phone. She has headaches daily, joint problems, has gained weight and has mood swings. Her grandson was who she was really worried about and originally they felt his problems were related to the move from England, but they now realize the problems were the windmills.

-**Pam Schauer and son, Lance Schauer, 6225 Highview Road, Denmark, Wisconsin.** Pam Schauer stated she is the wife of Ben Schauer and Lance is their son. Lance wanted to testify as to some of the problems he has and she noted that the there are six turbines within a mile of

their home with the closest one being a half mile away. Lance stated that he gets headaches a lot so he goes in the basement. If that does not work he puts his hand in his ears and that stops the aching. Sometimes he goes outside because his parents say that that helps. Pam indicated that there are many times they do homework in the basement because Lance gets such bad headaches upstairs that he cannot open his eyes to read. She is asking for the Committee and Board's help so they can live in their home and function like everyone else.

-Jamie Fletcher, 6215 County W, Greenleaf, Wisconsin. Fletcher wished to thank the Board for listening to these cases. She stated that she lives a mile and a half from the turbines and people have been suffering horribly for the last two years. She has experienced continual sinus infections that she cannot get rid of. She has been trying everything possible and she stated that there are a lot of people in the same situation. There are over 50 people who have signed medical affidavits and who have abandoned their homes. She finds it horrifying that a family should have to be relegated to their basement just to get by. She feels this is not right and something needs to be done and they are all looking towards the Committee and the Board to do something. She continued that many steps have been taken in other countries with wind turbines. She stated she is looking to the Committee and the Board to protect them as it has been two years of suffering and it has to stop. Government bodies are supposed to protect the citizens and she urged the Committee to hire Rick James to formulate a proper infrasound ordinance to protect the residents.

-**Steve Deslauriers, 2888 Wayside Road, Greenleaf, Wisconsi**n. Deslauriers did not believe there was a person in the room that would argue that audible noise at a certain level does not harm people. He thinks what we are hearing at this meeting is the same type of thing for low frequency noise. He does not feel there is a person in the room, either pro wind or not, that would argue that low frequency noise at certain levels is harmful. The action the Committee is being asked to take tonight is to take the first step to begin the investigation to limit or create a limit for low frequency noise to protect people's health. He does realize that this ordinance would not directly affect the people in Glenmore who have spoken, but the frustration is the amount of time this is taking. He does not believe anybody can deny the acoustician can say that a component of the issue in Shirley is low frequency noise. What is before the Committee is making the determination to start the process to start talking about what level of low frequency noise around people is appropriate to regulate. He again thanked the Committee for their time in hearing all of these people.

-**Carl Johnson, 1893 Wayside Road, Greenleaf, Wisconsin** thanked the Committee for the opportunity to speak and stated that he has lived in the Town of Holland for 35 years and is a retired teacher. It was difficult for him to come to the realization that something he put great stock in as a solution to the global warming problem did not turn out to be as reliable as he thought it would be. Johnson stated that the definition of pollution can either be a form of matter that is undesirable in an environment or it can be a form of energy that is undesirable in an area. Johnson continued that wind energy is not clean. It is true that in terms of putting undesirable matter into the environment there are no CO2 emissions or that sort of thing that would be considered matter, however, wind turbines produce a great amount of audible noise and now we are beginning to see that they produce various tones that are classified as low frequency and infrasound.

Johnson continued that the wind energy business has been aware of this for a long time and they have spent a large amount of money trying to discredit scientists and doctors on the low frequency noise issue. He stated that low frequency noise is the dirty little secret of the wind industry and it is really wreaking havoc.

Johnson stated that he was originally going to talk about Falmouth, MA but several people have already mentioned this. He felt this was symbolic and all too frequently those who have taken a stand against the wind turbines in close proximity to people have been relegated to the loony bin and called all kinds of names. He noted that in Falmouth, MA the entire community embraced the idea of a community wind project. This was not a developer that came in and signed contracts with people to put up turbines. It was a community that invested $10 million dollars in putting in two industrial scale turbines. They listened to the Energy Council of the State of Massachusetts and worked with them to get information about how best to site and finance them. The State of Massachusetts has been pushing wind very heavily. The citizens felt the information they received was straightforward and was the best that could be provided and then the turbines were installed and the citizens started to complain about the same physical problems as mentioned here at this meeting and they are all linked to low frequency noise. The City Council of Falmouth looked into the problem and thought they had vetted everything properly but now there were two problems. They had a community whose social fiber had been destroyed by the conflict that was created over the issue of wind and the second problem that they realized is taking everyone as honest, especially long term residents of the community, that the symptoms that they were suffering from were legitimate. They realized that they not only had a community that was in disharmony but they had a serious problem in terms of health that people needed to be protected from.

