

## TITLE VII.

# Charitable, Curative, Reformatory And Penal Institutions And Agencies.

### CHAPTER 46

#### SOCIAL SERVICES

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**46.001 Purposes of chapter.** The purposes of this chapter are to conserve human resources in Wisconsin; to provide a just and humane program of services to dependent and neglected children and children born out of wedlock; to prevent dependency, mental illness, mental deficiency, mental infirmity, delinquency, crime and other forms of social maladjustment by a continuous attack on causes; to provide effective aid and services to all persons in need thereof and to assist such persons to achieve or regain self-dependence at the earliest possible date; to provide a just, humane and efficient program for the rehabilitation of juvenile delin-

quents and other offenders; to avoid duplication and waste of effort and money on the part of public and private agencies; and to co-ordinate and integrate a social welfare program.

**46.011 Definitions.** In chs. 46 to 58, unless the context requires otherwise:

(1) "Department" means the department of health and social services.

(2) "Board" means the health and social services board.

(3) "Secretary" means the secretary of health and social services.

**46.013 Functions of board.** (1) **POWERS AND DUTIES.** The board shall plan for and establish within the department a program of research designed to determine the effectiveness of the treatment, curative and rehabilitative programs of the various institutions and divisions of the department. The board may inquire into any matter affecting social welfare and hold hearings and subpoena witnesses and make recommendations to the appropriate agencies, public or private, thereon.

(2) **SECRETARY; ELIGIBILITY.** The secretary's appointment shall be made on the basis of recognized and demonstrated interest in and knowledge of the problems of public welfare and a demonstrable awareness of tolerable limits of the burden of taxation acceptable therein to the citizens of this state. His salary shall be fixed by the board at not to exceed \$2,500 more than the maximum of the highest classified salary range in the department. The board shall consider, among other qualifications, his interest in and knowledge of the treatment phases of public welfare programs. Racial, religious, national or political affiliations shall not be considered in the selection of the secretary.

**46.014 Secretary, powers and duties.** (1) **INVENTORIES.** On or before July 1 in each year, the secretary shall cause full and complete inventories and appraisals to be made of all the property of each institution administered by the department, which shall be recorded and so classified as to show separately the amount, kind and value of such property.

(2) **VISITATION.** The secretary shall cause each of said institutions to be visited and inspected at least once a month to ascertain whether the officers and employes therein are competent and faithful in the discharge of their duties, all inmates properly cared for and governed, all accounts, books and vouchers properly kept, and all the business affairs properly conducted.

**46.016 Co-operation with federal government.** The department may co-operate with the United States in carrying out federal acts concerning public assistance, social security, child welfare and youth services, mental hygiene and corrections, services for the blind, vocational rehabilitation, and in other matters of mutual concern pertaining to public welfare.

**46.017 Legal actions.** The department may sue and be sued.

**46.018 Disbursement of funds and facsimile signatures.** Withdrawal or disbursement of moneys deposited in a public depository,

as defined in s. 34.01 (2), to the credit of the department or any of its divisions or agencies shall be by check signed by the secretary or by one or more persons in the department designated by written authorization of the secretary; such checks to be signed personally or by use of a mechanical device adopted by the secretary or his designees for affixing a facsimile signature. Any public depository shall be fully warranted and protected in making payment on any check bearing such facsimile signature notwithstanding that the same may have been placed thereon without the authority of the secretary or his designees.

**46.03 Department, powers and duties.** The department shall:

(1) **INSTITUTIONS GOVERNED.** Maintain and govern the Mendota and the Winnebago state hospitals, the central state hospital, the Wisconsin correctional reception and treatment center, the Wisconsin state prison, the Wisconsin correctional institution, the Wisconsin state reformatory, the Wisconsin home for women, the Wisconsin correctional camp system, the Wisconsin school for boys, the Kettle Moraine boys school, the Black River camp, the Wisconsin school for girls, the Wisconsin workshop for the blind, the Wisconsin child center and the northern, central and southern colonies and training schools.

(2) **SUPERVISION OVER PROPERTY.** Supervise, manage, preserve and care for the buildings, grounds and other property pertaining to said institutions, and promote the objects for which they are established.

(2a) **GIFTS.** The department may accept gifts, grants or donations of money or of property from private sources to be administered by the department for the execution of its functions. All moneys so received shall be paid into the general fund and are appropriated therefrom as provided in s. 20.435 (9) (i).

(3) **TRUSTEE DUTY.** Take and hold in trust (whenever it deems acceptance advantageous) all property transferred to the state to be applied to any specified purpose, use or benefit pertaining to any of the institutions under its control or the inmates thereof, and apply the same in accordance with the trust; and when ordered by the court, act as trustee of funds paid for the support of any child in a proceeding under ss. 52.21 to 52.45.

(4) **EDUCATION AND PREVENTION.** (a) Develop and maintain such programs of education and prevention as it deems proper.

(b) 1. The department, in order to discharge more effectively its responsibilities under chs. 46 and 48 and other relevant provisions of the stat-

utes, is authorized to study causes and methods of prevention and treatment of juvenile delinquency, mental illness, mental deficiency, mental infirmity, and related social problems, including establishment of demonstration projects to apply and evaluate such methods in actual cases. The department is directed and authorized to utilize all powers provided by the statutes, including the authority under sub. (2a), to accept grants of money or property from federal, state or private sources, and to enlist the co-operation of other appropriate agencies and state departments; it may enter into agreements with local government subdivisions, departments and agencies for the joint conduct of such projects; and it may purchase services when deemed appropriate.

(5) **MENTAL HYGIENE.** (a) Execute the laws relating to the custody, care and treatment of mentally ill, mentally infirm and mentally deficient persons, inebriates and drug addicts. It shall examine all institutions, public and private, authorized to receive and care for such persons, and inquire into the method of government and the management of persons therein, and examine into the condition of buildings, grounds and other property connected with any such institution and into matters relating to its management.

(b) Direct the psychiatric field work, aftercare and community supervision and exercise such powers in relation to prevention as the department deems appropriate.

(6) **CORRECTIONS.** (a) Execute the laws relating to the detention, reformation and correction of delinquents.

(b) Supervise the custody and discipline of all prisoners and the maintenance of state penal and correctional institutions and the industries therein.

(c) Administer parole and probation matters.

(d) If requested by the governor, make recommendations as to pardons or commutations of sentence.

(e) Examine all institutions authorized by law to receive and detain witnesses or prisoners or convicted persons and places of juvenile detention, and inquire into their methods and the management of persons therein, and examine the condition of buildings and grounds and other property connected with any such institution and all matters relating to its management.

(f) Direct the aftercare of and supervise all delinquents under its jurisdiction and exercise such functions as it deems appropriate for the prevention of crime and delinquency.

(g) Direct the penal and correctional psychiatric service in all correctional and penal institutions, making its services available to those committed to the department as delinquent children or as convicted criminals.

(h) Direct the educational programs in all correctional schools and correctional and penal institutions.

(7) **CHILDREN AND YOUTH.** (a) Promote the enforcement of laws for the protection of mentally deficient, dependent, neglected and delinquent children and children born out of wedlock; and to this end co-operate with juvenile courts and licensed child welfare agencies and institutions (public and private) and take the initiative in all matters involving the interests of such children where adequate provision therefor has not already been made.

(b) When notified of the birth or expected birth of a child born or likely to be born out of wedlock, see to it (through advice and assistance to the mother or independently) that the interests of the child are safeguarded, that steps are taken to establish its paternity and that there is secured for the child (as near as possible) the care, support and education that would be given if legitimate.

(c) Administer the laws relating to child care centers, day nurseries and nursery schools.

(d) Administer the program of youth services under ch. 54.

(8) **PUBLIC ASSISTANCE.** Administer public assistance, as provided in chapter 49.

(9) **BLIND PERSONS.** Administer the Wisconsin workshop for the blind and perform other functions prescribed in chapter 47.

(10) **TRAINING STAFF.** In its discretion, conduct a training program of in-service training and staff development; and, in co-operation with educational institutions, provide facilities for work experience for students, including subsistence.

(12) **VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION.** Execute the laws relating to the vocational rehabilitation of handicapped persons as provided in ch. 55.

(13) **CHARGES.** In compliance with the provisions of the compensation plan established pursuant to s. 16.086 (3) have authority to make and determine charges for meals, living quarters, laundry and other services furnished to employees of the several institutions and members of the employee's family maintained as such. All moneys received from each and every person for or on account of such services shall be paid within one week after receipt into the general fund and shall be credited to the appropriation provided for this purpose by ch. 20.

(a) When a chaplain employed in any state institution is not furnished a residence by the state, \$1,800 or 20 per cent of his salary, whichever is greater, shall be deemed to constitute the amount to be paid to him in lieu of such residence.

(14) **VENDING STANDS.** Pursuant to rules adopted establish and maintain a revolving fund not exceeding \$10,000 in any of the state institutions administered by the department, for the education, recreation and convenience of the patients, inmates and employes, to be used for the operation of vending stands, reading clubs, musical organizations, religious programs, athletics and similar projects. Such funds are exempt from s. 20.906, but are subject to audit by the department and the legislative audit bureau in its discretion.

(15) **COMMISSARY.** Pursuant to its rules the department may, with the approval of the governor and the director of personnel, provide employes in its institutions with laundry, food, housing and necessary furnishings.

(16) **DRIVERS' EDUCATION.** The department shall establish a drivers' education program in the Wisconsin school for boys, the Kettle Moraine boys school and the Wisconsin school for girls to provide drivers' education to inmates of such institutions who are about to become eligible to qualify for an operator's license.

(17) **PURCHASE OF CARE AND SERVICES.** Be empowered to contract with public or voluntary agencies or others:

(a) To purchase in full or in part care and services which it is authorized by any statute to provide as an alternative to providing such care and services itself.

(b) To purchase in full or in part the care and services which county agencies may provide or purchase under any statute and to sell to county agencies such portions thereof as the county agency may desire to purchase.

History: 1971 c. 270 s. 104.

**46.035 Department, additional powers to provide structures, facilities and permanent improvements.** (1) As used in this section unless the context requires otherwise:

(a) The term "existing building" in relation to any conveyance, lease or sublease made under sub. (2) (a) 1, 2 and 3 means all detention, treatment, administrative, recreational, infirmary, hospital, vocational and academic buildings; all dormitories and cottages; all storage facilities, heating plants, sewage disposal plants, and such other buildings, structures, facilities and permanent improvements as in the judgment of the board are needed or useful for the purposes of

the department, and all equipment therefor and all improvements and additions thereto which were erected, constructed or installed prior to the making of such conveyance, lease or sublease.

