

**OFFICIAL PROCEEDINGS OF THE
RICE COUNTY COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE
Commissioner's Room / Government Services Building
Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 8:30 AM**

I. CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

(At the beginning of each Committee of the Whole Work Session meeting, the floor will be open to solicit public comments. Public comments will be limited to two (2) minutes for each person, subject to the discretion of the County Board Chairperson)

II. SOCIAL SERVICES: Mark Shaw

A. James Marthaler from Social Services discussed topics regarding the Mental Health Care they provide for Adults and Children. James states that they have 3 Mental Health professionals on staff that all together have a combined 60 years of experience. They provide outpatient therapy to those who are uninsured or with insurance issues. This staff provides therapy to ongoing patients that suffer depression, they do diagnostic assessments, child protection, Community Corrections, and Jail inmates. These are among the few locations that are utilizing this program. They also provide clinical supervision, meet with wealth of services, schools, organizations, and provide training where it is needed. Each one of them are involved in at least one company community program. James also discussed a little about the Children's Mental Health program. This is ages of birth to age 18. They must meet a special criteria. They typically are children who are admitted, diagnosed, had an emotional disturbance within the family, live within Rice County, or have had a severe impact involving something within the school, family, or even social events. James stated he has 8 Children Mental Health workers. One specializes with Autistic children and 1 is a school attendant specialist. Rice County is the only county to have a Community Support Specialist. They work with Riverbend Nature Center, the Art Center, and Community Center to provide trainings, music and provide fun activities for the children in their care. Average age of children in these programs are 11, however they can start as early as 2. Mark Shaw discussed a little bit about how important this is to have both the programs for Adult and Children in regards to mental awareness. This is a very huge topic that requires much more attention.

III. PARKS & FACILITIES DEPARTMENT: Matthew Verdick

- A. Matthew Verdick brought to the Commissioners some different options that they are looking into regarding the method of delivery to start the process of the Jail/LEC project. As of now the commissioners discussed the options and going forward will have more information at the upcoming board meetings.
- B. Matthew Verdick, discussed some different ideas for the downtown development plan. Nothing has been finalized, but some options have been discussed. More on this to follow in the near future.

IV. ADJOURNMENT

Motion by Dave Miller, seconded by Steve Underdahl, to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: Approved, AYES: Jeff Docken, Dave Miller, Steve Underdahl, Galen Malecha, Jim Purfeerst,
NAYS: None