Johnson continued that there are two basic things that government is supposed to do. Those two things are maintaining community harmony and protecting the citizens of the community from danger. People want to get up in the morning and feel that their life is going to be predictable and stable from one day to the next. Johnson said that as a resident of southern Brown County he has lost the ability to do so. He does not know at what point he is going to wake up in the morning and find out that his neighbors have signed undercover secret contracts to start placing wind turbines. He is 65 years old and at some point he would like to be able to sell his piece of rural property that he put so much time and effort into, but Brown County has a wind turbine ghetto. It is an area of the County that is going to have property that is gradually devalued and it will only be someone who wants to buy a wind turbine along with their property that would be interested in purchasing his property. Many of the people that have signed wind turbine contracts are absentee owners that do not live in the shadow of the turbines.

In light of the few options that the Committee and the Board has in terms of protecting the citizens' health and well-being, this idea of taking the Shirley wind study seriously, and understanding that there are still many questions that need to be answered it is important to take the little step in preventing the wind turbine ghetto of southern Brown County from becoming larger with more sick people. This is a public health problem and Johnson urged the Committee to do what can be done to create an ordinance that could possibly contribute to stopping it.

-**Mark Baugnet, 6172 Highview Road, Denmark, Wisconsin** stated that what people are talking about here tonight is true and real. He stated that it has been a long five years and he has

suffered from sleeping problems and dizziness. He and his wife and his children have all experienced problems related to the turbines and they need help. He thanked the Committee for listening.

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to return to regular order of business. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Supervisor Clancy complimented the Committee for taking this matter under consideration. He stated that he lives in southern Brown County and has talked to a number of people that have experienced problems. He cares about this matter and if there is something that the Board can do to facilitate a better understanding and get the needed knowledge to get the study, the County Board should go ahead and authorize this.

Supervisor Sieber questioned if anyone had checked with Corporation Counsel or if the Committee knows if enacting an ordinance would be retroactive or strictly for wind turbines that would be proposed in the future. Evans answered that this is not a wind turbine law but rather a low frequency infrasound ordinance. He continued that this issue came about with the issues the Ehrfurths were having. The City of Green Bay looked at it and from there it was determined that this was a health issue and it was sent to the Health Department and from there the Board of Health took it up. The ordinance may or may not affect wind turbines. This is an ordinance similar to Calumet County and would say that the people of Brown County will be protected and from there there will be additional testing and things of that nature to move it forward. It would not say anyone has to shut down business. This would go back to the Board of Health as it is the Board of Health's issue. The Board of Health does not have the authority to spend money so it comes to this Committee as the oversight committee. Evans continued that everyone in Brown County would be subject to the ordinance.

Sieber asked how long it was estimated to take to write the ordinance. Dr. Tibbetts responded that he anticipated it would take a few weeks and the proposed ordinance would then go back to the Board of Health and then it would come back to the Human Services Committee. Dr. Tibbetts did not know if this ordinance would be retroactive. Health Director Judy Friederichs stated it was her understanding that they cannot be more restrictive than PSC 128 is at this time.

Supervisor Nicholson stated he has been dealing with this issue for six years with Mr. and Mrs. Ehrfurth and the City. This has been looked at by the City and Nicholson stated that this is a health issue and they went through two different studies and found Mr. James who had the capacity to perform the study and determine what was wrong. Nicholson noted that Rick James has also been involved with the Calumet County ordinance as well. Nicholson felt that writing an ordinance could take months because first they have to deal with the financial issue, then have to approach Mr. James or someone equivalent and wait until they have time and are able to get it done and then it will come back to the Committee and then to the full Board. He estimated the process would take six to seven or eight months. He did applaud and thank the Committee for their work on this and suggested we move on and bring this to the County Board for final decision to move forward.

Robinson said he had heard a number of different comments in this meeting that makes him wonder what exactly it is that the Committee is voting on. It was his understanding that the

Committee was voting on spending money on the crafting of a County ordinance. Evans stated that Robinson's understanding is correct.

Robinson indicated he wanted to echo Supervisor's Clancy's comments that he does care about this, even though he does not live in the area where this is happening. Robinson stated that he has come a long way and has done a great deal of research on this issue. He said his heart goes out to those who spoke and he feels that these are very real problems. Robinson stated that he has watched videos, visited homes, listened to radio programs and spoken with many, many people on this issue and read a countless number of articles and he has learned a lot from this research. He does believe that the problems are real and that low frequency noise has a hand in these problems. Robinson's concern is that everything he has read on this subject indicates that more scientific studies need to be done. Tonight the Committee is being asked to vote on money to hire a scientist to do a study on this, and Robinson indicated he would be more inclined to support this tonight than he is to vote to spend money on the writing of an ordinance. There are a number of questions about the ordinance that have not been answered. He is not trying to minimize the problems but he feels like we don't know how to address it enough yet. Robinson stated that he cannot in good conscience vote for the spending of the money this evening. He is not saying he will vote against it forever, but he just does not feel that there are enough answers to the questions in front of the Committee to put into the County Code. If people can answer some of the questions he would definitely reconsider his position, but he cannot vote for it tonight.