(b) The term "new building" in relation to any conveyance, lease or sublease made under sub. (2) (a) 1, 2 and 3 means all detention, treatment, administrative, recreational, infirmary, hospital, vocational and academic buildings; all dormitories and cottages; all storage facilities, heating plants, sewage disposal plants, and such other buildings, structures, facilities and permanent improvements as in the judgment of the board are needed or useful for the purposes of the department, and all equipment therefor and all improvements and additions thereto which are erected, constructed or installed after the making of such conveyance, lease or sublease.

(c) The term "nonprofit corporation" means a nonstock, nonprofit corporation organized under ch. 181 or any law amendatory thereof or supplemental thereto.

(2) The department shall have and may exercise the powers and duties provided in this section.

(a) In order to provide new buildings and to enable the construction and financing thereof, to refinance indebtedness hereafter created by a nonprofit corporation for the purpose of providing a new building or buildings or additions or improvements thereto which are located on land owned by, or owned by the state and held for, the department or on lands of the institutions under the jurisdiction of the department or by the nonprofit corporation, or for any one or more of said purposes, but for no other purpose unless authorized by law, the department has the following powers and duties:

1. Without limitation by reason of any other provisions of the statutes, the power to sell and to convey title in fee simple to a nonprofit corporation any land and any existing buildings thereon owned by, or owned by the state and held for, the department or of any of the institutions under the jurisdiction of the department for such consideration and upon such terms and conditions as in the judgment of the board are in the public interest.

2. The power to lease to a nonprofit corporation for a term or terms not exceeding 50 years each any land and any existing buildings thereon owned by, or owned by the state and held for, the department or of any of the institutions under the jurisdiction of the department upon such terms and conditions as in the judgment of the board are in the public interest.

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3. The power to lease or sublease from such nonprofit corporation, and to make available for public use, any such land and existing buildings conveyed or leased to such nonprofit corporation under subds. 1 and 2, and any new buildings erected upon such land or upon any other land owned by such nonprofit corporation, upon such terms, conditions and rentals, subject to available appropriations, as in the judgment of the board are in the public interest. With respect to any property conveyed to such nonprofit corporation under subd. 1, such lease from such nonprofit corporation may be subject or subordinated to one or more mortgages of such property granted by such nonprofit corporation.

4. The duty to submit the plans and specifications for all such new buildings and all conveyances, leases and subleases made under this section to the department of administration and the governor for written approval before they are finally adopted, executed and delivered.

5. The power to pledge and assign all or any part of the revenues derived from the operation of such new buildings as security for the payment of rentals due and to become due under any lease or sublease of such new buildings under subd. 3.

6. The power to covenant and agree in any lease or sublease of such new buildings made under subd. 3 to impose fees, rentals or other charges for the use and occupancy or other operation of such new buildings in an amount calculated to produce net revenues sufficient to pay the rentals due and to become due under such lease or sublease.

7. The power to apply all or any part of the revenues derived from the operation of existing buildings to the payment of rentals due and to become due under any lease or sublease made under subd. 3.

8. The power to pledge and assign all or any part of the revenues derived from the operation of existing buildings to the payment of rentals due and to become due under any lease or sublease made under subd. 3.

9. The power to covenant and agree in any lease or sublease made under subd. 3 to impose fees, rentals or other charges for the use and occupancy or other operation of existing buildings in an amount calculated to produce net revenues sufficient to pay the rentals due and to become due under such lease or sublease.

10. The power and duty, upon receipt of notice of any assignment by any such nonprofit corporation of any lease or sublease made under subd. 3, or of any of its rights under any such sublease, to recognize and give effect to such assignment, and to pay to the assignee thereof

rentals or other payments then due or which may become due under any such lease or sublease which has been so assigned by such nonprofit corporation.

(b) The state shall be liable for accrued rentals and for any other default under any lease or sublease made under par. (a) 3, and may be sued therefor on contract as in other contract actions pursuant to ch. 285, except that it shall not be necessary for the lessor under any such lease or sublease or any assignee of such lessor or any person or other legal entity proceeding on behalf of such lessor to file any claim with the legislature prior to the commencement of any such action.

(c) Nothing in this section empowers the board or the department to incur any state debt.

(d) All powers and duties conferred upon the board or the department pursuant to this section shall be exercised and performed by resolution of the board. All conveyances, leases and subleases made pursuant to this section, when authorized pursuant to resolution of the board, shall be made, executed and delivered in the name of the department and shall be signed by the director and sealed with the seal of the department.

(e) All laws, conflicting with any provisions of this section, are, insofar as they conflict with this section and no further, superseded by this section.

**46.041 Children's consultation service; establishment; purposes.** (1) A program to be known as the "children's consultation service" shall be provided. The service shall be established at Mendota state hospital or Winnebago state hospital, or at both institutions. The service shall:

(a) Provide for the temporary residence and evaluation of children referred from juvenile courts, the institutions and services under the jurisdiction of the department, Wisconsin general hospital, county child welfare agencies, private child welfare agencies, schools for the deaf and visually handicapped, and mental health facilities within the state at the discretion of the superintendent.

(b) Promote the development of preventive mental health services to children in communities by participating in the training of mental health personnel, by demonstration of methods of evaluation, care and treatment, by assisting in the assessment of community services and the development of the most effective co-ordination between the institution and the community, and by offering services when community resources need to be supplemented.

(2) When a patient is transferred directly from the children's consultation service to the Wisconsin general hospital, s. 46.115 shall apply.

**46.042 Treatment center for emotionally disturbed children.** (1) **CREATION.** There shall be constructed and equipped in or near Madison a residential facility of approximately 30 beds for the intensive treatment of emotionally disturbed children under the administration of the department. Operational planning shall provide for close interrelationship between the department and the university of Wisconsin medical school for conduct of educational and research programs within this facility.

(2) **ADMISSIONS.** Admissions shall be limited to children in the approximate age group of 6 to 12 years when admitted and who have legal settlement in this state. Admissions shall be made by the secretary on the recommendation of the staff of the treatment center under the following conditions:

(a) For children committed to the department, by order of the secretary.

(b) For all other children, upon the written application of the parent or guardian, supported by the certificate of his physician based on personal examination. Such application shall include consent for such treatments as in the judgment of the superintendent are necessary for the patient's health and welfare. Such patient may be discharged by the superintendent, or withdrawn by the parent or guardian upon 10 days' written notice, but if such withdrawal is against medical advice, the superintendent shall notify the secretary immediately upon receipt of such notice.

(3) **CHARGES.** The state shall bear the full cost of care and treatment of patients except that the individual or his parents or guardians shall contribute to the cost of treatment up to a maximum of \$60 per month based on the ability to pay as determined by the department.

(4) **STAFF.** The professional medical staff shall be appointed by the secretary upon the recommendation of the dean of the University of Wisconsin medical school. The department is authorized to appoint such other staff as is required to operate such facility.

(5) **FOLLOW-UP.** The department may by rule establish procedures for reporting the subsequent medical progress of a patient, as far as can be determined, whenever a patient is released from the treatment center by the superintendent after treatment.

**46.043 Wisconsin correctional reception and treatment center.** There is established a

new institution to be known as the Wisconsin correctional reception and treatment center. The department, with the approval of the governor, may purchase lands for a suitable site and erect and equip such buildings as it deems necessary from funds appropriated for the long-range building program. Such institution when constructed shall be maintained and operated by the department for the reception, classification and treatment of offenders sentenced to the Wisconsin state prisons and for the diagnosis and treatment of persons committed under ch. 975. All laws pertaining to the care of state prison inmates shall apply. Officers and employees of the institution shall be subject to the same laws as pertain to other penal institutions.

**46.046 Wisconsin correctional camp system.** The department may establish and operate a correctional camp program known as the Wisconsin correctional camp system. The secretary may, with approval of the board, allocate and reallocate existing and future facilities as part of this system. The Wisconsin correctional camp system shall be an institution as defined in s. 46.03 and shall be a state prison as defined in s. 53.01. Inmates from the Wisconsin state prisons may be transferred to this institution and they shall be subject to all laws pertaining to inmates of other penal institutions of this state. Officers and employees of the institution shall be subject to the same laws as pertain to other penal institutions. Inmates shall not be received on direct commitment from the courts.

**46.047 Medium security prison.** The department may construct a medium security prison to be known as the Wisconsin correctional institution on state-owned land known as prison farm 10 in Dodge county. Inmates from the Wisconsin state prisons may be transferred to this institution and they shall be subject to all laws pertaining to inmates of other penal institutions of this state. Officers and employees of the institutions shall be subject to the same laws as pertain to other penal institutions. Inmates shall not be received on direct commitment from the courts.

**46.048 Central Wisconsin colony and training school.** There is established a new institution to be located near the city of Madison and to be known as the central Wisconsin colony and training school. The department, with the approval of the governor, is authorized to purchase lands for a suitable site and to erect and equip such buildings as it deems necessary from funds appropriated for the long-range building program. Such institution when con-

structed shall be maintained and operated by the department and all laws pertaining to the care of mentally deficient patients shall apply.

**46.049 Training school for delinquent boys.** The department, with the approval of the governor, may purchase or accept a gift of land for a suitable site for an additional training school for delinquent boys and erect and equip such buildings as it deems necessary at such time as funds may be allocated for that purpose by the building commission. Such training school or other additional facilities for delinquent boys financed by the authorized 1965-67 building program shall be located north of a line between La Crosse and Manitowoc. Such institution when constructed shall be maintained and operated by the department for the treatment of delinquent boys committed to the department under s. 48.34. All laws pertaining to the care of children received under s. 48.34 shall apply. Officers and employes of the institution are subject to the same laws as apply to other facilities described in s. 48.52.

**46.05 Bonds of employes; police powers; investigation of complaints.** (1) The steward of each institution shall execute and file an official bond in such sum and with such sureties as the secretary prescribes. He shall also require any other officer or other person having the possession or custody of any money or property belonging to the state or any institution under its control or supervision to give an official bond, and from time to time renew the same. The secretary may require a position bond whenever it appears to him advisable, such position bond to have the same coverage as the official bond.

(2) The warden and the superintendent of all the state charitable, curative, penal and reformatory institutions and of county hospitals and county homes, and such employes under them to whom they delegate police power, may arrest any person within or upon the grounds of such institutions whom they have reason to believe guilty of any offense against the laws or regulations governing the same; and for such purpose they shall possess the powers of constables.

(3) The department shall investigate complaints against any institution under its jurisdiction or against the officers or employes thereof. For that purpose the secretary and such officers and employes as he authorizes may summon and swear witnesses, take testimony and compel the production of books and papers. The department may, on its own initiative, investigate the affairs of any institution. Any written communication or complaint addressed to the secretary or

the board or any of its members by any inmate, employe or subordinate of any such institution shall be forthwith forwarded unopened to the addressee.

