

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 1:30 pm on Monday, May 20, 2013 by Richard Hurlbert.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

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

Others present: Kim Van Hoof, Carlene Nagel, Patsy Rolo, and Liane Blahnik. Sherry Woyak and Tracy Zwirschitz attended part of meeting.

Approval of the agenda.

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

Communications and Public Comment.

Van Hoof reported that May is Foster Care Month. Van Hoof reported that the Foster Care Coordinator, Bob Anderson, has submitted some articles to the Antigo Daily Journal and the Shopper's Guide. The agency also sponsored a table this past weekend at the "Stand for Children's Day" festivities at Antigo Area Head Start. It is important that the agency keep recruiting local foster care homes so children who need to be placed in out-of-home care can remain in their same school district.

Children and Family Services updates.

Van Hoof shared some handouts containing information coming from their dashboard from the State's Child Abuse and Neglect reporting website. These monthly summaries supply county specific data by month and year of the following information: total number of children in out-of-home care, number of children contacted within the month and the percentage of the total, the number of children who were contacted in their out-of-home setting and the percentage of the total number of contacted children. The monthly statistics comparison charts supply statewide data month by month for the current and the prior calendar year to date, across a wide range of Child Protective Services (CPS) Report and Service Report statistics. The last chart is an Initial Assessments overview and supplies county and statewide timeliness, workload performance, and compliance comparisons.

Motion by Benishek that chairman line up a special session to discuss the concerns for lack of community services that could be beneficial to families working with the Children and Family Services unit of Social Services. Motion second by Matucheski. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval to refill vacant Social Work position in the Children and Family Services Unit.

Van Hoof reported that Sherry Woyak submitted her resignation and her last day will be May 21, 2013. With her resignation, it has been discussed that all social workers; the on-going case workers, the foster care coordination, and the juvenile worker, will be part of a rotation to work on initial assessments and investigations. Van Hoof reported that Stowe advised the agency to advertise to refill this vacancy since Sherry Woyak was still under a probationary period. Motion by Benishek to refill the vacant Social Work position. Motion second by McKinney-Rice. All ayes. Motion carried.

Approval to fill a new Economic Support Specialist Position with Affordable Care Act Funding.

Rolo requested approval to hire a limited term full-time Economic Support Specialist with funding from the Affordable Care Act and the position is contingent based on that funding. This position is essential to the implementation and overall services provided to recipients of the consortium. The consortium is planning to hire 15 limited term; full-time employees and Langlade County's share is 1.5 of that amount. Rolo plans to use the .5 position to have the current Economic Support Specialists work up to 40 hours per week. Rolo reported the start date for the new position would be August 1, 2013. Motion by McKinney-Rice that approval is given to fill this limited term, full-time Economic Support Specialist position contingent upon Affordable Care Act funding, and to forward this request to Personnel and Executive Committees. Motion second by Cahak. All ayes. Motion carried.

Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) Updates.

Rolo reported the agency processed 1,584 applications for the season. Of the 1,584 that applied, 1,544 households received an energy assistance payment. The total amount of energy assistance paid to local fuel suppliers was \$867,672. The heat season ended May 15, 2013, but the agency will still be handling furnace replacements referred by the weatherization program and crisis calls regarding disconnection notices.

Updates on extra time for Social Workers.

Van Hoof shared a printout of hours worked for the six Children and Family Services Social Workers from February 3, 2013 to May 11, 2013. The study continues until the end of July, and there may be an impact with the social worker leaving on May 21. There are several workers that work over 40 hours per week. This is mainly the on-going case workers as caseloads are currently running around 20 families; normally they should have 12-15 cases. Extra hours are being worked to complete required reports based on the new State standards that came out late last year.

Updates on multi-county human services feasibility study

Van Hoof reported the next meeting will be held on May 29, 2013 from 1:00 – 4:00 pm in Wausau at North Central Health Care's facility. Van Hoof reported that on a recent conference call with the Department of Children and Family Services they reported they received the initial proposal from North Central Health Care, but they had some questions on this initial proposal. Van Hoof reported there is a need for the task force to look at all Human Services since all counties provide mandated Human Services differently. With all

the mandated Human Services on the table, the decisions made should show that a collaboration of services would best suit the needs of our county's residents in providing needed services.

Review bills.

The committee reviewed the bills.

Review and approve the 2013 Budget Summary Report.

The committee reviewed the 2013 budget summary report.

Review the Alternative Care Summary Report

The committee reviewed the 2013 Alternative Care Budget Summary report.

Review and approve the Monthly Report for Compensatory Time.

The committee reviewed the monthly compensatory time report.

Review and approve the Training Report.

The committee reviewed the training report.

Motion by Benishek to approve the 2013 Budget Summary report, the Alternate Care Budget Summary, the compensatory time and the training reports. Motion second by Matucheski. All ayes. Motion carried.

Director's Report.

Van Hoof shared information from the Wisconsin Counties Association about the 2013-2015 State Biennial Budget – Child Support Enforcement Funding, as it is going to the joint Committee on Finance on Tuesday, May 21, 2013.

Van Hoof reported WCHSA (Wisconsin Counties Human Service Association) meetings occur the first Thursday of each month at the Portage County Library in Stevens Point. This group is working on Human Services redesign in Wisconsin, and currently working on statute language that could encompass part of what our feasibility study is looking at by collaborating with other counties. Currently, we would be very limited on what we could do with other counties based on current statute language.

Adjourn.

The next meeting is set for June 10, 2013 at 10:30 am. Motion by Cahak to adjourn the meeting at 3:00 p.m. Motion second by Matucheski. All ayes. Motion carried.

Submitted by,
Liane Blahnik, Administrative Assistant