Clancy stated he understands Robinson's concerns and he agrees with him but he felt that we have to start some place and this is a place to start. Clancy felt that deferring this is sending a message that the County really does not care and we are throwing our hands in the air. He felt that this is the time to do something and he was hopeful that the rest of the Committee would support this.

Supervisor Hopp thanked those in attendance and those that have contacted him in the past on this matter. He stated that over the last six years he has tried to educate himself about the effects of low frequency noise. The first thing that he noticed is that for every article that says there is not a problem an article can also be found that says that there is. A study or article could be found to support whatever stance you have with the only discriminating difference being who is paying for the study. As a result, Hopp felt one must rely on other sources of information and evidence to properly form an educated opinion about the effects of low frequency noise and the effects on the population. Hopp continued that unfortunately for us and even more importantly for those affected, we have an alternative source of study, other than articles and research papers. We have victims. He gave a definition of victim from the dictionary and stated that those here tonight are victims in that through no action of their own they are being adversely affected, injured, mistreated and have all been duped. They bought into the green wave hype and the opportunity to embrace new technology for the betterment of our society and our childrens' future but unfortunately the resulting effects of such a move are now coming to light. Hopp felt the individuals that are experiencing problems are in a sense our canaries in a mine and what has happened to them cannot be undone but at this point the only option is to do everything within the County's power to ensure that nobody else suffers the same fate. There are those that contend that these individuals are simply making things up but if that were the case, the conspiracy to ruin the wind industry must run pretty deep. So deep, in fact, that individuals are willing to uproot their families, abandon their homes and sacrifice the

market value of their property just to try to put the screws to the wind industry. Hopp believes that the individuals are not making this up and the testimony tonight as well as at last month's meeting and over the last year is consistent with the testimony heard throughout the nation and around the world. Hopp believes there is a very real and true problem.

Hopp continued that there are those who will say that this is a state or national problem and he agrees, but unfortunately the wind lobby has effectively negated the possibility of any real action happening on either of those levels of government. Therefore, it is the County's responsibility and duty to do what we can to ensure that at the very least our citizens are protected and this cannot be kicked down the street any further. Our state and national governments are so out of touch with the reality that we have no choice but to take whatever stand we can. Hopp is a staunch believer in smaller government, fewer regulations and providing businesses and industry the space needed to succeed. Through his studies on this problem, Hopp has found that government already has their hands all over the wind industry in the form of taxpayer funded subsidies and grants. Were it not for the government Hopp did not feel there would be a wind farm because there is no sustainable market for this and the technology is extremely expensive. Hopp continued that jobs had been promised but the Shirley Wind Farm has resulted in only one permanent job. The sites were constructed by firms from outside the area and when they were done they left. The components are foreign made and the service and manufacturer of after-market components are also foreign products. It was Hopp's opinion that government has already trained this industry and the action the Committee takes tonight will not ruin the industry or make it impossible to do business. Tonight the Committee is reigning in on safe industry and stepping up to say we will not allow our citizens to become victims but are simply saying that our citizens are not expendable casualties in a chess game being played out by politicians wishing to advance their agendas as well as those corporations who are manipulating the system to pocket a big buck at the taxpayers' expense.

Hopp continued that he will not support taking the funds from the general fund and noted that if this is taken from the general fund it will require 2/3 vote at the full County Board and he does not wish to make it any more difficult on the citizens than it already has been to get help. He will support, however, the original item on the agenda of authorizing the Health Department to spend the $4,000 and in the event there is a shortfall at the end of the year it can be taken from the general fund.

La Violette stated she would support the motion to move this to the County Board for approval only if the money comes from the general fund. She continued that we are here less than two months into the 2013 budget and she believes that to do anything other than go to the general fund would be changing the priorities that were established in the 2013 budget by the Health Department. She reiterated that she believes in transparent government and also believes in following the rules and regulations that were set up for good reason by the County Board. She would like to see the full County Board support this, but she stated she will only support this if the funds come from the general fund.