**46.06 Lands; condemnation, easements, leases, sales, purchases.** (1) **CONDEMNATION.** When the department is authorized and desires to acquire land and is unable to agree with the owner upon the terms of purchase, or when such agreement cannot be had without unreasonable delay, the department may condemn the land in the manner prescribed in chapter 32.

(2) **EASEMENTS.** The department may grant easements for the extension of municipal and public utilities onto the lands of the institutions under its jurisdiction, for the purpose of connecting railroads, roads, waterworks, sewers, electric lines and similar facilities, to serve such institutions.

(3) **LEASES.** The department may rent additional lands for the operation of the institutions under its jurisdiction.

(4) **SALES.** The department may, with the approval of the building commission and the board on government operations, sell and convey such lands under the jurisdiction of the department as the board deems to be in excess of the present or future requirements of the department for either the operation of its facilities or programs, for the maintenance of buffer zones adjacent to its facilities or for other public purposes. The proceeds of such sales shall be credited to the state building trust fund.

(5) **PURCHASES.** The department may, with the approval of and release of state building trust fund by the building commission and the board on government operations, acquire by purchase such lands, together with such improvements as are situated thereon, as the board deems necessary for the department's farm programs, or for the purpose of providing adequate buffer zones to its existing facilities, or for the purpose of eliminating flexuous boundaries in cooperation with owners of lands adjoining lands under the department's jurisdiction.

**46.062 Payment for damaged employe clothing, etc.** The department in which an employe is employed shall pay the cost of repairing eye glasses, watches or articles of clothing damaged in the line of duty where such damage results from any act of a person committed to or confined in any state facility, or institution of the state under the jurisdiction of the department. If the eye glasses, watches or clothes are damaged beyond repair, the department shall

pay the actual value of such eye glasses or clothing as determined by the rules of the department, and the actual value of watches but not to exceed \$50 each. The value of such articles shall be determined as of the time of the damage thereto.

**46.064 Allowances to juveniles and patients.** (1) ALLOWANCES TO JUVENILES. The department may pay an allowance for employment to juveniles at its institutions. The allowance shall not exceed \$1 per calendar week, and shall be paid from the appropriations made by s. 20.435 (3) (a) and (4) (a). The department shall prescribe the amount of pay and such reasonable hours, health and other conditions as shall be observed in connection with the employment. This section shall not affect any other statutory provision providing for pay to inmates nor shall these provisions act as a limitation on wages paid inmates at the state prisons or to juveniles transferred to a forestry or conservation camp organized under s. 48.52 (1) (d).

(2) ALLOWANCES TO PATIENTS. The department may pay an allowance, not to exceed \$1.50 per week, to patients at its state hospitals as defined in ch. 51 for employment from the appropriation under s. 20.435 (2) (a).

History: 1971 c. 125, 215.

**46.065 Wages to prisoners.** The department may provide for assistance of prisoners on their discharge, or for the support of their families while in confinement by the allowance of moderate wages, to be paid from the operation, maintenance, farm and construction appropriations of the institution in which they are confined. Until the prisoner's final discharge, the funds arising therefrom shall be under the control of the officer in charge of the institution and shall be used for the benefit of the prisoner and his family.

**46.066 Freedom of worship; religious ministrations.** (1) Subject to reasonable exercise of the privilege, clergymen of all religious faiths shall be given an opportunity to conduct religious services within the state institutions at least once each week, attendance at such services to be voluntary.

(2) Religious ministrations and sacraments according to his faith shall be allowed to every inmate who requests them.

(3) Every inmate who requests it shall have the use of the Bible.

**46.07 Property of inmates and probationers; deposit and distribution.** (1) PROPERTY DELIVERED TO STEWARD; CREDIT AND DEBIT.

All money including wages under ss. 46.064, 46.065 and 53.12 and other property delivered to an officer or employe of any institution for the benefit of an inmate shall forthwith be delivered to the steward, who shall enter the same upon his books to the credit of the inmate. Such property shall be used only under the direction and with the approval of the superintendent or warden and for the benefit of the inmate. If the money remains uncalled for for one year after his death or departure from the institution, the superintendent shall deposit the same in the general fund. If any inmate leaves property (other than money) uncalled for at an institution for one year, the superintendent shall sell the property, and the proceeds shall be deposited in the general fund. If any person satisfies the department, within 5 years after such deposit, of his right to the deposit, the department shall direct the department of administration to draw its warrant in favor of the claimant and it shall charge the same to the appropriation made by s. 20.913 (3) (c).

(2) PROPERTY DELIVERED TO OFFICER OR EMPLOYEE. (a) All money or other property paid or delivered to a probation officer or employe of the department by or for the benefit of any person on probation or parole shall be immediately transmitted to the department and it shall enter the same upon its books to his credit. Such property shall be used only under the direction of the department.

(b) If he absconds, the money shall be credited to the revolving fund created by section 57.075; and other property if not called for within one year shall be sold by the department and the proceeds shall be credited to said fund.

(c) If any person, within 5 years after such crediting of funds, satisfies the department that he is entitled thereto, the department shall certify the amount thereof to the department of administration for payment to the claimant from the appropriation made by s. 20.435 (3) (km).

**46.08 Audits and estimates of expenditures of institutions.** Each month the superintendent of each institution shall prepare and file in duplicate with the department a detailed estimate of the expenditures which will be necessary for each institution during the next month. No liability shall be incurred without such estimate being first made and approved by the department. The department shall fix a time, as often as once in each month, for auditing all accounts and charges against institutions.

**46.09 Purchases, bills, audits, payments.** (1) STEWARD AS BUSINESS MANAGER. The steward of each institution shall be the local

business manager and requisitioning officer, subject to the direction and the rules and regulations of the department, and within the limits of the approved monthly estimates shall purchase (as provided in ss. 16.70 to 16.82) all necessary materials and supplies. He shall have the immediate charge of all books, accounts, papers and records relating to its financial management, shall keep detailed accounts of all receipts and expenditures, and shall be responsible for the safekeeping and economical use of all stores and supplies.

(2) **BUTTER AND CHEESE.** No butter or cheese not made wholly and directly from pure milk or cream, salt and harmless coloring matter shall be used in any of the institutions of the state.

(3) **PUBLIC WELFARE INSTITUTIONS PRE-AUDIT; PAYMENTS.** Unless otherwise provided by law, no bills shall be incurred in the management of such institutions nor be paid until they have been audited by the department under the supervision of the department of administration. All payments shall be made on the warrant of the department of administration drawn in accordance with the certificate of the proper designated officer of the department. All claims and accounts before being certified to the department of administration by the aforesaid department, shall be verified and approved in the same manner as provided in s. 36.10 (2).

**46.10 Maintenance of inmates or outpatients, liability; collection and deportation counsel; collections; court action; recovery.**

(1) Liability for outpatient services and supplies and for the maintenance of patients in the institutions specified in this section and the collection and enforcement of such liability is governed exclusively by this section.

(2) Any outpatient or patient in any charitable or curative institution of the state including the Wisconsin general hospital or of any county or municipality, in which the state is chargeable with all or a part of the patient's maintenance, except tuberculosis patients mentioned in ch. 50 and ss. 51.27 and 58.06 (2), or heretofore or hereafter committed or admitted to any such institution, and his property and estate, including his homestead, or the husband or wife of such patient and their property or estates, including their homesteads, and in the case of a minor child the father or mother of the patient, and their property and estates, including their homesteads, shall be liable for such patient's maintenance not exceeding the actual per capita cost thereof, except as provided in sub. (14) and s. 51.37 (4), and the department may bring ac-

tion for the enforcement of such liability, except that when it is shown that a husband, wife, widow or minors, or an incapacitated person may be lawfully dependent upon such property for their support, the court shall give due regard to this fact and release all or such part of the property and estate from such charge that may be necessary to provide for such persons. The department shall make every reasonable effort to notify the relatives liable as soon as possible after the beginning of the maintenance but such notice or the receipt thereof is not a condition of liability of the relative.

(3) After investigation of the ability to pay of the patient or relative liable for such maintenance, the department shall make collection from the patient or the person who in the opinion of the department under all of the circumstances is best able to pay, giving due regard to relationship and the present needs of the person or of his lawful dependents. However, the liability of relatives for maintenance shall be in the following order: first, the husband or wife of the patient; then, in the case of a minor, the father, and lastly the mother.

(4) Upon the failure of any relative liable for maintenance to make payment or enter into or comply with an agreement for payment, the department may apply to the county court of the county in which the patient resides or has a legal settlement or in which such relative resides for an order to compel payment by such relative. Upon failure to comply with that order, the department may commence an action to recover the amount due.

(5) Upon such application the county court shall hear the allegations and proofs of the parties and shall by order require payment of maintenance by the relative liable therefor, if of sufficient ability, having due regard to the present needs of himself and his lawful dependents. The order shall specify an amount for maintenance to be paid periodically during a specified period or until the further order of the court. Notice of hearing on the application shall be served upon such relative at least 10 days prior to the hearing in the manner of service of a summons in the circuit court. Upon application of any interested party, and upon like notice and procedure, the county court may modify such order. Any party aggrieved by such order or by the judgment of the court may appeal therefrom in the manner provided by law. If an appeal is taken by the department, an undertaking need not be filed.

(6) The per capita cost of maintenance shall be computed by the department. The sworn statement of the superintendent of the institution in which such patient is or was maintained, or of

the collection and deportation counsel, or of the secretary, shall be evidence of such cost, and of the time spent by the patient in the institution.

(7) The department shall administer and enforce this section. It shall appoint an attorney to be designated "collection and deportation counsel" and other necessary assistants. The department may delegate to such counsel such other powers and duties as it deems advisable. He or any of his assistants may administer oaths, take affidavits and testimony, examine public records, subpoena witnesses and the production of books, papers, records, and documents material to any matter of proceeding relating to payments for the cost of maintenance. The department shall encourage agreements or settlements with the patient or the relative liable for his maintenance, having due regard to ability to pay and the present needs of lawful dependents.

(8) The department may:

(a) Appear for the state in any and all collection and deportation matters arising in the several courts, and may commence suit in the name of the department to recover the cost of maintenance against the person liable therefor.

(b) Determine whether any patients are subject to deportation; and on behalf of this state enter into reciprocal agreements with other states for deportation and importation of persons who are public charges, upon such terms as will protect the state's interests and promote mutual amicable relations with other states.

(c) From time to time investigate the financial condition and needs of such patients and of the relatives liable for their maintenance, their ability to presently maintain themselves, the persons legally dependent upon them for support, the protection of the property and investments of patients and relatives from which they derive their living and their care and protection, for the purpose of ascertaining the ability of any patient or of any such relative to make payment in whole or in part for the maintenance of such patients.

