

Minutes of Langlade County Social Service Committee Meeting

Call meeting to order.

The meeting was called to order in the board room of the Health Services Center at 2:30 pm on Monday, April 13, 2015 by Richard Hurlbert.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: Richard Hurlbert, Holly Matucheski, Vern Cahak, Richard Burby, and Bob Benishek.

Others present: Kim Van Hoof, Scott Jensema, Dave Solin, Pete Pennington, and Liane Blahnik. Craig Hotchkiss, Gary Olsen, Stephanie Bowman, Brooke Kickhaver, Angel Zimmerman, Kris Vander Velde, Sharon Van Buskirk, Kari Lazars, Rachel Lambert, Liz McPhail, Carmen Leher, Jill Nelson-Mattek, Brandi Bennett, Nicole Klingensmith, Jill Laufenberg, Karen Kieper, and Karen Baker attended part of meeting.

Approval of agenda.

Motion by Cahak to approve the agenda as mailed. Motion second by Burby. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approve minutes from previous meeting.

Motion by Matucheski to approve minutes from the previous meeting. Motion second by Cahak. All ayes. Motion carried.

Communications and Public Comment.

None.

Proclamation to be signed for Child Abuse Prevention Month.

County Board Chair, Dave Solin signed the Proclamation while members of the Child Welfare Citizens Review Panel, Social Services Committee and Children and Family Services Staff looked on.

Updates from Juvenile Court and Review the Alternative Care Report.

Olsen presented information on placement costs for Juvenile Court and Social Services. Olsen reported that January, February and March show actual amounts paid, and the amounts listed in future months are projected costs. Sub Care budget is \$249,000 for foster care and subsidized guardianship payments and based on projections, budget could come under budget by \$49,000. Olsen reported last year, foster care went over budget. Van Hoof reported subsidized guardianship payments need to be made until the child turns 18, or parent gets the court to dissolve the guardianship. Olsen discussed the Youth Aids payments, reporting Juvenile Court has 3 placements and Social Services one placement. Olsen reported Youth Aids is State and Federal funding. Olsen reported other expenses that come from this budget include salaries for Juvenile Court workers. Olsen reported the Youth Aids budget is \$301,000, and

projections for 2015 are \$390,388. Olsen reported because there is a placement at Mendota, and if we overspend the budget, the county will end up paying the State back for the costs of that placement. Olsen reported we are projecting being \$106,242 over budget based on April projections. We will not know until October if we can ask the State for any additional Youth Aids funding. Van Hoof reported that all 72 counties could be applying for this funding. State-wide, Youth Aids funding could be increased. If the Sub Care budget is under budget, we can use to offset Youth Aid projections. Olsen reported the juvenile housing budget is \$25,000; secure is \$150 per day and shelter is \$130 a day and those placements are made through Juvenile Court. Olsen reported in the past budget shortfalls could be taken from the Risk Reserve, but once the Risk Reserve is gone, a decision will need to be made to either establish a new Risk Reserve or look at other alternatives.

Updates on the Out of Home Care

Scott reported the agency is changing philosophy, based on policies coming down from the State. After Scott finishes the Supervising Safety course, the State will come in and explain the same policies to staff. Van Hoof reported the policy changes will focus on family and child, and basic child safety, and when it's being met, kids need to go home and community partners can provide services to maintain children safely in their home.

Update on LTE Clerical Position.

Van Hoof introduced Sharon Van Buskirk to the committee. Sharon's first day is today, but she worked in the office through the Experience Works program. Sharon will work about 14 hours a week through December 31, 2015. The committee welcomed Sharon.

Update on the Energy Assistance Program.

Van Hoof reported that as of April 10, 2015, 1,453 households applied for energy assistance, and 1,401 households received a benefit. Average LIHEAP (Low Income Household Energy Assistance Program) benefit was \$321, and average Public Benefit was \$158.

Update on Master's Level Social Work Position.

Jensemia reported we are working with North Central Health Care to get 3,000 hours or supervised time, so we can start billing as a licensed clinical therapist. Van Hoof reported there are opportunities to bill for Angie's time if the client's she is working with are eligible for that funding. Van Hoof reported the MSW provides therapeutic activities, which cannot be provided by a BA level social worker. Van Hoof reported that the number of families we have worked with two or three generations is astounding. There is much need to move towards Trauma Informed Care. Families we serve on a daily basis have been through a lot. The systems we work in are punitive, and reactive. The State is behind this trauma informed shift.

Discuss plan for Foster Care Coordinator Position.

Van Hoof shared projected costs to maintain the Foster Care Coordination position in 2016. Foster Care Coordination is technical and timeframes need to be met as Statutes changed requiring licensing of relatives. Van Hoof reported sharing the position with

Taylor County is beneficial as person is trained and efficient. Van Hoof feels that adding job duties back to existing staff would create inefficiencies and may prevent licensing from being done in a timely fashion. Olsen reported the Finance Committee requests that funding be found within the department's budget to approve casual positions. Olsen reported this needs to be sent through in June, but could be sent through contingent upon funding available. Hurlbert requested Foster Care Coordinator Position be added to next month's agenda for further discussion.

Discuss need for funding Parent Capacity Evaluations.

Jensema reported there is a need to have parenting capacity evaluations done by psychologists, who could give us an extensive report stating the parent, can parent. Part of these evaluations includes a bonding assessment. Van Hoof stated that if something traumatic occurred, those should come out in these forensic assessments, and because they are considered forensic, they are not covered by Medical Assistance. Hurlbert requested this be added to next month agenda for further discussion.

Review Payment of Bills.

The committee reviewed bills paid.

Review and approve the Budget Summary Report.

The committee reviewed the budget summary report. Van Hoof reported the supplies budget may look a little over budget, but those items will be charged to the Food Share Bonus money, and Nagel plans to revise this for next month. Motion by Cahak to approve the budget summary. Motion second by Benishek. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review Monthly Report for Compensatory Time.

The committee reviewed the compensatory time report.

Review and approve the Training Report.

The committee reviewed the training report. Motion by Benishek to approve the training requests and compensatory time report. Motion second by Burby. All ayes. Motion carried.

Director's Report.

Van Hoof reported Paula Brown, the State's representative for Child Welfare Citizen Review Panels, facilitated this month's meeting on Thursday, April 9. The suggestions made for future activities will be discussed at the next Citizen Review Panel meeting again on May 14, at 11:30 am. Van Hoof invited committee members to attend.

Van Hoof reminded the committee about the scheduled special session on Monday, April 27 at 2:00 pm to discuss costs of out-of-home care. This meeting will be held here in the Health Service Center board room.

Van Hoof reported the FSET (Food Share Employment and Training) office is open. Economic Support workers have been making referrals to Andy Kranz. Andy will be here four days a week.

Van Hoof reported there may be some funding changes to the training structure through UWGB. We budget about \$1,200. Once this is determined by UW system, Van Hoof will bring this forward.

Van Hoof reported Child Welfare and Children and Family Services are moving towards electronic case records, which mean many case workers carry I Pads. This comes with a cost, which Van Hoof plans to build into a CIP (Capital Improvement Plan).

Van Hoof shared a handout on Trauma Informed Care with the committee.

Date for next month's meeting.

The next monthly committee meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, at 2:30 pm in the Health Service Center board room.

Motion by Matucheski to adjourn the meeting. Motion second by Cahak. All ayes. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 pm.

Submitted by,
Liane Blahnik
Administrative Assistant