Evans commented on this and stated that he was asked years ago to speak at the International Wind Turbine Conference in Rio de Janeiro as he worked in the industry and has a very good understanding of wind turbines. The one thing that is known in the industry is that you do not put wind turbines near people. He has seen wind farms in Indiana where it is eerie and there are no animals or birds in the area due to the low frequency sound emitted. He has also been to

the Capelle home and to others in the area and he stated that he truly does believe there are victims and this is unfortunate. He does appreciate that there are a lot of questions to be asked and answered. He agrees with the questions and feels that they need to be addressed in every fashion and manner that is possible. Evans felt that the safety of the residents needs to be paramount and this is what the Board of Health is charged with and this then comes down to the Human Services Committee. Evans continued that he is not a big fan of putting additional regulations and laws into action, but he is pretty much for the safety of the people and he felt that when we start to work on this, it sends messages. He likes what Robinson said and perhaps he will put in a communication to do some more studies. He also reiterated what has been said before that this seems to be a wind turbine issue, but it really started with the low frequency noise at the Ehrfurths.

Evans continued that he does not support taking this out of the general fund, but he does support the original motion. He stated that the amount being discussed is $4,000 and he did not anticipate the ordinance language would even cost that much. The total Health Department budget is almost $4 million dollars. Evans stated that he had spoken with the County Executive earlier in the day and he suggested that the $4,000 be taken from the Health Department and if at the end of the year there was a deficit they could look to the general fund. Evans felt fairly confident that funds could be found within the Health Department budget to cover this.

La Violette stated that at end the of the day, by not going to the general fund, we are realigning the priorities that were set by the Health Department. She also had concerns that there were no ideas as to how to implement and enforce an ordinance. She is not sure if the Health Department has had any discussion about this and the cost of implementing this. La Violette felt we should abide by the rules and if we are changing the budget she felt that we should go through the proper steps. She does believe the stories of those that spoke tonight and she is sympathetic to the same.

Hopp stated that his earlier comment regarding political gamesmanship was not meant to disrespect anyone on this Committee; however, in his time on the County Board he has come to realize that things are not always as they seem. He felt that everyone on this Committee has good intentions and he does not want to see this issue become utilized as a political game. Hopp felt it was important to get the ball rolling on this and not push it off any further.

Dr. Tibbetts stated that Rick James, the proposed acoustician, quoted about $2,500. As far as writing the ordinance, James or someone like him is needed to put together a coherent code or ordinance that will reflect the ordinances that are already in place in Denmark and Germany and Calumet County. He noted that Calumet County's ordinance is only for wind turbines. Dr. Tibbetts continued that an ordinance has to start with a solid footing in order to be enforceable and that is what we would be paying for. We would be paying for the expertise of the acoustician to write the ordinance. Robinson responded that he did not have a problem with that and further, he had spoken with Corporation Counsel to see what she thought of this idea. Corporation Counsel was very supportive of the idea because this was beyond her expertise. Robinson stated that he just cannot get a handle on how this ordinance will be implemented and enforced. All of these unknowns are what makes him nervous about approving this. He felt this also sets in motion a series of decisions that he does not think we can stop once it gets going and he would like to be sure where we will end up before the series of actions are set in motion. His preference would be for the Health Board to come back with a little more

information about this including what the ordinance will look like, what it will cost, how it will be enforced, and what the implications are and other questions.

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Chair Evans to approve. Vote taken. Ayes: Hopp, Evans Nays: La Violette, Robinson MOTION FAILED

Motion by substitution made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to approve with the stipulation that the $4,000 be taken from the general fund. Vote taken. Ayes: La Violette Nays: Robinson, Hopp, Evan. MOTION FAILED

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to send back to Board of Health to get more details about how ordinance would look and what implications would be and what costs would be. Vote taken. Ayes: Robinson, La Violette Nays: Evans, Hopp. MOTION FAILED.

Clancy asked if there was any way that the Committee could give a consensus that there is a problem that they are interested in fixing and they will go to whatever means to get the information to fix it and then have all of the cards laid out on the table. He feels that residents are having justice denied and he did not feel this was the feeling the Committee was attempting to portray. He wanted to give those in attendance hope that within the next month or two there would be some fruition to the problem.

Evans stated that he would not support Robinson's motion because the Board of Health could start looking and getting information and he does not want to send this back. He would like to see it go to the County Board and go from there. Evans was frustrated and he appreciated the need to have questions answered, but he wanted to do everything he can to start to tighten the screws on who is causing the problem and he felt that this would do that.

Robinson stated that his motion is an attempt to do what Clancy asked for. He would like to communicate that there is a problem and that it needs to be addressed, and he would also be willing to spend a little money on getting more information if that is what it takes and in his eyes this is committing to doing something about this in the future. Robinson noted that whatever decision is made, he would be shocked if this would improve the situation for anyone here tonight directly and he feels that this could only affect things moving forward.

La Violette commented that like it or not, the information that Supervisor Robinson asked for will come up in any form this resolution takes going to the County Board. There will be others asking the same questions and she felt that if they want to support this, they need to be well prepared.

Hopp stated that he would not support Robinson's motion. This already came from the Board of Health and he wanted to see it move forward.