(d) After due regard to the case and to a wife, husband and minor children who are lawfully dependent on the property for support, compromise or waive the whole or any portion of any claim which the state and county may have for cost of maintenance.

(e) Make agreements with relatives liable therefor, or who may be willing to assume the cost of maintenance of any patient, providing for the payment of such costs at a specified rate or amount.

(f) 1. Make adjustment and settlement with the several counties for their proper share of all moneys collected.

2. Adjustment and settlement of all moneys collected for care furnished in a county mental hospital established pursuant to s. 51.25, and the county mental health center, south division, established under s. 51.24 (1) shall be as follows:

a. Where a patient has legal settlement in a county of this state, the adjustment and settlement between the state and county of legal settlement shall be at the percentage rate of participation determined pursuant to s. 51.08 (2) and (3) as of July 1 of the fiscal year in which such collections are made, except collections made during the 1971-72 fiscal year and thereafter. For moneys collected during the fiscal year 1971-72 and thereafter, for maintenance, care and treatment of each patient hospitalized in the county of his legal settlement, the adjustment and settlement between the state and such county shall be at the rate of 60% to the state or that amount as is equal to the percentage rate of participation of the state set forth in s. 49.52 (2) (a) 1 and 2, whichever is higher. The percentage rate of participation under s. 49.52 (2) (a) on January 1 of the fiscal year in which such collections are made shall be used to determine by the method established by this section the percentage rate of participation of the state. For moneys collected during the fiscal year 1971-72 and thereafter, for maintenance, care and treatment of a patient in a county hospital operated by a county other than the county of such patient's legal settlement, the adjustment and settlement between the state and such county shall be at the rate of 50% to the state and 50% to the county of legal settlement.

b. 100% to the state when the patient has no legal settlement in any county.

c. Adjustments and settlement shall be made with the state and the several counties, as soon after the close of each quarter as is practicable, for all moneys collected under ss. 49.46 and 49.47 for care of patients in county mental hospitals established pursuant to s. 51.25. Settlement for the last quarter of each fiscal year shall be made not later than the following August 15. This section shall apply to collections made on and after July 1, 1967.

3. Adjustment and settlement of all moneys collected for care furnished after July 1, 1964, at the county mental health center, north division, established under s. 51.24 (1) shall be as follows:

a. Sixty per cent to the state and 40% to the county of legal settlement when the patient is hospitalized in the county of his legal settlement.

b. Prorate between state and county of legal settlement on the percentage ratio each has contributed of the individual average per capita cost where the patient has legal settlement in a county other than the county where hospitalized.

c. 100 per cent to the state where the patient has no legal settlement in any county.

4. Adjustment and settlement of all moneys collected for care furnished in the state hospitals as defined in s. 51.001 (3), excluding the treatment center for emotionally disturbed children, shall be as follows:

a. Where a patient has legal settlement in a county of this state, adjustment and settlement between the state and county of legal settlement of all moneys collected for services provided in a hospital for the mentally ill shall be at the percentage rate of participation determined pursuant to s. 51.08 (1) (a) as of July 1 of the fiscal year in which such collections are made.

b. Where a patient has legal settlement in a county of this state, adjustment and settlement between the state and county of settlement of all moneys collected for services provided in a colony for the mentally retarded, excluding payments of medical assistance under ch. 49, shall be at the percentage rate of participation in the per capita cost of care as determined pursuant to s. 51.08 (1) (b) as of July 1 of the fiscal year in which such collections are made.

c. 100% to the state when the patient has no legal settlement in any county.

(9) Any person who wilfully testifies falsely as to any material matter in an investigation or proceeding under this section shall be guilty of perjury. Banks, insurance companies, savings and loan associations, brokers and fiduciaries, upon request of the department, shall furnish in writing and duly certified, full information regarding the property, earnings or income or any funds deposited to the credit of or owing to such patient or any person legally responsible for the maintenance of such patient. Such certified statement shall be admissible in evidence in any action or proceeding to compel payment for the maintenance of such patient, and shall be evidence of the facts therein stated, provided a copy of such statement be served upon the party sought to be charged not less than 3 days before the hearing.

(10) The department shall make all reasonable and proper efforts to collect all claims for maintenance, to keep payments current, and to periodically review all unpaid claims.

(11) In any action to recover maintenance, the statute of limitations may be pleaded in defense.

(12) The district attorney or his assistants in counties having a population of 500,000 or more shall, in matters pertaining to the recovery of the cost of maintenance of inmates in county and state institutions having a legal settlement in such county, have the same authority as granted in this section to the department.

(13) This section does not impair any rights or liability existing prior to June 19, 1947.

(14) After November 3, 1967, wherever the actual per capita cost for care and maintenance of patients under 18 years of age at county mental hospitals, a county mental health center under s. 51.24, the colonies and training schools, Mendota state hospital, Winnebago state hospital and central state hospital exceeds \$60 for a month of 31 days, liability of such patients or parents under sub. (2) shall be limited to \$60 per month. In any case the department may grant a lesser special rate per month based on the ability to pay of the patient or parent, and no liability shall accrue for the difference between the lesser special rate and \$60. Where parents hold hospitalization insurance paying benefits in excess of \$60 a month, they shall be liable to the extent of the coverage provided by the hospitalization insurance but not in excess of the actual per capita cost of care and maintenance.

History: 1971 c. 125; 1971 c. 213 s. 5.

**46.105 Wisconsin general hospital accounts; collection.** The department shall make all reasonable and proper efforts, including court actions, to collect all delinquent special rate or pay accounts at the Wisconsin general hospital. All moneys collected shall be deposited weekly with the state treasurer who shall credit 15% thereof to the appropriation made by s. 20.435 (8) (k), and the balance thereof to the appropriation made by s. 20.285 (1) (ka).

**46.106 Maintenance of inmates; settlements between state and counties.** (1) LEGAL SETTLEMENT DETERMINED. When a person is committed or admitted to a charitable, curative, reformatory or penal institution of the state or of a county (except tuberculosis patients under ch. 50 and ss. 51.27 and 58.06 (2)) the committing or admitting judge or board shall determine his legal settlement pursuant to s. 49.10, and certify the same to the superintendent of the institution and to the county clerk of the county of legal settlement. The county of his legal settlement shall be charged with his support as provided by law. If it is found that he does not have a legal settlement in the state, the state shall be charged with his support, and the judge or board shall submit a transcript of the testimony taken with respect to legal settlement to the department. Nothing shall prevent a recovery of the actual per capita cost of such maintenance by the department or by the county in counties having a population of 500,000 or more, or prohibit the acceptance by the department of payment of the cost of maintenance, or

a part thereof, by such person or anyone in his behalf.

(1m) NOTICE BY COMMITTING OR ADMITTING COURT. Notwithstanding any other provision of the statutes, whenever a determination of legal settlement of a committed or admitted mental patient is made, including temporary detention under s. 51.04 (2) and (3), the judge making such determination shall within 20 days notify by forwarding a copy of the commitment, admission or application, as the case may be, by certified mail to the district attorney or corporation counsel of the county of legal settlement so determined, and the department in all instances. Notice need not be given to a county that has been represented in the determination by counsel. If such notice is not given within 20 days, the county of commitment or admission shall be liable for the cost of care and maintenance of the patient until such notice is given, and the state or county later notified shall be liable only for such costs incurred from the time notice is given. If a county so notified is found not to be the county of legal settlement in a proceeding under sub. (4), the county of actual legal settlement or the state may be held liable irrespective of notice if a party to the proceeding under sub. (4).

(2) STATEMENT OF COUNTY LIABILITY. On July 1 in each year the department shall prepare a statement of the amounts due from the several counties to the state for the maintenance, care and treatment of inmates at public charge in state and county charitable, curative, reformatory and penal institutions for the preceding fiscal year and shall give the name of every inmate in each state institution whose support is partly chargeable to some county, and the name of every inmate in each county institution whose support is wholly chargeable in the first instance to the state and partly chargeable over to some county; and the legal settlement of each inmate, the number of weeks for which support is charged, the amount due the county for maintenance, and the amount due to the state from the county. The department shall file such statement with the department of administration, and mail a duplicate to the clerk of each county charged. Thereupon the secretary of administration shall charge to the several counties the amounts so due, which amounts shall be certified by the secretary of state, upon information certified to him by the secretary of administration, and levied, collected and paid into the state treasury as a special charge, at the same time as the state taxes. The amount so paid into the state treasury on account of care of patients in county hospitals shall be apportioned and paid to the counties to which it is due, from time to time, in

the proportion that the total collections from all counties for the care of such patients bear to the total charges against all counties for such care. The department of administration shall make the first apportionment and payment on April 1, in each year, covering collections to and including March 22. The collections made after March 22 and through August 20 shall be apportioned and paid on September 1 following, and the final payment shall be made on December 1.

(3) STATEMENT OF COUNTY CLAIMS. On July 1 in each year the officer in charge of each county charitable, curative, reformatory and penal institution shall prepare a statement of the amount due from the state to the county for the maintenance, care and treatment of inmates at public charge on forms supplied by the department. Such statement shall cover the preceding fiscal year and shall give the name of each inmate whose support is partly or wholly chargeable to the state; and his legal settlement, the number of weeks for which support is charged and the amount due to the county from the state. Said statement shall be verified by the officer making it and certified by the trustees of the institution to the department, and a duplicate thereof shall be forwarded to the county clerk. The department shall credit the county with the amount due the county for any recovery of maintenance and shall certify said statement to the department of administration, which shall pay the aggregate amount found due each county as provided in sub. (2).

(4) RELIEF FROM ERRONEOUS CHARGES TO COUNTY OR STATE. When the state or a county feels that the cost of the care of an inmate or patient is improperly charged to it, the matter may be determined by the department after a hearing. The department may on its own motion order a hearing if the charge is against the state. If it is against a county the district attorney for the county may apply in writing to the department for a hearing. The application shall designate the county to which the inmate is chargeable, or if it be claimed that he is chargeable to the state, it shall so state. The department shall give reasonable notice to the parties interested of the time and place they may be heard. The application may be supported by affidavits and other proper evidence. At the hearing and in the determination of the matter, evidence of a court determination of legal settlement (or of no settlement) of the patient or inmate shall be regarded as an administrative determination, of such legal settlement status, by the judge and not by the court. If upon the hearing the department grants the relief asked for, it shall order a proper charge against the county chargeable, or against the

state; and the inmate's support shall be charged accordingly.

(5) **REVIEW UNDER CHAPTER 227.** The order of the department shall be subject to review as provided in chapter 227. Upon entry of final judgment the department shall make the proper charge or credit or both and certify the same to the department of administration.

