



MEETING MINUTES

Committee: Department of Social Services
Date: Monday, July 10th, 2017
Time: 4:00 p.m.
Location: Langlade County Court House, 800 Clermont St, Room 203, Antigo WI 54409

The following discussion was held by the Committee at the meeting detailed above:

1. Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m.
2. Reminder to silence cell phones
3. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited
4. Roll call was conducted.

DSS COMMITTEE		
Name	Role	Status
Robert Benishek	Committee Member	Present
Richard Hurlbert	Committee Member	Present
Holly Matucheski	Chair	Present
Joe Novak	Committee Member	Present
Vern Cahak	Committee Member	Present
Non-Committee Members Present		
Name	Interest	
Ron Barger	Director Health & Social Services	
Kami Nicholson	Clerical Assistant	
Alisha Resch	HR Director	
Gloria Oberneder	County Board Member	
Pete Pennington	County Board Member	
Craig Hotchkiss	Juvenile Justice Supervisor	
Tracy Chernetski	CFS Supervisor	
Judy Nagel	County Clerk	
Robin Stowe	Corp Counsel	
Carlene Nagel	Finance Director	
Stephanie Thiede	Public Health Nurse	
Doug Nonnenmacher	County Board Member	
Don Scupion	County Board Member	
Elizabeth Constable	DA	

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Jill Laufenberg	Assistant DA
John Rhode	Judge

5. Approve previous meeting minutes (June 12th, 2017). Motion by Cahak, seconded by Hurlbert to approve the minutes from June 12th, 2017. All ayes. Motion carried.
6. Public comment on agenda items, and consideration of requests for items to be added to future meeting agendas - None
7. Bills were reviewed. Barger states that except for out of home placement costs, we are where we should be at this time of the year.
8. Correspondence and Reports:
 - a. Update from Juvenile Justice - Craig Hotchkiss explained that the status of current juvenile cases has not changed much from last month. Craig went over the cases they have going on at the present time. He explained to the committee how staff comes up with a plan and placement for the client. He also briefly talked about when clients turn 18 how they usually come back to what they know even though it is not the best choice. He also stated that Lincoln Hills is considered a last resort for placement. Motion by Benishek, seconded by Hurlbert to accept the Juvenile Justice report. All ayes. Motion carried.
 - b. Updates from Children and Family Services - Tracy Chernetski explained that in the month of June 2017, the agency had 22 access reports received, 7 screened in assessments and 15 were screened out. The case workers are trying to get creative around case planning, increase monitoring inside the homes and only remove as an absolute last resort. They are using Social Work assistant for “drop-ins” surrounding safety. The 7 new kids TPC'D last week were all due to methamphetamine use. She also went on to say that we have an increasing number of ongoing cases involving parent's drug and mental health issues causing safety concerns for the workers and the children. Jayme Solin and Todd Kielman both accepted the offers of employment last week and will be starting with the agency in the next 2 weeks.
 - c. Updates from Economic Support and Energy Assistance - Patsy Rolo was not present so Ron Barger gave the report to the committee. We will be interviewing 7 candidates for the Economic Support position on July 21st, 2017. Kelly Koepfel's last day for out of office training will be this month. She will then be assigned to the Call Center among other duties for Economic Support starting in August. Barger explained that for an ES position takes around 6 months of training. The 2016-2017 Energy Assistance Program closed on 5/15/17. We are continuing to receive calls for furnace issues and crisis situations. We still have limited funding for heat and electric crisis at this time. In August, 2017 we will be getting ready to send paper short applications to eligible candidates per the state for the 2017-2018 Heating Season. We will also be preparing schedules for when regular heating season starts which is October 1st. Deana Shestak will be cross trained in the energy program as a back-up.
 - d. Legislative Update – Ron Barger states that there are no new updates from last month. Barger did explain to the committee that the state is thinking of changing the age for juvenile offender status to include through age 17. Also if that happens he said he hopes that the state allows increased funding for the expanded juvenile program. Benishek

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asked if the counties could let the state know what they feel on this change. Barger stated yes.