Evans advised those in attendance that this agenda will now go to the County Board on March 20 where it will be debated by the full Board.

5. **Director's Report.**

No report. No action.

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor Robinson to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Human Services Department

6. **Budget Adjustment Request (13-15) Category 2: Perform changes to the structure of the CTC (Outpatient Clinic area).**

This budget adjustment is to perform the following changes to the structure at the CTC (Outpatient Clinic area): put a glass sliding window that locks into the opening where clients collect their medication. This will secure the area from anyone being able to jump over the counter. Add a door that has card access to the open hallway to create a secured entry for the medication room. The expected benefits of this remodel are: 1) create a secure medication room which will reduce the risk of lost medication and 2) will minimize the possibility of private health information being overheard by clients.

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

7. **Executive Director's Report.**

Human Services Executive Director Brian Shoup provided his report by reading it into the record. A copy of the report is attached. Following his report, Director Shoup entertained questions from the Committee.

Robinson asked Shoup if he had reached out to Representative Klenke as well as Representative Nygren as Klenke is on Joint Finance and represents part of Brown County. Shoup stated that they reached out to the entire delegation, including Klenke, several weeks ago. Shoup indicated that they have made their position clear a number of times. Shoup continued that one of the reasons they felt it was important to devise a plan B is based in part on meetings with representatives Nygren and Klenke. The representatives had encouraged that if Shoup had any ideas regarding alternatives that they would like to hear them and Shoup's follow up coming up is to speak for himself and other human services directors. The key to the plan would be to eliminate the wait list and sustain the current functions and services without a wait list. He continued that legislators are hearing from consumer groups and advocacy groups that without Family Care expansion, access to long term care services will be based on geography and they would like to take that off the table.

Evans felt it would be interesting to see what transpires as there is enough money to keep this funded through the second quarter. He has spoken with interested parties and what he has found interesting is that there could potentially be a lawsuit against the State because if we all are being taxed at a fair rate, then why do some areas of the State have waiting lists while other areas do not. In essence, we are paying the same amount in taxes and people in areas where they have Family Care are getting full service and our people are not and this could result in a

discrimination lawsuit. Evans also stated that the federal government has already made the ruling stating this program should be implemented.

Shoup emphasized that his first choice would be to expand Family Care and the County Board is in agreement with this as is the Human Services Committee. His duty as Human Services Director is to do his best to assure access to long term care services regardless.

La Violette thanked Shoup for keeping the Committee so well informed on this issue. On another issue, she asked what the current wait is outside of an emergency to see a psychiatrist in the County. Director of Community Programs Jeremy Kral responded that the wait is still currently around the three month mark. He indicated that often people who have been treated at the CTC are able to start medication in a group within a week or two after a stay at the Center but their first follow up appointment with a psychiatrist would be about three months. Human Services does anticipate making some changes in their organizational chart to help in this matter and he will keep the Committee informed of the plan. La Violette stated that she is in favor of hiring another psychiatrist as she feels a three month wait is way too long.

Robinson wished to inform the Committee that he had recently spoken with someone who had taken advantage of the services at the CTC and this person indicated that the services rendered were excellent and Robinson asked Shoup to pass this on to his staff.

Hopp wished to confirm that the Governor did make a line item specifically for increased funding for mental health. Shoup stated that there was $29 million dollars over the biennium and this was allocated to several categories.

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

8. **Financial Report for Community Treatment Center and Community Programs.**

Finance Manager Tim Schmitt stated not much has changed since his last report to the Committee. They are in the process of closing their books for 2012 are forecasting a surplus in Community Programs and a deficit at the CTC.

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

9. **Statistical Reports.**
   a. **Monthly Inpatient Data – Community Treatment Center.**
   b. **Monthly Inpatient Data – Bellin Psychiatric Center.**
   c. **Child Protection – Child Abuse/Neglect Report.**
   d. **Monthly Contract Update.**

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to take Items 9 a-d together and receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

10. **Request for New Non-Continuous Vendor.**

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to approve. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Aging and Disability Resource Center:

11. **ADRC Budget Status Financial Report for December, 2012.**

Motion made by Supervisor La Violette, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Syble Hopp – No agenda items.

Other

12. **Audit of bills.**

Motion made by Supervisor Robinson, seconded by Supervisor Hopp to pay bills. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

13. **Such other Matters as Authorized by Law.**

Motion made by Supervisor Hopp, seconded by Supervisor La Violette to adjourn at 8:00 p.m. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Respectfully submitted,

Therese Giannunzio
Recording Secretary

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Cape Cod community considers taking down wind turbines after illness, noise

By Molly Line Published February 26, 2013 FoxNews.com

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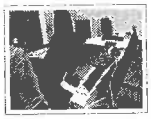

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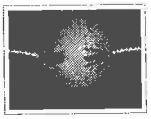

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RCP Average	37.2%	55.5%	-18.3%

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Two wind turbines towering above the Cape Cod community of Falmouth, Mass., were intended to produce green energy and savings -- but they've created angst and division, and may now be removed at a high cost as neighbors complain of noise and illness.