(6) **CORRECTION OF ERRONEOUS CHARGES.** Any error in the accounts between the state and a county for the support of any inmate in any such institution, or in the amount certified to a county as due and to be assessed upon it on account of such support, when certified by the department, shall be corrected by the department of administration by a proper charge or credit or both on the next state tax.

*History:* 1971 c 158.

**46.11 Transfer of inmates.** (1) When an inmate of a state or county institution is lawfully moved from one institution to another by the department, the superintendent of the institution from which he is removed shall notify the committing court of the removal.

(2) The department may designate in the removal order a person to make the transfer. The person designated shall receive no compensation, but shall be paid his necessary traveling expenses and those of the inmate and of any necessary assistant, to be adjusted by the department and charged to the current expense fund of the institution from which the removal is made as part of the inmate's maintenance costs. This amendment (1947) shall be effective as of July 1, 1946.

**46.115 Sick inmates; transfer to state hospital; treatment.** (1) The department shall apply to the board of regents of the university of Wisconsin system for the admission to the Wisconsin general hospital of any inmate of any state institution under the department, or of any person committed to or applying for admission thereto, or of any other person committed to the department, who is afflicted with any deformity or ailment, which can probably be remedied, or which can be advantageously treated at such hospital, if he cannot receive proper care at the institution to which he has been committed or to which he has applied for admission. The application shall be accompanied by the report of the physician of such institution or of a physician appointed by the department, in the same form as reports of physicians for the admission of patients to the hospital.

(2) The cost of treatment shall be at the rate charged the county for county patients, and shall be chargeable one-half to the institution

and one-half to the state. The department may pay out of such operation fund to the institution the necessary traveling expenses, including the expenses for an attendant when needed. Payments for the treatment of such patients are to be made by the department to the university of Wisconsin for the portion chargeable to the operation fund of the institution; and the portion chargeable to the state shall be certified and paid as provided in s. 142.08 (2).

*History:* 1971 c 100 s. 23.

**46.12 Sterilization of defectives.** (1) The department may appoint a surgeon and a psychiatrist, of recognized ability, as experts, who (in conjunction with the superintendents of the state and county institutions who have charge of criminal, mentally ill and mentally deficient persons) shall examine inmates and patients of such institutions as to their mental and physical condition.

(2) The department may submit to the experts and to the superintendent the name of inmates or patients they desire examined, and the experts and the superintendent shall meet, take evidence and examine into the mental and physical condition of the named inmates or patients and report thereon to the department.

(3) If the experts and superintendent unanimously find that procreation is inadvisable the department may authorize an operation for the prevention of procreation.

(4) Before such operation, the department shall give at least 30 days' notice in writing to the husband or wife, parent or guardian of the inmate or patient, if known, and if unknown, to the person with whom such inmate or patient last resided.

(5) The experts shall receive as compensation \$10 per day and expenses for the days consumed in the performance of their duties.

(6) The record made upon the examination shall be filed in the department; and semiannually after the operation, the superintendent of the institution where such inmate or patient is confined shall report to the department his condition.

(7) The department shall state in its biennial report the number of operations performed under this section and the result of the operations.

**46.13 Wassermann tests.** The department may arrange with the laboratory of hygiene to secure the Wassermann test for any person confined in any state or county institution.

**46.14 Reports of state institutions.** (1) **MONTHLY.** The officer in charge of each state institution under the control of the department

shall report monthly to the department, an itemized statement of all receipts and disbursements, and of the daily number of inmates, officers, teachers and employes, and of the wages paid to each.

(2) **BIENNIAL.** On July 1 in each even-numbered year such officer shall report to the department, covering the preceding biennial fiscal term, a summarized statement of the management of every department of the institution and of all receipts and disbursements, and such other information as may be required by the department.

**46.16 General supervision and inspection by department.** (1) **GENERALLY.** The department shall investigate and supervise all the

charitable, curative, reformatory and penal institutions, including county infirmaries of every county and municipality (except tuberculosis sanatoriums); all detention homes and shelter care facilities for children and all industrial schools, hospitals, asylums and institutions, organized for the purpose set forth in s. 58 01, and familiarize itself with all the circumstances affecting their management and usefulness.

(2) **CHILD WELFARE AGENCIES; FOSTER HOMES; CHILD CARE CENTERS; DAY NURSERIES; NURSERY SCHOOLS.** It may license and revoke licenses of and exercise supervision over all child welfare agencies and the placement of children in foster homes, and grant permits to foster homes, child care centers, day nurseries and nursery schools. In the discharge of this duty it may inspect the records of child welfare agencies, child care centers, day nurseries, nursery schools and visit all institutions conducted by them and all foster homes in which children are placed.

(3) **COUNTY HOMES, POOR RELIEF.** It shall visit the county homes and ascertain the number of each sex and the number of mentally ill, mentally deficient, deaf or blind persons, and children supported in each, at what cost and under what circumstances affecting their health, comfort, morals and education; collect statistics of the cost of support, and other important facts, of the poor relieved at public expense outside of county homes; and collect information as to the adequacy and efficiency of existing laws for the support and relief of the poor, and the causes of pauperism in the state.

(4) **PRISONS.** It shall visit all places in which persons convicted or suspected of crime or mentally ill persons are confined, and ascertain their arrangement for the separation of the hardened criminals from juvenile offenders and persons suspected of crime or detained as witnesses; collect statistics concerning the inmates, their treat-

ment, employment and reformation; and collect information of other facts and considerations affecting the increase or decrease of crime and mental illness.

(5) **INSPECTIONS.** It shall inquire into the methods of treatment, instruction, government and management of inmates of the institutions mentioned in this section; the conduct of their trustees, managers, directors, superintendents and other officers and employes; the condition of the buildings, grounds and all other property pertaining to said institutions, and all other matters pertaining to their usefulness and management; and recommend to the officers in charge such changes and additional provisions as it deems proper.

(6) **FREQUENCY OF INSPECTIONS.** It shall inspect and investigate each institution annually, or oftener; and, when directed by the governor, it shall make special investigation into its management, or anything connected therewith, and report to him the testimony taken, the facts found and conclusions thereon.

(7) **ENFORCEMENT BY ATTORNEY GENERAL AND DISTRICT ATTORNEYS.** Upon request of the department, the attorney general or the district attorney of the proper county shall aid in any investigation, inspection, hearing or trial had under the provisions of this chapter, or those sections of ch. 48 relating to powers of the department, and shall institute and prosecute all necessary actions or proceedings for the enforcement of such provisions and for the punishment of violations of the same. The attorney general or district attorney so requested shall report or confer with the department regarding the request, within 30 days after the receipt of such request.

(8) **OPPORTUNITY TO INSPECT.** All trustees, managers, directors, superintendents and other officers or employes of such institutions shall at all times afford to every member of the department and its agents, unrestrained facility for inspection of and free access to all parts of the buildings and grounds and to all books and papers of such institutions; and shall give, either verbally or in writing, such information as the department requires; and if any person offends against this requirement he shall forfeit not less than \$10 nor more than \$100.

(9) **TESTIMONIAL POWER; EXPENSES.** The director or any person delegated by him may administer oaths and take testimony; and may cause depositions to be taken. All expenses of the investigations, including fees of officers and witnesses, shall be charged to the appropriation for the department.

(10) **STATISTICS TO BE FURNISHED.** Wherever the department is required to collect statistics, the person or agency shall furnish the required statistics on request.

**46.17 County buildings; establishment, approval, inspection.** (1) The department shall fix reasonable standards and regulations for the design, construction, repair and maintenance of county homes, county infirmaries, county hospitals, mental health facilities, houses of correction, reforestation camps maintained under s. 56.07, jails and lockups, and juvenile detention homes and shelter care facilities, with respect to their adequacy and fitness for the needs which they are to serve.

(2) The selection and purchase of the site, and the plans, specifications and erection of buildings for such institutions shall be subject to the review and approval of the department. Department review shall include review of the proposed program to be carried out by the institution and the program's ability to meet the mental health service requirements of the county and the area it serves.

(3) Before any such building is occupied, and annually or oftener thereafter, the department shall inspect it with respect to safety, sanitation, adequacy and fitness, and report to the authorities conducting the institution any deficiency found, and order the necessary work to correct it or a new building. If within 6 months thereafter such work is not commenced, or not completed within a reasonable period thereafter, to the satisfaction of the department, it shall suspend the allowance of state aid for, and prohibit the use of such building until said order is complied with.

**History:** 1971 c. 125, 215.

**46.175 County institutions: minimum standards.** Notwithstanding any other provision of law, any county currently operating an institution established under s. 49.14, 49.16, 49.171, 51.24 or 51.25 may, by resolution of the county board, designate such institution or distinct part of such institution as a facility to be operated under s. 140.24, 146.30 or 146.32. Any county institution or part thereof, where so designated, shall be required to meet those licensure standards established by the department for the type of facility designated by the county. Any designation under this section may be made only if such designation will not result in any additional cost to the state.

**History:** 1971 c. 215.

**46.18 Trustees of county institutions.** (1) **TRUSTEES.** Every county home, infirmary, hospital, tuberculosis hospital or sanatorium, or similar institution, or house of correction established by any county whose population is less than 500,000 shall (subject to regulations approved by the county board) be managed by a board of trustees, electors of the county, chosen by ballot by the county board. At its annual meeting, the county board shall appoint an uneven number of trustees, from 3 to 9 at the option of the board, for staggered 3-year terms ending the first Monday in January. Any vacancy shall be filled for the unexpired term by the county board; but the county chairman may appoint a trustee to fill the vacancy until the county board acts.

(2) **ELIGIBILITY.** No member of the county board shall serve as a trustee during the term for which he was elected. No trustee shall have any other lucrative office or employment in the county government; nor be eligible, during the term for which he was elected, to the office of superintendent of the institution in his charge with the exception of a pension and relief board member.

(3) **REMOVAL OF TRUSTEE.** Any trustee may be removed from office for misconduct or neglect, by a two-thirds vote of the county board, on due notice in writing and hearing of the charges against him.

(4) **OATH OF OFFICE, BOND, EXPENSES, PAY.** Each trustee shall take and file the official oath and execute and file an official bond to the county, in the amount determined by the county board, and the sufficiency of the sureties shall be approved by the chairman of the board. Each trustee shall be reimbursed his traveling expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of his duties, and shall receive the compensation fixed by the county board, unless otherwise provided by law.

(5) **OFFICERS.** The trustees shall elect a president. The superintendent of the institution shall be ex officio secretary.

