

LANGLADE COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Monday, June 13, 2016
10:30 a.m. – Health Service Center Board Room

MINUTES

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

ALSO PRESENT: Ron Barger, Carlene Nagel, Janelle Hintz, Craig Hotchkiss, Tracy Chernetski, Doug Smith, Patsy Rolo, Lisa Wiltse and Sheila Rine

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 May 9th, 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. Ron mentioned that Andy Krantz, FSET has been promoted and won't be onsite like he was before, but overseeing the FSET program on a regional level. There will be other FSET workers working locally until they have someone permanently assigned.
7. Reviewed the Budget Summary Report and bills paid. Ron mentioned that the transmission in the van is going out and will cost approximately \$4000 to repair. In the process of getting 2 quotes and will go from there. If a repair is necessary, the money will need to be found in the current budget.
8. The next meeting will be Monday, July 11th at 10:30 a.m. H. Matucheski will not be available for this meeting. Motion by V. Cahak, seconded by B. Benishek to excuse H. Matucheski from this meeting. Motion carried.
9. Correspondence and Reports:
 - a. Updates from Economic Support and Energy Assistance – P. Rolo introduced Lisa Wiltse, economic support worker who is currently in training. Energy applications were due by May 15th, however, there are summer apps that have started. Numbers are down and could be due to a mild winter. Continue to assist families throughout the entire year. B. Benishek questioned how many households are in Langlade County? Ron stated he is will look into this but not sure if the census data defines households versus individuals. Still helping individuals with disconnects and repairs. Will get Sheila trained to help Tara this fall. Motion by B. Benishek, seconded by D. Hurlbert to accept the energy report. Motion carried.
 - b. Updates from Children and Family Services – T. Chernetski started on May 23rd. T. Chernetski mentioned that there were 36 new referrals for May. 12 were screened in for services. Drug

abuse and issues continues to be a trend. Recently, a 3 year old was sitting next to a mobile meth lab. Continue to work with the workers on their educational plan.

- c. Updates from Juvenile Court – C. Hotchkiss passed around an update on placements. Reviewed these cases. Motion by B. Benishek, seconded by R. Burby to accept the Juvenile Justice report. Motion carried. H. Matucheski asked C. Hotchkiss how everything was going between Ron and Juvenile Justice and C. Hotchkiss states he feels they are all working well together.

10. Personnel Update

- a. Tracy Chernetski is the new CPS Supervisor and started on May 23rd. Ron mentioned that community members outside of the county have reached out to him and are giving positive reports about the recent changes.
- b. Lucianne Kreger has been hired for FT Clerical Support and will start on June 20th. She will be cross-trained between Health and Social Services.
- c. Sheila Rine accepted the position as Office Manager. Everything is going good so far.
- d. Restructuring Update – A new organizational chart was passed around. A casual employee is currently working in the clerical section of DSS until the end of the year. With the cross-training of regular clerical employees, Ron is hopeful that we won't need a casual employee after this year.

11. Director's Report – Ron mentioned in the Wisconsin Counties magazine, there is an article on "Reducing Mental Illness in Rural Areas and Jail", which fits in with our area.

12. Old Business

- a. None

13. 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 R. Burby. Motion carried.
- b. Approve request for purchase card for CPS Supervisor in the amount of \$1000. Motion by R. Burby, seconded by D. Hurlbert to approve a purchase card for the CPS Supervisor in the amount of \$1000. Motion carried.
- c. Approve request to increase the purchase card amount for the Office Manager to \$3000. Ron stated that S. Rine currently has a limit of \$2500 and now will be ordering/purchasing items for both Social Services and Health and would like to increase the amount to \$3000. Motion by D. Hurlbert, seconded by R. Burby to increase the Office Manager purchase card limit to \$3000. Motion carried.
- d. Request proposal to the appropriate committees to advance part-time Social Worker position to full-time starting January, 2017. Motion by R. Burby, seconded by B. Benishek to discuss this proposal. Motion carried. Ron stated that G. Olsen proposed this a few months ago, as a cost containment measure designed to reduce our out of home placement costs. The proposal is to take the part-time position and elevate it to full-time (part-time Juvenile Justice/part-time CPS work). Cost for elevating this position would be \$44,000. Spending \$44,000 potentially could save hundreds of thousands of dollars. Look at this as a prevention option. There will be a lot of variables and we don't know what level of services are needed from one day to the next. Discussed re-evaluating this in 1 year to see how it is working.

Motion by V. Cahak, seconded by D. Hurlbert to forward this proposal to move the part-time Social Worker position to full-time starting January, 2017 to Executive Committee and Personnel Committee, then full county board. Motion carried.

14. Referrals/Recommendations for July meeting – None. H. Matucheski mentioned that C. Schwartz's last day will be June 30th. Dave Geldon has been hired to replace C. Schwartz.

15. Motion by B. Benishek, seconded by R. Burby to adjourn the meeting at 11:25 a.m. Motion carried.

Submitted by:
Sheila Rine