

Human Service Model Feasibility Task Force

January 20, 2014 1:00 pm
North Central Health Care, Board Room

Meeting Minutes

Present:

Marathon County:	Gary Gisselman, Vicki Tylka, Ken Day, Joanne Leonard, John Robinson
Lincoln County:	Nancy Bergstrom, Randy Scholz, Mike Nelson, Bruce Giese, Bob Lussow
Langlade County:	Robin Stowe, Kim Van Hoof, Ron Nye, Holly Matucheski
State of Wisconsin Reps:	Teresa Steinmetz, Gail Chapman
North Central Health Care:	Gary Bezucha, Becky Schultz, Toni Simonson, Paula Hawkins, Brenda Glodowski
Facilitators:	Gail Nordheim

Minutes

Motion Lussow, 2nd Matucheski, to approve the minutes of the 11/20/13 meeting, with one correction: under the list of those present, Bob Lussow should be under Lincoln County, not Langlade County. Motion carried.

Marathon County Letter to Langlade & Lincoln Counties

- The letter from Marathon County to Lincoln and Langlade Counties was generated after a joint meeting of the Marathon County Social Services Board and the Marathon County Health and Human Services Committee, to share concerns and expectations going forward.
- Task force members expressed concern that letter was not shared with the entire Task Force.
- Langlade County wants to go forward with a process to address disparity concerns.
- Lincoln County is committed to providing the highest level of service they can afford to provide. They won't know that cost until a tri-county model is created and costs are projected. They want to complete the feasibility study, and complete a report to forward to the County Boards to decide if they want to go forward.
- Discussion on whether the feasibility study is complete enough – whether it should include more detailed financial information, etc.
- The State reps felt it would be very difficult to determine who you will provide specific services to in different counties, when you are one agency providing the services.

- Noted was the task force charter which stated the task force would look at the possibility of consolidating child welfare services; during the process it looked at dissolving Social Services Departments, which was not part of the original charter.
- Robinson summarized the discussion, as the task force showed a willingness to go forward to the next step, see if there can be different level of services, that there be no decrease in levels of service, that there is an awareness that there will be a difference in costs to each county which may result in a change in level of financial commitment from counties, and a support to proceed.
- Leonard shared that the Marathon County Social Services Board voted to not approve going forward with this in the platform that was presented. They also recommended neutral guidance and neutral consultants if further study is done.

Feasibility Study

- The study was designed around the state requirements.
- Discussion on the report perhaps missing a compelling business need to change. What are specific benefits from consolidation? It is presented as an opportunity. Hypothetical situations should be included to add value and to strengthen the report. How are people being served now and how could it change? Share the goal to end the multiple calls; it is a “one call” situation similar to calling the ADRC for seniors. Suggestion to add a paragraph under number 2 with examples to demonstrate the benefit.
- Add to next steps the advisory committee would select and hire a business plan development consultant, at additional cost.
- Under next steps (page 13) the committee should send it to the county boards, along with recommendation on whether to proceed, not determine whether to send it. The flow chart will also need to be changed.
- At the top of page 12 change from “it is not anticipated that all managerial and administrative staff will be needed”, to “requirements for all managerial and administrative staff have not been determined”. The same change should happen on page 10 2nd paragraph under #7.
- Reference should be made that detail will be determined in a business plan.
- Suggestion to include statutory requirements for a 51.42 board and for a human services department in the business plan.
- Changes will be made, emailed to all, with written comments by a date certain. Final document will then go to the counties.
- **Motion** Lussow, to adopt the feasibility study subject to the changes made today, mailed to members with an opportunity to make comment by a date certain and finalized to present to the three counties. 2nd Nye. Motion carried.

Business Plan

- A small group of the task force will work on determining what the dollar amount estimate will be for each county to proceed (last statement in resolution), and develop an RFP. Recommendation to have Brad Karger, Nancy Bergstrom and Robin Stowe work on this.
- The small group will develop a resolution to adopt the feasibility study, with an estimate to proceed with development of a business plan and a RFP, and will then return to counties with a more solid cost estimate. Steps:
 1. Take feasibility study approval to county boards.
 2. Seek approval to proceed with development at a level to be determined.
 3. Finalize RFP.
 4. Go back to county for final approval or go forward based on final resolution.
- Comments should be forwarded to Brad, Robin and Nancy by February 1st.
- March 1st is the deadline for a resolution with estimates.
- The group should look at the schedule, as it may need revision.
- The State reps will contact Nancy or Robin if they see any areas missing or needing more detail.
- The resolution would need to identify who the overseeing body will be (this task force, a few from each county, etc.) in the business plan phase. A steering committee will work with a consultant; it would be part of a larger task force.
- The committee of three will use the month of February to identify costs (a range of costs “not to exceed”) to incorporate into a resolution.

The task force thanked Gail and Gerry for their work on this process.

The next meeting will be after the three county boards vote on the feasibility study. Votes are anticipated to happen at March county board meetings.

Motion Lussow, 2nd Nye, to adjourn at 3:27 p.m. Motion carried.

Pdh