(6) **MONTHLY AUDIT; SUITS.** At least once each month the trustees shall audit all claims against the county incurred on behalf of said institutions, when presented to them verified under oath by the claimant or his agent and, when allowed, the president and secretary shall certify such claims to the county clerk who shall thereupon issue county orders for their payment. The trustees may sue and defend in the name of the county any cause for action involving the interest of said institution and may employ counsel for that purpose. All receipts on account of said institutions shall be paid into the county treasury within one week after receipt.

(7) **FISCAL YEAR.** The fiscal year of each institution shall commence July 1 and end June 30 of the following year.

(8) **BOOKKEEPING.** The department shall formulate a system of keeping the books, accounts and records, and shall furnish blanks for reports, and reports shall be made accordingly.

(9) **REPORTS; ACCOUNTS.** The trustees shall install a system of accounting and reporting, under the supervision of the department, and shall conduct its business in conformity therewith; and the department may from time to time audit the books, records, documents, accounts and transactions of each institution.

(10) **ANNUAL REPORT.** On July 1 of each year the trustees shall prepare a report for the preceding fiscal year and shall transmit a copy to the department, a copy to the county clerk, and keep a copy on file at the institution. Such report shall be accompanied by an inventory of all properties on hand on the last day of the fiscal year, an estimate of the receipts and expenditures for the current fiscal year, and the reports of the superintendent and visiting physician, of the institution.

(11) **COUNTY APPROPRIATION.** The county board shall annually appropriate for operation and maintenance of each such institution not less than the amount of state aid estimated by the trustees to accrue to said institution; or such lesser sum as may be estimated by the trustees to be necessary for operation and maintenance.

(12) **EX OFFICIO DUTIES.** The county board may provide that the trustees and superintendent of any institution shall be the trustees and superintendent of any other institution.

(13) **BUILDING RESERVE FUND.** The county board shall maintain as a segregated cash reserve the 2% charge authorized by s. 73.10 (9). It may from time to time appropriate from such reserve sums to be expended solely for the enlargement, modernization or replacement of such infirmary and its equipment.

(14) **INCENTIVE PAYMENTS TO PATIENTS IN MENTAL HOSPITALS.** The county board may authorize the board of trustees of any county mental hospital to establish a program of incentive payments so as to provide incentive and encouragement to patients by the disbursement of small weekly payments but not restricted to work allowances. Incentive payments paid to inmates shall not be included as costs in arriving at the per capita rate for state aids or charges to other counties and the state for care of inmates. In counties having a population of 500,000 or more the board of public welfare under s. 46.21 may establish a similar program if authorized by the county board.

**History:** 1971 c. 50; 1971 c. 108 s. 6

**46.19 Officers and employes of county institutions.** (1) The trustees shall appoint a superintendent of each institution and may remove him for cause as defined in s. 17.16 (2) on due notice in writing and hearing of the charges against him.

(2) The trustees shall prescribe the duties of the superintendent. He shall execute and file an official bond with sureties approved by the trustees.

(3) Subject to the approval of the trustees, the superintendent shall appoint and prescribe the duties of necessary additional officers and employes of the institution, and may remove them at his discretion, subject to the county civil service law.

(4) The salaries of the superintendent, visiting physician and all necessary additional officers and employes shall be fixed by the county board.

**46.20 Joint county institutions.** (1) Any 2 or more counties may jointly, by majority vote of all the members of each county board, provide for a county home, infirmary, hospital, tuberculosis hospital or sanatorium, or similar institution, house of correction or juvenile detention home, which shall be established, maintained and operated pursuant to all the statutes relating to the establishment, maintenance and operation of similar institutions, respectively, by any single county whose population is less than 250,000, except as otherwise provided in this section; and in all respects, except as herein specified, each such institution shall be the county institution of each of the counties so joining.

(2) The county board of each such county shall elect 3 of its members to represent the county in a joint committee to select the site, anywhere within either of said counties, and prepare the plans and specifications of the buildings, for such institution; and said joint committee shall be vested with all functions, relative to the establishment of such institution, possessed by the county board relative to like county institutions.

(3) Upon approval of the site, plans and specifications, as provided in s. 50.01 as to tuberculosis sanatoriums and s. 46.17, as to other institutions the joint committee shall report to the several county boards the estimated cost of said site and buildings; and the amount thereof chargeable to each county on the basis set forth in sub. (6) (a), appending to each report a copy of the plans and specifications and all matter relating to said site and buildings; and if the said report shall be approved by each county board, the joint committee shall purchase said site and

cause said buildings to be erected in accordance with the plans and specifications.

(4) The functions of the joint committee shall terminate upon completion of said buildings; and the board of trustees thereupon elected shall be composed of 2 electors from each county when 2 counties join, and of one elector from each county in all other cases; which trustees, except those elected at first elections, shall hold during terms of 4 years in the former case, and as many years as there are counties joining in the other cases. Trustees elected at first elections shall hold for terms beginning at once and so ending that the terms of one member only will expire on the first Monday of each succeeding January, beginning with January of the second year thereafter; which terms shall be allotted to the respective trustees at their first meeting. The county board of each county joining shall at an annual meeting elect a successor to any trustee from such county whose term will expire on the first Monday of the next following January. The trustees shall have the qualifications and functions and be subject to the limitations and restrictions of trustees elected pursuant to section 46.18. They shall be reimbursed their traveling expenses necessarily incurred in the discharge of their functions, and shall receive compensation similar to that of the trustees, respectively, of like county institutions; and if the county board is empowered to fix the latter, the compensation of the joint trustees shall be fixed by joint action of the county boards.

(5) All receipts on account of such institution shall be paid into the treasury of the county in which said institution is located.

(6) Prior to the election of the trustees the joint committee, and thereafter the board of trustees, shall audit all claims against said counties on account of such institution; and all such claims shall, in the first instance, be certified to and paid by the county in which said institution is located, subject to apportionment and adjustment among the several counties as follows:

(a) All expenditures for the site, buildings, furniture, equipment, and permanent improvements, after deducting all receipts therefor except county appropriations, shall immediately upon payment be apportioned by the clerk of the county in which the institution is located and certified to the clerks of the other counties, on the basis of the percentage which the valuation of the taxable property in each county bears to the valuation of the aggregate taxable property in all said counties, as determined pursuant to section 70.57.

(b) All expenditures for repairs, maintenance, and operation, after deducting all receipts therefor except county appropriations, shall be so apportioned for each month, on the first day of the next succeeding month, on the basis of the percentage which the aggregate cost of keeping the inmates at public charge from each such county bears to the aggregate cost of keeping the inmates at public charge from all such counties, adopting as the unit of cost the total average cost per capita per week of keeping all the inmates, at public charge and otherwise, in said institution.

(c) Immediately upon receipt of such certified apportionment each such other county shall pay over to the county in which said institution is located its proportion of said expense.

(7) (a) If any net profit shall arise from the operation of said institution it shall be apportioned among the several counties on the basis prescribed in paragraph (b) of subsection (6); and the county in which said institution is located shall pay over to the other counties, respectively, their proportions of such profit.

(b) The board of trustees shall maintain as a segregated cash reserve the 2% charge authorized by s. 73.10 (9). It may from time to time appropriate from such reserve sums to be expended solely for the enlargement, modernization or replacement of such infirmary and its equipment.

(8) The trustees shall transmit one copy of their annual report of the tuberculosis sanatorium to the department; and one copy of the report of other county institutions to the department, one copy to the clerk of each joint county, and shall file one copy at the institution. It shall be itemized with respect to the several counties and shall, in addition to the requirements of section 46.18 (7) to (10), include an itemized statement showing the amounts of the receipts and profits credited and expenditures charged to the several counties for the past fiscal year, and an estimate of such amounts for the ensuing fiscal year; and each county board shall provide for meeting its estimated share of said expenditures.

(9) At any time after the organization of any such institution, any additional county or counties may join in the support and conduct thereof upon payment of such equitable proportion of the original cost of its establishment, and any joint county may withdraw upon such terms, as may be agreed upon among the county boards of the counties interested; and thereupon the board of trustees of such institution shall be reorganized, in such manner as may be determined by the county boards of the participating counties, to conform to the provisions of subsection (4).

(10) Any county or counties maintaining a tuberculosis sanatorium may convey said property or any part thereof or any interest therein to any other county or counties upon such terms and conditions as the respective county boards thereof shall agree by a majority vote of all the members of each of said county boards.

**History:** 1971 c. 108 s. 6.

**46.205 County home in adjoining county.**

The county board of any county may by a majority vote of all of its members provide for a home for the aged, senile and physically infirm in an adjoining county and all bonds heretofore issued for the construction or other acquisition of such a home in any county or an adjoining county are hereby validated and the proceeds thereof may be used in the construction or other acquisition thereof in such any county or an adjoining county. When any county shall establish such home in an adjoining county it shall be maintained and operated pursuant to the same statutes which would be applicable to the maintenance and operation thereof if it were established in such first county.

**46.206 Welfare services; supervisory functions of state department.**

(1) The department shall supervise the administration of old-age assistance, aid to families with dependent children, aid to the blind and aid to totally and permanently disabled persons. The department shall submit to the federal authorities state plans for the administration of these forms of public assistance in such form and containing such information as the federal authorities require and shall comply with all requirements prescribed to insure their correctness. All records of the department and all county records relating to these forms of public assistance shall be open to inspection, at all reasonable hours, by authorized representatives of the federal government. All county records relating to the administration of these forms of public assistance shall be open to inspection at all reasonable hours by authorized representatives of the department. The department may at any time audit all county records relating to the administration of these forms of assistance and may also at any time conduct administrative reviews of county departments of public welfare created by ss. 49 51 (2) (a) and 46.22. Whenever the department conducts such audit or administrative review in a county it shall furnish a copy of the audit or administrative review report to the chairman of the county board, to the county clerk, to the chairman of the county board of public welfare, and to the director of the county department of public welfare, of such county.

(2) The county administration of all laws relating to old-age assistance, aid to families with dependent children, aid to the blind and aid to totally and permanently disabled persons shall be vested in the officers and agencies designated in the statutes.

(3) The use of the words "county agency" in any statute relating to old-age assistance, aid to families with dependent children, aid to the blind, and aid to totally and permanently disabled persons means the county department of public welfare as created by s. 49 51 (2) (a) or 46.22 (1), provided that the provisions of this subsection shall not deprive the juvenile court of any authority it otherwise has under the law.