"It gets to be jet-engine loud," said Falmouth resident Neil Andersen. He and his wife Betsy live just a quarter mile from one of the turbines. They say the impact on their health has been devastating. They're suffering headaches, dizziness and sleep deprivation and often seek to escape the property where they've lived for more than 20 years.

"Every time the blade has a downward motion it gives off a tremendous energy, gives off a pulse," said Andersen. "And that pulse, it gets into your tubular organs, chest cavity, mimics a heartbeat, gives you headaches. It's extremely disturbing and it gets to the point where you have to leave."

The first turbine went up in 2010 and by the time both were in place on the industrial site of the town's water treatment facility, the price was $10 million. Town officials say taking them down will cost an estimated $5 million to $15 million, but that is just what Falmouth's five selectmen have decided to move toward doing.

"The selectmen unanimously voted to remove them. We think it's the right thing to do, absolutely," Selectman David Braga said. "You can't put a monetary value on people's health and that's what's happened here. A lot of people are sick because of these."

Now the matter will go to a town meeting vote in April and could ultimately end up on the ballot during the municipal elections in May.

"It's highly likely that what the voters will be determining is are they willing to tax themselves at an appropriate amount to cover the cost and dismantle and shut down the turbines?" Falmouth Town Manager Julian Suso said.

In the meantime, the turbines are being run on a limited schedule as the selectmen respond to the concerns of nearby neighbors. The turbines only run during the day – from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. -- which means they're operating at a loss.

The dispute has been a bitter three-year battle in the seaside town where officials argue the project was thoroughly vetted, researched and put to public vote multiple times.

"To say 'let's let the voters decide' -- it sort of flies in the face of what we went through all these years," said Megan Amsler of the Falmouth Energy Committee.

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"We never tell somebody 'hey, you're going to have to take that coal plant down or you're going to have to stop mining the mountain tops.' These are very visible and a lot of other ways that we get our energy are invisible to the average American," Amsler argued. "People don't even know how much energy they consume on a yearly basis so I think it's good for people to be able to see where their energy comes from and know that it's coming from a clean source."

"I think if we end up taking these turbines down it will be a shame. It will be an embarrassment for the Town of Falmouth," said Amsler.

Town leaders say the state bears some monetary responsibility for the situation because Falmouth was granted renewable energy credits and received advice from state level energy officials through an ongoing partnership.

"They certainly have been involved and have a tremendous stake in this process," said Assistant Town Manager Heather Harper. Harper said the Mass Clean Energy Center "provided the technical assistance to conduct all of the feasibility studies."

"I feel the state is responsible because they were really pushing for more wind power which, believe me, the whole board of selectmen are supportive of renewable energy. I am. Maybe wind, but not in this location," said Braga.

Ultimately, town leaders are hoping the controversy will be resolved and the community will find a way to move forward together.

"It's imperative to the community that we do have a coming together and a healing and find a resolution one way or the other," said Suso. His advice to communities considering a similar project to the one causing strife in Falmouth is "move cautiously, communicate well, have extreme public dialogue and listen well."

