

LANGLADE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Monday, January 9th, 2017
10:00 a.m. – Health Service Center Board Room

MINUTES

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

EXCUSED: Joe Novak

ALSO PRESENT: Sheila Rine, Ron Barger, Craig Hotchkiss, Carlene Nagel, Patsy Rolo

1. H. Matucheski called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m.
2. Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Attendance as listed above. Motion by V. Cahak, seconded by B. Benishek to excuse J. Novak. Motion carried.
4. Approve agenda – Motion by D. Hurlbert, seconded by V. Cahak to approve the agenda. Motion carried.
5. Minutes of the December 12th, 2016 board meeting were approved with motion by B. Benishek, seconded by V. Cahak. 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.
8. The next meeting will be Monday, February 13th, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Health Service Center Board Room. D. Hurlbert will not be at this meeting.
9. Correspondence and Reports:
 - a. Updates from Economic Support and Energy Assistance – Patsy passed around an update on Economic Support. Crystal Baker will be added into the rotation effective 2/1/17. Another big change effective Feb. 2017 is how child care assistance operates. Patsy reviewed this. Patsy also stated there has been a lot of talk in regards to the Affordable Care Act (Obama Care) but we have not received anything to show what type of changes will be coming. Currently, the consortia has a caseload of 28,342 and are down 5 workers. Energy assistant report passed around. Sheila and Tara have processed 909 apps since Oct. 1st and are booking into March. There were 14 heating repairs/replacements and 10 crisis calls at this time.
 - b. Updates from Children and Family Services – Ron passed around Tracy's report. 21 old cases were closed with 16 screened in for assessment. Continued concerns with substance abuse and unsafe living conditions.

- c. Updates from Juvenile Court – Craig passed around his report. Craig stated nothing has really changed since last month. Cases were reviewed. B. Benishek was asking about the electronic monitoring system. Craig will bring one next month to show everyone.
- d. Legislative Update – Ron stated the sessions are just convening. Lincoln Hills is under the microscope for the past year. They still have openings to fill especially for counselors. Also looking at a 17 year old non-violent offender act that would re-class a 17 year old as juveniles versus adults, which would potentially increase local case load for our staff.

10. Personnel Update

- a. Clerical assistant position – Kami Nicholson was introduced. She has replaced Carrie Zelazoski who retired on Dec. 30th. Ron explained there is currently an opening for an ES worker and he would like to refill this position as soon as possible. This position is already budgeted for and only needs this committee's approval to refill. Ron further explained that if the position is posted internally and if an existing worker from the clerical staff interviews and is offered the position; Ron would like to utilize the eligibility list of clerical applicants from the last round of hiring in December of 2016 instead of re-advertizing. This will save time and cost of advertising for the clerical position. Motion by B. Benishek, seconded by D. Hurlbert to allow Ron to refill the ES position and if the position is filled by an internal applicant from the current DSS / Health clerical staff, then the clerical position can be refilled by utilizing the current eligibility list. Motion carried. If no one posts internally for the ES position, it will be advertised externally.
- b. Laptops and Mi-Fi units purchased for CFS staff – Ron explained that most CFS staff now have laptops, docking stations, and Mi-Fi units. Ron is seeking approval for similar equipment to be obtained for Juvenile Justice staff (Craig and Kim), as well as the Foster Care coordinator Tammy Schreiber. Motion by B. Benishek, seconded by V. Cahak to allow the purchase of laptops and Mi-Fi units for Juvenile Justice and the Foster Care Coordinator pending funding. Motion carried. Ron will approach the Citizens review Panel to see if that group is willing to fund this purchase and provide funds towards the data plan cost.

11. Old Business:

- a. Painting of CFS and Juvenile Justice Office spaces update – Ron explained that with clarifications in the paint policy regarding certain department spaces, painting of these spaces are now on hold. Emphasis will be put on redecorating projects that are conducive to creating a child friendly environment as opposed to painting.

12. New Business:

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

13. Referrals/Recommendations for February – Ron is working on the Drug and Family court presentation for the upcoming quarter.

14. Motion V. Cahak, seconded by D. Hurlbert to adjourn the meeting at 10:45 a.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by:
Sheila Rine