**46.21 County board of public welfare in populous counties.**

(1) **APPOINTMENT; ORGANIZATION; COMPENSATION** (a) In each county having a population of 500,000 there is created a board of 5 members which shall be known as the county board of public welfare, hereinafter referred to as the board. The county board of supervisors by a majority vote of the members-elect thereof shall choose 4 of such members from among the electors of the county, and one member from the membership of said county board of supervisors. All members shall hold office for the term of 4 years. Appointments shall be made on the basis of recognized and demonstrated interest in and knowledge of the problems of public welfare. The present members of the board of public welfare of any such county appointed and acting at the effective date of this act (July 1, 1947) shall continue to hold office until the expiration of their terms, their successors thereafter each to be appointed for the term of 4 years as hereinbefore provided. A majority of the board shall constitute a quorum for the exercise of the power and the authority conferred upon it, and each member of the board shall take and file an official oath, and shall execute and file an official bond with sureties approved and in a reasonable sum fixed by such county board of supervisors.

(b) Each member of the board shall receive as compensation for his services such sum as the county board of supervisors shall provide, to be paid as other county officers are paid, provided that the member chosen from the county board shall receive a reasonable compensation to be fixed by the county board in addition to his regular salary.

(c) Said board shall annually elect a chairman, vice chairman and secretary. The vice chairman shall serve in the absence of the chairman. The secretary shall be responsible for the minutes of every meeting of said board. The county board

shall provide said board with suitable quarters for the transaction of its business.

(2) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE BOARD. (a) Such board shall be charged with supervising the operation, maintenance and improvement in each county by the director of institutions and departments, of the county hospital, dispensary-emergency unit of said hospital, guidance clinic, infirmary, home for children, the detention home, and the probation section of the children's court center, and the provision and maintenance of the physical facilities for such court and its intake section under the supervision and operation of the children's court judges as provided in s. 48.06 (1), mental health center, north division and south division, tuberculosis hospital, department of public welfare created by s. 49.51 (2) (a), county agent's department, farm, service departments and such other institutions and departments as are placed under the jurisdiction of the board of public welfare by the county board of supervisors, and all buildings and land used in connection with any or all such institutions. A diagnostic and treatment center may be designated as part of the county mental health center, north division, and all personnel fully attached to said facility shall be under the jurisdiction of the superintendent or medical director of the county mental health center, north division. The powers and duties of the board shall be advisory and policy forming only, and not administrative or executive. Such board shall be without authority to adopt policy changes that would increase expenditures beyond budget limitations for the fiscal year, as fixed by the county board of supervisors. Proposed policy changes shall, in all instances, be presented to the director and the finance committee of the county board at the time the department's budget for the ensuing year is being considered.

(b) The hospitals and sanatoriums of the county shall be devoted to hospital service and the treatment of such persons who would otherwise be unable to secure the same, but other persons may be admitted to the county hospitals upon such terms and conditions as the board establishes. Such hospitals and sanatoriums may be utilized for such instruction of medical students, physicians and nurses and for such scientific and clinical research as will promote the welfare of the patients, and assist the application of science to the alleviation of human suffering. The board, subject to the approval of the county board, may make such arrangements with the medical school of the university of Wisconsin or any other duly accredited medical colleges and medical societies for teaching and research in

such institutions as in their judgment will best promote the foregoing hospital aims.

(c) The board shall appoint a director of institutions and departments pursuant to ss. 63.01 to 63.17. Such appointment shall be made on the basis of recognized and demonstrated public interest in and knowledge of the problems of public welfare, and with due regard to training, experience, executive and administrative ability and efficiency, and general qualifications and fitness for performing the duties of the office. Such director shall file an official oath and bond in such sum as shall be fixed by the county board of supervisors. Upon request of the board of public welfare, the county board of supervisors may create one or 2 positions of deputy director of institutions and departments.

(d) Provisions shall be made in the organization of the office of director for the devolution of his authority in the case of his temporary absence, illness or other disability to act.

(e) The county may pay a reasonable fee and the actual travel expense of persons called into consultation by the board as to matters within the field of public welfare.

(g) The board shall establish such rules and regulations as may be necessary for the management and operation of the county institutions and departments mentioned in section 46.21 (2) (a).

(h) Rules and regulations adopted by and policies established by such board of public welfare shall be subject to change by the county board of supervisors, but only by a two-thirds vote of the members-elect thereof.

(i) The board may allow as a work allowance to inmates at its institutions such amount as shall be approved and appropriated by the county board of supervisors. The county board of supervisors shall prescribe the amount of such work allowance after the board of public welfare in conjunction with the director determines such reasonable hours, and health and other conditions, as shall be observed in connection with the employment. Such employment shall not be considered within the provisions of ss. 63.01 to 63.17 nor shall it be subject to the provisions of ch. 102. Work allowances or wages, paid to inmates shall not be included as costs in arriving at the per capita rate for state aids or charges to other counties and the state for care of inmates.

(3) DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIRECTOR. (a) All of the administrative and executive powers and duties of managing, operating, maintaining and improving the several institutions and departments, specified in subsection (2) (a) of this section and such other institutions and departments as may be placed under the

jurisdiction of such board of public welfare and director by the county board of supervisors, shall be vested in such director, to be administered by him under the rules promulgated and subject to the policies and in accordance with the principles established by such county board of public welfare.

(b) Contracts and purchases of the director shall be subject to an inspection either by the proper committee of the county board of supervisors or such other agency as such county board of supervisors may select, provided, that nothing herein contained shall preclude the setting up of a central purchasing department for all county purchases, if so determined by such board of supervisors.

(4) DEPARTMENT HEADS, OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES. (a) The director shall appoint, pursuant to ss. 63.01 to 63.17, and subject to the approval of the county welfare board, department heads who shall, under the direction of said director, have the care and management respectively of the several institutions and departments specified in sub. (2) (a) and such others as may be placed under the jurisdiction of said director and board by the county board of supervisors. Upon recommendation of the director, approved by the board, the county board of supervisors may place more than one institution or department under the management and direction of one department head. The board may prefer charges against the director of institutions and departments or any officer or employe in any of the county institutions and departments under its jurisdiction and for that purpose shall be deemed an appointing power within the language of s. 63.10.

(b) Each such department head shall take and file his official oath and execute and file an official bond with the sureties approved and in such sum as shall be fixed by the county board of supervisors.

(c) Each of such department heads shall, subject to the approval of said director, have power to appoint, discipline and remove, under the provisions of ss. 63.01 to 63.17 all officers and employes in his department. Such department heads may at any time present communications to the board upon any matter through the director who shall present such communications to the board at its next meeting thereafter.

(d) Professional staff responsible for the care of patients under this section may submit bills for professional services under rules and regulations approved by the board.

(5) ADMISSION OF INMATES FOR PAY. (a) Any resident of this state, not indigent, may be received into the infirmary, to be treated, cared

for; and maintained upon such terms and conditions and at such rate of pay as may be established by the board; but indigent and destitute persons shall have preference in admission to and care in such institution.

(b) Sections 49.08, 52.01 and 52.03 shall govern the support and maintenance of persons in any of the institutions in charge of said director.

(6) REPORTS; APPROPRIATIONS; EXPENDITURES. (a) On the first day of July of each year, or within 30 days thereafter, said director shall render an annual report together with the reports of the department heads, including an itemized statement of receipts and disbursements for the preceding calendar year. Such director shall maintain the uniform system of books, accounts, records and reports prescribed by the department, conforming in all respects with the provisions of section 46.18 (7) to (10).

(b) The county board shall make sufficient appropriation annually for the support, maintenance, salaries, repairs and improvements to said institutions; and such appropriations so made shall be used for such purposes and subject to the order of such director in such manner as the regulations of the board of public welfare shall provide; but neither the director nor such board shall incur any expense nor make any contract for new buildings or additions to present buildings, or for the purchase of land, without first being authorized so to do by the county board, nor until the county board has appropriated or provided for the money to defray such expense.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provisions of the statutes, expenditures chargeable to appropriations of the county board of public welfare shall be made upon certified vouchers, certified voucher schedules, and certified public assistance rolls of the director of institutions and departments to the county clerk. The county board of supervisors may by ordinance permit said director to delegate his authority to make such certifications to persons under his jurisdiction holding positions designated in such ordinance. The county clerk shall issue county orders upon the county treasurer in payment of such certified instruments, provided that a single county order in favor of the county treasurer may be issued for the total amount authorized on a public assistance roll, in which case the county treasurer shall make individual payments by bank checks to parties listed on such public assistance rolls, provided further that the county board may by ordinance adopt a different method of making disbursements consistent with sound accounting and auditing procedure.

(7) **CLINICS.** The director is hereby empowered to establish and conduct clinics in connection with the county hospital, subject to such rules and regulations as the board of public welfare may prescribe.

(8) **POWERS OF BOARD; EMERGENCY HOSPITAL.** The board of public welfare, as aforesaid, upon authorization of the county board, shall have and exercise the following additional powers:

(a) To establish and maintain a public health and medical dispensary and conduct same as may be proper and necessary for the preservation of the public health and the prevention of disease in such county.

(b) To establish and maintain in connection with such county hospital an emergency unit or department for the treatment, subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by such board of public welfare, of persons in said county who may meet with accidents or be suddenly afflicted with illness not contagious; provided that medical care and treatment shall only be furnished in such unit or department until such time as the patient may be safely removed to another hospital or to his place of abode, or regularly admitted to said county hospital. Notwithstanding the aforesaid authority the board of public welfare when approved by the county board may enter into contracts with any private hospital or nonprofit hospital, as defined in s. 140.11, within said county for the use of its facilities and for medical service to be furnished by a licensed physician or physicians to emergency patients arising within the county and who require emergency medical treatment or first aid as a result of any accident, injury or sudden affliction of illness, except that reasonable compensation may only be authorized for such period of time until the patient may be regularly admitted as an inpatient or safely removed to another hospital or to his place of abode.

(c) To establish and maintain in connection with the institutions and departments under the control of such board, a training school for nurses and to purchase and take over all property, and to assume all obligations, and to conduct any training school now operated in connection with said institutions or departments or any of them.

(d) To establish and maintain in connection with or separate from the county hospital a unit or department for the treatment, subject to such rules and regulations as may be prescribed by said board of public welfare, of persons in said county who may be afflicted with contagious diseases.

(9) **LAND FOR MEDICAL FACILITIES.** The county board may make available, on such terms as it prescribes, land at the site of institutions under this section to organizations for the construction of medical facilities.

#### **46.22 County public welfare department.**

(1) **CREATION.** Every county having a population of less than 500,000 may by a vote of its county board of supervisors elect to be under s. 46.21. In every county having a population of less than 500,000 that has not elected to be under s. 46.21, there is created a county department of public welfare. Such county department shall consist of a county board of public welfare, a county director of public welfare, and necessary personnel. The county board may at any time authorize the county judge to administer child welfare services as provided in sub. (5) (g). All rules relating to personnel under his administration on said date shall continue in effect until the county board acts to place the administration of these aids in a department other than under the county judge or until the department changes such rules pursuant to s. 49.50 (2).