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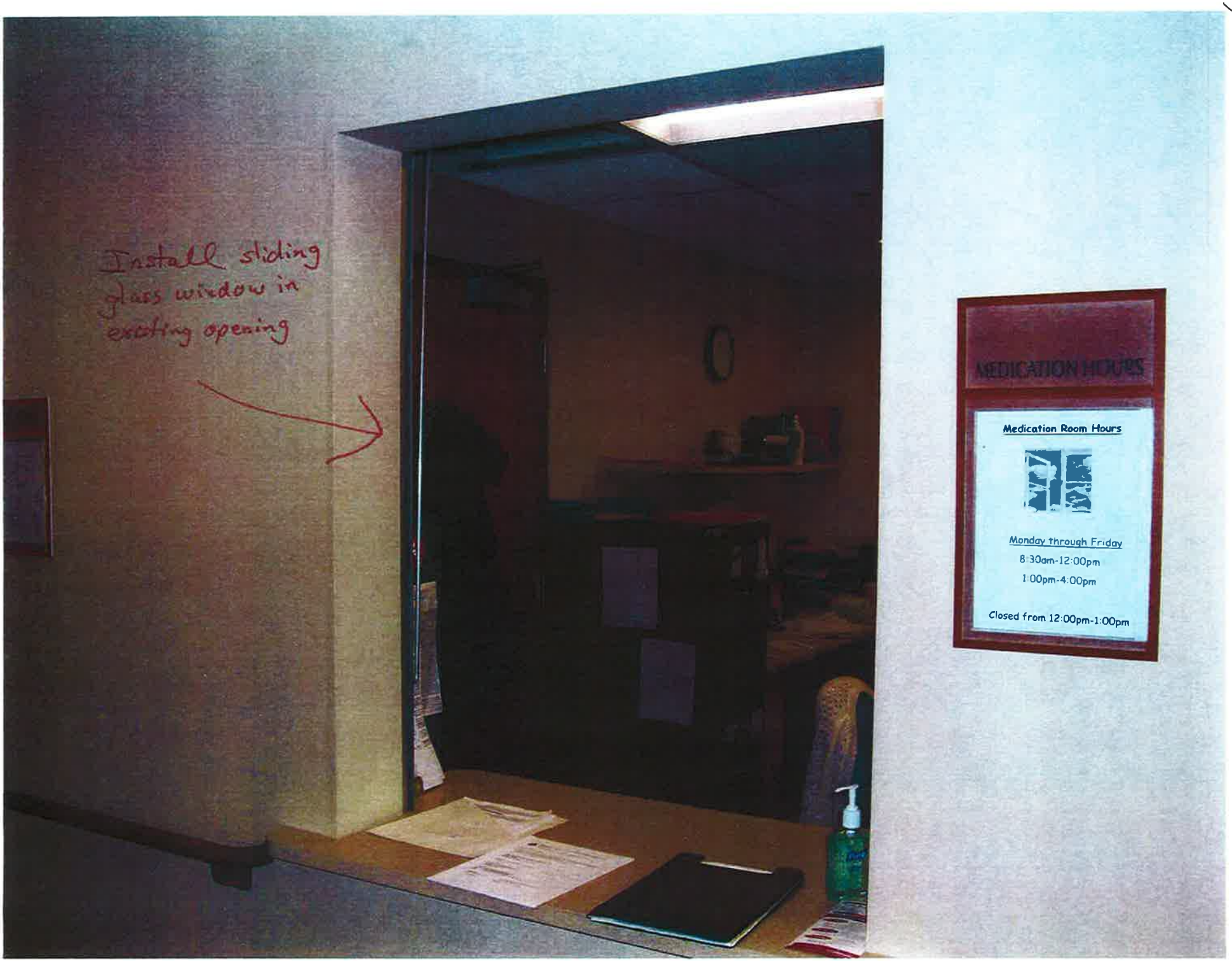
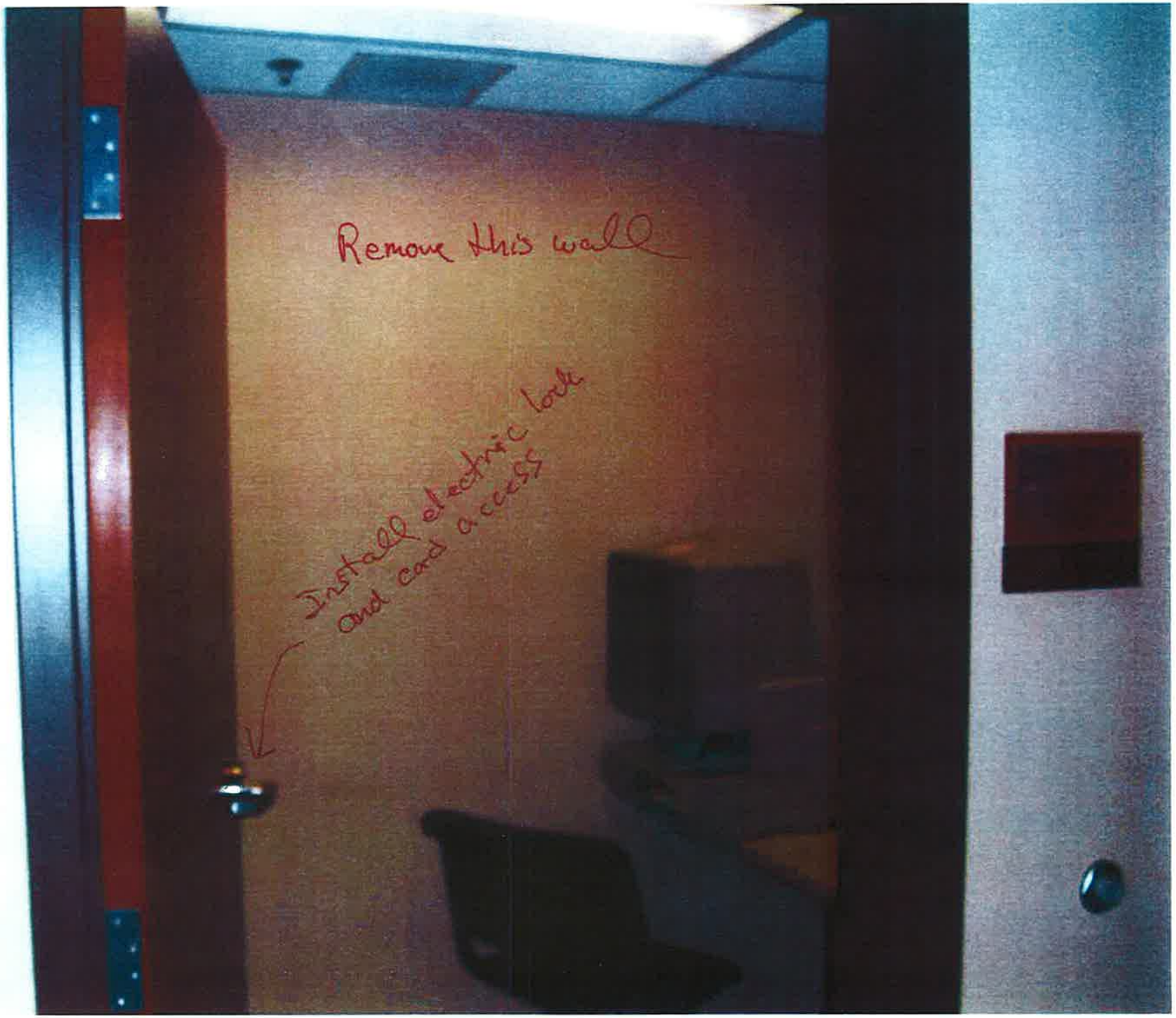
1. Make the area more secure and protect clients confidentiality with adding a glass window. This will also protect the medication that might have to be counted in the secretary area since the window will have a lock on it.
2. Move the door to enter the medication area out and add a key access card reader. This will move the injection waiting room to the clinic waiting area also helping with confidentiality of clients and help to eliminate clients or other staff members from overhearing PHI conversations that might be occurring.
3. Knock down the current injection room wall and eliminate that door along with taking out the current entrance door to the medication area. They will also cut a window area here to allow for better communication between the nurses and secretary.
4. Put a key access card reader on the new injection room along with eliminating the wall between the current medication storage area and testing room. This allows for complete control over who is entering this area.
5. Cabinets will be installed in the secretary area and the new medication storage area to allow for all medication to be locked.