9. Directors Report and Personnel Update – Ron Barger informed the committee that Lucianne Kreger, clerical support for both the Health Department and Social Services gave her resignation. Motion by Benishek, seconded by Hurlbert to refill this position and forward to Personnel Committee. All ayes. Motion carried. Barger also notified the committee of the ES position interviews which will be conducted on July 21st, 2017. At this time they have 7 interviews scheduled.
10. Old Business:
 - a. Panic Button installation - Barger told the committee that the buttons are fully installed on both sides with a silent strobe light installed in the waiting area. He also stated that the response time is typically around 2-5 minutes for the police to respond.
 - b. Vehicle replacement for department use - Barger told the committee that the 2 vehicles that the agency have at the present time are in need of ongoing maintenance and repairs and not dependable. Resolution will be taken through committee to request a replacement vehicle. Motion by Benishek, seconded by Hurlbert for a resolution to the county board. All ayes. Motion carried.
11. New Business
 - a. Conference and Workshop attendance for staff and/or committee members - Motion by Benishek, seconded by Hurlbert to allow any member to attend necessary meetings with per diem and mileage. All ayes. Motion carried
 - b. T.A.D. Meetings - Next meeting will be on August 4th in the Jury Room. They had the 1st meeting and it went well. Elizabeth Constable is working on getting a Day Treatment and Intensive Out-Patient program implemented by next year in the county. Barger asked if Megan Mattek from Aspirus could be included in the next meeting. Constable and the Judge stated that would not be a problem.
 - c. Request to replace printer unit in DSS for the FSET staff. Motion by Hurlbert, seconded by Cahak to approve replacement of printer for the FSET program. All ayes. Motion carried.
 - d. Request to replace the CFS on call phone - Barger explained that when Gary Olsen left, he took his phone but that left a line open. DSS would like to utilize the line for the social workers as the phone they are using is not in proper working condition. Barger stated that the workers need to have texting and internet access when they are out on cases for their safety. Motion by Benishek, seconded by Novak to approve the replacement of a CFS on call phone. All ayes. Motion carried
 - e. Discuss how individuals are adjudicated in the county court system - Constable briefly explained how a criminal case begins. She receives the referral, and then she decides what charges will be filed. Hurlbert asked how the Judge decides the sentences as he is asked by the public this question frequently. The Judge responded with that legislation states probation is the 1st option if the person has no record. The Judge also explained to the committee that he has 8-9 cases a day and they run around a half an hour per case. Benishek asked the Judge and DA if they felt that they received fair and reasonable coverage with the media. Both the Judge and DA responded that they do feel they get fair coverage. Constable also told the committee

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- that it costs roughly \$120,000/year for someone to be housed in the state prison system. She also stated that the state prison system now offers the Huber program to some inmates. The Judge and DA stated that anytime the committee or any of the committees have questions, to feel free to call and ask.
- f. Request to renegotiate service contract with Asst. District Attorney Jill Laufenberg - Laufenberg explained that with the case load she has, she is in need of more time. An example she shared is in 1994- we had 32 CHIP cases. This year we are at 50 in the first 6 months. Barger asked the DSS committee to approve request and send to Finance Committee for discussion and consideration. Motion by Benishek, seconded by Hurlbert to forward this request to the Finance Committee . All ayes. Motion carried.
12. Referrals and Recommendations for the next meeting. Benishek would like a meeting with Action Alliance members and to discuss community issues related to drug and alcohol abuse in the community.
13. Set date for next regular meeting: August 14th, 2017 at the Health Service Center Board Room at 10:00 AM.
14. Adjourn meeting. Motion by Hurlbert, seconded by Novak to adjourn the meeting at 6:00 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes transcribed and submitted by:
Kami Nicholson
Office Assistant