(2) **BOARD.** The county board of public welfare shall consist of a board of 3, 5 or 7 residents of the county (as determined by the county board of supervisors) elected by the county board of supervisors or appointed by the chairman of said county board, in accordance with the rules and regulations of said board. The members of such county board of public welfare shall be elected or appointed either from members of the county board of supervisors or from the county at large, or both, on the basis of knowledge and interest in public welfare and shall hold office for a term fixed by the county board of supervisors. The members of the county board of public welfare shall receive such compensation as shall be fixed by the county board of supervisors. The county board of public welfare shall:

(a) At the first meeting of such board, elect from their number, a chairman, a secretary, and such other officers as they deem necessary. Vacancies in such offices shall be filled for the unexpired terms. The chairman shall preside at all meetings when present, and shall countersign all actions taken by the board. In case of the absence of a chairman for any meeting the members present shall choose a temporary chairman.

(b) Appoint a county director of public welfare subject to the provisions of s. 49.50 (2) to (5) and the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder.

(c) Supervise the working of the county department of public welfare and shall be a policy-making body determining the broad outlines and principles governing the administration of the functions, duties and powers assigned to said department under s. 46.22 (4) and (5).

(d) Whenever it determines that there is a need therefor, appoint committees consisting of residents of the county, which committee shall advise with the board on any matters for which they are created, but members of such committees shall serve without compensation.

(e) Consult with the county director of public welfare concerning the preparation of the annual budget, the annual report of the operation of the county department of public welfare and the appointment of necessary personnel.

(3) **DIRECTOR.** The county director of public welfare shall serve as the executive and administrative officer of the county department of public welfare. In consultation and agreement with the county board of public welfare he shall prepare and submit to the county board of supervisors an annual budget of all funds necessary for the county department, and shall prepare annually a full report of the operations and administration of the department. The county board of supervisors shall review and approve, reject or revise by majority vote the annual budget of the county department of public welfare. The county director shall recommend to the county board of public welfare the appointment of employes necessary to administer the functions of the department, subject to sub. (6) and s. 49.50 (2) to (5) and the rules promulgated thereunder. The county director shall make recommendations to the county board of supervisors who shall fix the salary of such employes.

(4) **POWERS AND DUTIES.** The county department of public welfare shall have the following functions, duties and powers in accordance with the rules and regulations promulgated by the department and subject to the supervision of said department:

(a) To administer aid to the needy blind under s. 49.18.

(b) To administer aid to families with dependent children under s. 49.19.

(c) To administer old-age assistance under ss. 49.20 to 49.37.

(d) To administer aid to totally and permanently disabled persons under s. 49.61.

(e) To maintain administrative and reporting relationships with all pertinent state departments.

(f) To make investigations which relate to welfare services upon request by the department.

(g) To administer relief to needy Indians under s. 49.046 when appointed by the department under such section.

(i) To make payments in such manner as the department may determine for training of recipients, former recipients and potential recipients of aid in programs established under s. 49.50 (7).

(5) **POWERS AND DUTIES.** The county board of supervisors may provide that the county department of public welfare shall, in addition to exercising the mandatory functions, duties, and powers as provided in sub. (4), have any or all of the following functions, duties and powers and such other welfare functions as may be delegated to it by such county board of supervisors:

(a) Make investigations in co-operation with the court, institution superintendent, district attorney and other agencies and officials operating in the welfare field regarding admissions to and release (or conditional release) from the following county and state institutions:

1. County institutions: County infirmary, home, hospital (for mental diseases, tuberculosis or otherwise) or asylum.

2. State institutions: Mendota state hospital, Winnebago state hospital, Wisconsin general hospital, Wisconsin orthopedic hospital for children, southern colony and training school, central colony and training school, northern colony and training school, central state hospital, Wisconsin school for boys, and Wisconsin school for girls.

(am) The provisions of par. (a) shall not be construed to authorize the county department of public welfare to make investigations regarding admission to or release from the Wisconsin state prison, the Wisconsin state reformatory, the Wisconsin home for women, county houses of correction, jails, detention homes or reforestation camps.

(b) Administer relief under ss. 49.02 and 49.03 in the event that the county administers relief under those sections.

(c) Make investigations which are provided for under s. 48.88 (2) (a), if the court having jurisdiction so directs.

(d) Perform the duties and functions prescribed in s. 48.08 when requested to do so by the juvenile judge of the county.

(e) To furnish services to families or persons other than the granting of financial or material aid where such services may prevent such families or persons from becoming public charges or restore them to a condition of self-support.

(f) To make certification or referral of eligibles for state or federal works or other assistance programs, eligibility for which is based on need,

when designated to perform such certification or referral services, and to certify eligibility for and distribute surplus commodities and foodstuffs.

(g) To administer child welfare services including services to children who are mentally defective, dependent, neglected, delinquent, or born out of wedlock, and to other children who are in need of such services. In administering child welfare services the county agency shall be governed by the following:

1. The county agency may avail itself of the co-operation of any individual or private agency or organization interested in the social welfare of children in such county.

2. The county agency shall administer and expend such amounts as may be necessary out of any moneys which may be appropriated for child welfare purposes by the county board or donated by individuals or private organizations.

3. Upon the request of the judge of the juvenile court, the county agency shall investigate the home environment and other factors in the life of any child brought to the attention of the court for alleged dependency, neglect, or delinquency, and to assume guidance and supervision of any child placed on probation by such court.

4. Upon the request of the department of health and social services and under its direction, the county agency shall assume the oversight of any juvenile under parole from or otherwise subject to the supervision of any state institution.

5. The county agency shall have the powers and duties specified in s. 48.57.

(gm) The authority given to the county department of public welfare under par. (g) to function as an authorized child welfare agency shall not be interpreted as excluding agencies licensed pursuant to s. 48.60 from also exercising such functions.

(5m) PURCHASE OF CARE AND SERVICES. (a) In order to insure the availability of a full range of care and services, county agencies may contract, either directly or through the state department, with public or voluntary agencies or others to purchase, in full or in part, care and services which county agencies are authorized by any statute to furnish in any manner. Such services may be purchased from the department where the department has staff to furnish such services. The county agency, if it has adequate staff, may sell such care and services directly to another county or state agency.

(b) A county agency may purchase development and training services from the state department or from other county agencies when such services are available or sell such development and staff training services to another county or

state agency when they have adequate staff to provide such service.

(6) MERIT SYSTEM STATUS. The provisions of s. 49.50 (2) to (5) shall be applicable to the county department of public welfare created by this section. Such merit system status as any county employe may have on January 1, 1954 shall not be deemed changed or interrupted by the provisions hereof; provided that any county agency employe performing children's services on said date becoming subject to the provisions of s. 49.50 (2) to (5) shall be admitted to a merit system examination pursuant to s. 49.50 (2) to (5) regardless of the minimum qualifications established for such position.

(7) RULES, RECORDS. The county department of public welfare and all county officers and employes performing any duties in connection with the administration of aid to the blind, old-age assistance, aid to families with dependent children and aid to totally and permanently disabled persons shall observe all rules and regulations promulgated by the department pursuant to s. 49.50 (2) and shall keep such records and furnish such reports as the department requires in relation to their performance of such duties.

History: 1971 c. 164, 218.

**46.25 State location service.** (1) To assist in locating parents who have deserted their children and other persons liable for support of dependents, the department may request and shall receive information from the records of all departments, boards, bureaus or other agencies of this state and the same are authorized to provide such information as is necessary for this purpose. Only information directly bearing on the identity and whereabouts of a person owing or asserted to be owing an obligation of support shall be requested and used or transmitted by the department under this section. The department may make such information available only to public officials and agencies of this state, other states and the political subdivisions of this state and other states seeking to locate parents who have deserted their children and other persons liable for support of dependents for the purpose of enforcing their liability for support.

(2) The department shall constitute the state location service specified in s. 52.10 (17) (b), but may contract with the department of justice to provide the services required by this section.

(3) The department, acting as a state location service, shall furnish all services under sub. (1) to any similarly appointed agency of another state which by its laws is authorized to furnish such services to this state or its agencies.

**46.36 Sewer system at Wisconsin home for women.** The department of health and social services, with the approval of the governor, may enter into an agreement containing such terms, conditions and covenants as are approved by the building commission, to participate in the construction of a sanitary sewer system in the area adjacent to the Wisconsin home for women in the town of Taycheedah, Fond du Lac county; to connect the sewer system of the Wisconsin home for women thereto; to pay sewage disposal charges; and to grant easements or convey land to meet construction requirements.

**46.37 Certain water and sewerage service in Winnebago county.** The department as a member of the tri-institutional Winnebago state hospital, Winnebago county asylum and Sunny View sanatorium sewer agreement in Winnebago county is authorized to furnish and charge for water and sewage services to business and dwelling units located in the privately owned area lying west of the Winnebago state hospital and bounded on the west by the railroad properties and on the north, east and south by the grounds of the Winnebago state hospital, together with such dwelling or other units as now exist or as may be erected on the railroad and state owned property adjacent to this area.

**46.50 State mental health authority.** In order to promote co-ordination and efficient development of mental health services by the state and by municipalities in the state, the department is declared to be the state mental health authority of Wisconsin and as such is authorized to receive federal grants in aid and to cooperate with the federal government in promoting the extension of such services.

**46.80 Aging.** (1) The division on aging shall be the mechanism by which governmental and nongovernmental agencies may coordinate their

policies, plans and activities with regard to the aging. To this end it shall:

(a) Conduct a continuous review of the scope and degree of coordination of all state programs and activities on the aging and make recommendations to the appropriate agencies regarding the expansion, coordination, consolidation and reorganization of particular activities as a means of developing a more effective and efficient total program for the aging.

(b) Examine the need for future activities, programs, services and facilities for the aging on the state, local and voluntary levels.

(c) Encourage, promote and aid in the establishment of programs and services for the aging within subordinate units of government and nongovernmental groups, and assist organizations and committees in the development of programs in such manner as the division deems appropriate.

(d) Gather and disseminate information about programs, services, activities and facilities for the aging.

(e) Conduct a continuous program to stimulate public awareness and understanding of the needs and potentials of the aging.

(f) Provide consultant service to assist in the development of local housing for the aged.

(2) The several state agencies shall cooperate with the division in making available to it such available data as will facilitate the work of the division. The division shall make available to the several state agencies such information as it secures which will facilitate the effective operation of their programs for the aging.

(3) The division may accept, on behalf of the state, and use gifts and grants.

(4) The administrator of the division in consultation with the secretary shall appoint such technical staff as is necessary to carry out the functions of this program.

**History:** 1971 c. 164.