

Minutes of Langelo County Social Service Committee Meeting

Call the meeting to order.

The meeting was called to order at the Health Service Center in the board room at 10:30 am on Monday, February 10, 2014 by Richard Hurlbert.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Members present: Richard Hurlbert, Holly Matucheski, Pat McKinney-Rice, Vern Cahak, and Bob Benishek.

Others present: Kim Van Hoof, Patsy Rolo, Carlene Nagel, and Liane Blahnik. Scott Jensema, Robin Stowe, Gary Olsen, Drew Kelly, and Ron Nye attended part of meeting.

Approval of the agenda.

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

Approve minutes from the previous meetings.

Motion by Cahak to approve the minutes from the previous meetings as mailed. Motion second by Matucheski. All ayes. Motion carried.

Communications and Public Comment.

None.

Discuss possible amendment to the proposed Casual Employee Position.

Van Hoof reported she would like an amendment to the casual employee position in Social Services since money became available due to one employee not taking health insurance. Previous the committee approved a 12 week position for 15 hours per week which would cost \$4,200. Van Hoof proposed to change that the position to run from March to December of 2014, at a cost of \$15,676.59. Motion by Matucheski to hire a casual employee from March to December with funding from Social Services budget. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

Discuss the formation of the Child Protection Citizen Review Panel with DCF funding.

Van Hoof reported there is a non-competitive grant available through the Department of Children and Families for the formation of a Child Protection Citizen Panel. This would be a sub-committee of the Child Death Review Team. The panel would consist of members from Langelo Hospital, Law Enforcement, Schools, the Judge, Public Health Nursing, North Central Health Care, Fire Departments, and Social Services. Motion by Benishek to approve the formation of the Child Protection Citizen Review Panel and up to \$7,000 in funding for this panel. Motion second by Cahak. All ayes. Motion carried.

Update on (CST) Coordinated Services Teams funding.

Van Hoof reported that County Board redirected this to North Central Health Care to capture the Medical Assistance funding. Van Hoof reported that Erica Huffman is currently working on the grant for all three counties; Langlade, Lincoln and Marathon. Van Hoof reported the agency will have many opportunities to refer families and will have staff utilize this service for their clients to hopefully decrease out-of-home placement costs. Van Hoof reported that studies have shown that when people work together on multi-disciplinary teams, the outcomes are much better for families. With collaboration, this program could be an asset for our community.

Updates on multi-county human services feasibility study.

Stowe shared information about the resolution that will be presented to the county board. The first step was the feasibility study, and the next step is to develop a business plan for a multi-county Human Services Department. During this second step, more details and technical questions could be worked out; what this thing will look like, how services will be provided, how the organizational structure will look, and costs each county will need to contribute to the multi-county human services agency. Stowe reported that all three counties will need to approve moving forward with developing a business plan. Stowe estimates the cost associated with developing a business plan is around \$45,000 for each of the three counties. The committee asked where the State of Wisconsin is at on this issue. Stowe reported that if all three counties approve this multi-county Human Services, there are three State agencies that would also need to approve this multi-county Human Services. The committee reviewed the fiscal note on the draft resolution presented by Stowe. Olsen stated that North Central Health Care Center has almost \$500,000 in Langlade County's Reserve that was not utilized to provide services that can be used to fund the business plan, or Olsen will request those funds be returned to Langlade County's general fund.

Updates on the Children and Family Services Section.**a. Approve agency policy for new Social Worker training.**

Jensemia reported that one social worker recently submitted her resignation. The job has been advertised and applications are due on Friday, February 14. Jensemia reported that Social Workers require 15 to 20 days of training during the first year on the job. Van Hoof would like to develop an agency policy that would require the costs associated with this required training are returned to the agency if the new social worker would leave before completing one or two years of employment. Motion by Benishek to bring a policy back next month for committee review and approval. Motion second by Matucheski. All ayes. Motion carried.

Update of Income Maintenance Section.**a. Affordable Care Act**

Rolo reported that applications from the Market Place are starting to be released back to our agency. Many clients have been getting the Tax Information Forms completed and returned to the agency. Income Maintenance workers continue to work between 40 and 45 hours a week to get these processed. Rolo reported the volume of customers at the front desk and calls to the Call Change Center have increased.

Approve the purchase of two iPads with Affordable Care Act Funding.

Van Hoof requested two iPads to be purchased with Affordable Care Act funding. Motion by Benishek to approve the purchase of two iPads with funding from the Affordable Care Act. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

Update on Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program.

Rolo reported that 1,207 households applied for energy assistance. The next available appointment slot is on April 8, 2014. Rolo reported that there have been several requests due to the propane shortage. Rolo reported the agency workers continue to work with local propane providers, and we have been very fortunate as none of the local propane providers have run out of propane. Rolo reported the agency received additional funds to help with additional propane requests during this time.

Request to transfer funds from Risk Reserve for Social Services.

Van Hoof reported the 2013 budget will be over budget due to out-of-home placement costs. Olsen reported that there will be some Youth Aid money from 2013 still coming in, but Finance Committee approved up to \$100,000 to be transferred from the Alternative Care Risk Reserve Account. Olsen reported that Nagel requested \$38,000 back from the Reserve at Lutheran Social Services that was not utilized to provide intensive in-home services, and other budget lines were transferred to cover the shortfall amount that was close to \$200,000 for out-of-home placement costs. Jensema reported the agency will watch out-of-home placements costs in 2014 as the Risk Reserve's balance will be \$140,000 after using money this year to cover. Van Hoof reported the Children and Family Services section will utilize all community resources in 2014 to keep kids in their homes safely. Motion by Benishek to approve a transfer for up to \$100,000 from Risk Reserve for the 2013 budget shortfall. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

Review payment of bills.

The committee reviewed the bills.

Review and approve the 2013 Budget Summary Report.

The committee reviewed the 2013 budget summary report. Nagel reported the final numbers should be available in March, and the shortages in the budget will come from the Alternative Care Risk Reserve account.

Review Alternative Care Report

The Alternative Care report was reviewed by the committee.

Review the Monthly Report for Compensatory Time

The committee reviewed the monthly report for compensatory time.

Review the Training Report.

No training report was submitted this month. Motion by Benishek to approve the 2013 budget summary report, the Alternative Care report, and the monthly report of compensatory time. Motion second by Matucheski. All ayes. Motion carried.

Director's Report.

Van Hoof reported that the agency will start using the County's Performance Evaluation, and next month the committee will be completing the Director's Performance Evaluation based on the Personnel Committee's recommendation.

Van Hoof requested a change for April's meeting from April 14 at 10:30 am to be moved to April 7 at 10:30 am.

Adjourn.

The next meeting is set for March 10, 2014 at 10:30 am. Motion by Matucheski to adjourn the meeting at 11:55 a.m. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Liane Blahnik, Administrative Assistant