

## **Minutes of Langlade 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, July 8, 2013 by Richard Hurlbert.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Others present: Kim Van Hoof, Carlene Nagel, Patsy Rolo, and Liane Blahnik. Ashley Yang 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 meeting.**

Motion by Cahak to approve the minutes from the previous meeting as mailed. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Communications and Public Comment.**

None.

### **Introduce new Social Worker – Ashley Yang.**

Van Hoof introduced Ashley Yang to the committee. The committee welcomed Ashley to Langlade County. Van Hoof reported she will start registering Ashley for the NEW Partnership training required for new Social Workers, and Ashley will attend Juvenile Court Intake training in December before she takes pager duties.

### **Approval to pay Per Diem for Economic Support Specialist Interviews.**

Rolo reported applicants will be interviewed for the limited term Economic Support Specialist position on Wednesday, July 17. Rolo reported Hurlbert agreed to sit in on the interviews for the limited term Economic Support Specialist position.

Motion by Benishek to approve Per Diem payment for Hurlbert to attend the interviews for the limited term Economic Support Specialist applicants on July 17, 2013. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Updates on multi-county human services feasibility study**

Van Hoof reported the last multi-county Human Services feasibility study meeting was held on June 20. Since that time, Van Hoof has met with the facilitators, Gerry Born and Gail Nordheim. Both have previous experience working with the State on other consolidations and projects. They are interested in gathering information from community partners so focus groups will be formed. The next feasibility study meeting will be held on July 18. Benishek asked if both the positives and negatives are being brought up in this study. Van

Hoof stated that each community has strengths and weaknesses, and a goal should be to help families while minimizing or eliminating the negatives; make sure we get the right resources to the people who need them, when they need them, and eliminate their need to be involved with the agency for a long time. Although the study was started by North Central Health Care, the study is evolving into a collaboration to see what will be the best fit to align services. We could align different programs with different counties, or we could partner with other counties and do things differently than we currently do. Van Hoof stated that some changes to State Statutes may be required before we are able to make changes and align programs that fall under the Social Services umbrella, with other counties or agencies. The other unique thing in Langlade County is that Child Support and Juvenile Court Intake are not attached to Social Services like they are in Marathon and Lincoln counties. Van Hoof stated there will be many things to work out but there could be many benefits, including financial ones, through a collaboration of services.

### **Review bills.**

The committee reviewed the bills.

### **Review and approve the 2013 Budget Summary Report.**

The committee reviewed the 2013 budget summary report. Nagel reported that the Alternative Care budget will be spent after paying June's Alternative Care bills. Van Hoof reported it is hard to return children safely home without services in the community to keep them home. Motion by Matucheski to approve the 2013 Budget Summary report. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Review the Alternative Care Summary Report**

The Alternative Care Budget Summary report for June will be presented at next month's meeting.

### **Review and approve the Monthly Report for Compensatory Time.**

The committee reviewed the monthly compensatory time report. Motion by Benishek to approve the compensatory time report. Motion second by Cahak. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Review and approve the Training Report.**

The training report was reviewed by the committee. Motion by Benishek to approve the trainings on the training report. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

### **Director's Report.**

Van Hoof reported she is still on Family Medical Leave through mid August, but will attend Committee meetings and the feasibility study meetings. The I Pad has been set up so she is able to check emails from home.

Van Hoof shared a summary of hours worked by Children and Family Service Social Workers since they were approved to work extra hours through July 31, 2013. The data will be impacted since Sherry Woyak's time is not in the last two pay periods and Ashley Yang will be in training for 6 months before she is able to take a full case load. Van Hoof plans to bring information from the most recent payrolls to the August Committee meeting

for discussion on suggestions that will need to be forwarded to the County Board. Van Hoof stated based on the information from the six-month study, her recommendation will be to have Social Workers work a 40-hour work week. Van Hoof reported her concern is the budget as the agency needs to stay at the same amount in 2014 as we did in 2013. Van Hoof will look at the agency budget first to fund the 40 hour work week for Social Services, or the other option would be to look at county priorities to see where funding could come from. Hurlbert questioned if there was any way to streamline current agency processes with people we have. Van Hoof reported the six Social Workers have discussed job duties but when everyone does all job duties, no one becomes the expert, so job duties can take longer.

Van Hoof reported the Nagel has requested \$38,000 back from the reserves from Lutheran Social Services based on information in their audit. Van Hoof will bring information back to next month's meeting on the overall cost for the Intensive In-Home team.

Van Hoof reported the Community Resources Meeting has been scheduled for this afternoon with community members and will be held today at 1:00 pm, and invited the Committee members to attend.

**Adjourn.**

The next meeting is set for August 12, 2013 at 10:30 am. Motion by Cahak to adjourn the meeting at 11:15 a.m. Motion second by Benishek. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,  
Liane Blahnik, Administrative Assistant