

LANGLADE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Monday, August 8th, 2016
10:30 a.m. – Health Service Center Board Room

MINUTES

PRESENT: Richard Hurlbert, Vern Cahak, Holly Matucheski, Richard Burby and Robert Benishek

ALSO PRESENT: Tracy Chernetski, Patsy Rolo, Sheila Rine, Pete Pennington, Gary Olsen, Kim Schwartz, Marie Foss

1. H. Matucheski called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Attendance as listed above.
4. Approve agenda – Motion by V. Cahak, seconded by R. Hurlbert to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
5. Minutes of the July 11th, 2016 board meeting were approved with motion by D. Hurlbert, seconded by B. Benishek. Motion carried.
6. Public comment on agenda items, and consideration of requests for items to be added to future meeting agendas - None.
7. Reviewed the Budget Summary Report and bills paid. Motion by B. Benishek, seconded by V. Cahak to approve the budget summary and bills paid. Motion carried.
8. FSET Update – Patsy introduced the new FSET worker, Marie Foss. Marie replaces Andy Krantz who is now the Program Coordinator for Rhinelander and Eagle River.
9. The next meeting will be Monday, September 12th at 10:30 a.m.
10. Review, discuss and adopt DSS budget for 2017 and 2018 – Gary passed around a 1 sheet summary page. Gary stated that Ron filled out a Budget Reduction worksheet for 2017. One issue is some money is set aside for Prevention. Currently, we utilize one person from Taylor County and B&G Club and Family Corner Resource Center (FCRC) all are looking for funding. Taylor County increased their amount by a little so there won't be as much money going to B&G and FCRC. D. Hurlbert voiced his concerns regarding cutting funding from the B&G Club. Gary reiterated that board members need to look at their priorities. Youth Aid placements have been budgeted for \$200,000 but that hasn't been enough money. If finance has any money left, Ron would like to see an increase in the Youth Aid placement line item. Juvenile costs historically have never been budgeted enough but not sure where the money will come from. Gary mentioned the Finance Committee has asked Gary to run a referendum. If the referendum fails, will need to look at your priorities. The part-time Social Worker positions will be coming in the form of a resolution at the next County Board meeting. B. Benishek stated that these are complicated budgets and we need to trust the staff and Gary.

Motion by D. Hurlbert, seconded by V. Cahak to adopt the 2017 and 2018 budget and to forward on to the Finance committee. Motion carried.

11. Correspondence and Reports:

- a. Updates from Economic Support and Energy Assistance – P. Rolo mentioned 1 Economic Support will be leaving. Her last day in the office is August 10th. The state mandates food share on demand effective July 1st. P. Rolo explained what this is and how it works. They are going to a one-touch approach. Seeing less face to face, but still will see someone if requested. As of August 1st, all of Langlade County cases are case-banked. So rather than having workers have letters of the alphabet, P. Rolo explained how case banking works. This seems to be working ok so far. P. Rolo passed around the energy update. P. Rolo states Sheila has completed her online training and will be going to in-person training in September. .
- b. Updates from Children and Family Services – T. Chernetski states the trend continues with 30 referrals and half of those screened in for July. Having a difficult time finding places for children. Foster cares are full. Part-time Social Worker gave her notice and her last day will be August 19th. The Part-Time SW position was looking at moving to Full-time effective Jan. 1, 2017, however because of the PT SW giving her notice, T. Chernetski would like to be able to advertise and hire a FT SW right away. Gary states this has gone through all the committees and was waiting for DSS oversights approval and then will go to County Board in August. Motion by D. Hurlbert, seconded by R. Burby to move forward with hiring a full-time Social Worker immediately upon approval from full County Board. Motion carried.
- c. Updates from Juvenile Court – K. Schwartz passed around the explanation of placement costs through the end of July and reviewed the cases. 6 kids placed through July. 3 have been previously discharged. Motion by B. Benishek, seconded by D. Hurlbert to accept this report. Motion carried.
- d. Legislative Update - None

12. Personnel Update

- a. Update on request to advance part-time social worker position to full-time for 2017 – Discussed above.
- b. Tiffany Pavek, part-time social worker tendered her resignation effective August 19th – discussed above.
- c. Rhonda Strandberg, Economic Support Specialist tendered her resignation effective August 10th – P. Rolo stated that Rhonda's last day in the office will be August 10th but her last day with the county is August 12th. The consortia states they must have 6 Economic Support Specialists at all times. Gary stated this was approved at Personnel on Friday and only needs DSS oversights approval as this position and funding was already there. Motion by R. Burby, seconded by B. Benishek to move forward with refilling the ESS Worker position. Motion carried.

13. Director's Report – None.

14. Old Business: - None

15. New Business:

- a. Conference/Workshop attendance – B. Benishek made a motion to allow any Social Services member to attend necessary meetings with per diem and mileage, seconded by V. Cahak. Motion carried.

16. Referrals/Recommendations for September meeting – Angel from the B&G Club wanted to host the September meeting at the club, however, the committee would prefer to wait until the October meeting to go there, as RJ has requested a closed session at the September's meeting.

17. Motion by D. Hurlbert, seconded by V. Cahak to adjourn the meeting at 11:20 a.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by:
Sheila Rine