Install sliding glass window in existing opening
MEDICATION HOURS
Medication Room Hours
Monday through Friday
8:30am-12:00pm
1:00pm-4:00pm
Closed from 12:00pm-1:00pm

Remove this wall and door
Install wall, Door, card access

275
-THERAPIST
TESTING
Install electric
lock/hinge +
card access
Send door knobs in
for conversion


Remove this wall
Install electric lock
and card access

Executive Director's Report to Human Services Committee

February 26, 2013

Family Care. I'll devote my entire report to the matter of Family Care. As we expected, Gov. Walker proposed no funds for Family Care expansion in his 2013-15 biennium budget. Based on our discussions with our legislative delegation and the leadership of the Joint Finance Committee, it appears doubtful that the legislature will add such funds for the expansion.

We also believe that it is unlikely that the Northeast Wisconsin Family Care District will receive any extensions of its planning grant. If Family Care eventually expands some years down the road, it is likely that one or several existing MCOs will be assigned to our region. This could be accomplished without the approval of each of the seven counties. This would negate any opportunity that we would have otherwise had to draft a second enabling resolution in a way that protects our interests.

While we have actively and repeatedly conveyed our support of Family Care expansion to both our legislators and to the leadership of the Wisconsin Department of Health Services over the past 3 years, we now believe that it is prudent to devise a "plan B" option. Several weeks ago, anticipating that the Governor's budget would not include Family Care expansion, I requested a meeting with the human services directors of our six partner counties to discuss strategy. We met the day after the Governor presented his budget. At that meeting, we devised a basic framework for a proposal to the legislature that would provide access to long term care services without burdensome waits.

I have briefed our county executive on this matter. This Thursday, I will be meeting with Rep. John Nygren, Co-chair of the Joint Finance Committee and later with Kitty Rhoades, Secretary of the WI Department of Health Services to discuss our proposed framework and seek their advice. Our aim will be to align the interests of our consumers, the interests of the seven county human services agencies, and the interests of the Department of Health Services into a plan B that can be sustained until Family Care will either be expanded into North East Wisconsin or a decision will be made to maintain the waiver programs indefinitely. But the crux of our plan will be to eliminate the wait lists in a way that can be financially sustainable.

Meanwhile, each of the human services directors will be compiling relevant data and costs to develop a detailed plan B. We hope to have this done in several weeks to share with legislators and this committee. I'll stand for any questions.

Respectfully Submitted,

Brian Shoup
Executive Director