

Trempealeau County Human Services Board Meeting

Meeting called to order by Michelle Haines at 1:00 p.m. in the County Board Room at the Trempealeau County Government Center, Whitehall, Wisconsin on Monday, December 5, 2011.

Board Members Present: Arild Engelién, Rob Reichwein, Hensel Vold, Michelle Haines, Dora Jean Blaha, Kathy Johnson
Executive Finance Members: Ernie Vold, Dave Suchla, Mark Smick, Doug Winters

Staff Present: Jeff McIntyre, Kathy Gauger, Connie Oates, Sandy Palkowski, Mary Manka, Dana Conrad, Rian Radtke (Corp Counsel), Jami Kabus (Human Resources), Paul Syverson (County Clerk)

Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.

Adoption of Agenda – Motion by Mr. Reichwein to adopt the presented agenda; **seconded** by Mr. Hensel Vold. **Motion carried.**

Minutes of Prior Health & Human Services Board Meeting – Motion by Mr. Reichwein to accept the minutes from the November 7, 2011 meeting with the correction; **seconded** by Mr. Engelién. **Motion carried.**

Public Comments – None

6. Discussion of Policy Billing Clients for Guardianship Cases

Mr. Radtke, along with Ms. Conrad, is wondering if it would be feasible to charge fees for guardianship. The State Statute allows us to bill the client or the ward as long as the court allows. Mr. Radtke informed the group of how much time is actually spent on guardianships which includes his time, Ms. Conrad meeting with the client, Ms. Johnson's time preparing the report. For 2011 there have been 29 cases and three in the process. Nine of these cases had the ability to pay. What Mr. Radtke is suggesting is that we develop a policy on how to screen and set a dollar fee as well as a process and procedure for billing. La Crosse County is currently doing this. It was suggested that Mr. Radtke draft a resolution and bring it back to the Board.

7. Human Services Budget

- Joint Meeting with Executive & Finance Committee (a Quorum of the County Board of Supervisors May Be Present)

Mr. Suchla had requested the joint meeting of Exec. Finance and the Human Services Board to review the Human Services budget to possibly find ways to save money. Mr. McIntyre briefly explained all our services including mandated services. One area that we are over budget is out-of-home care for children that are mandated or court ordered. Another area is the IMD residents at the Trempealeau County Health Care Center. We are making every effort to bring that number down by placing them back into the community (Farnam House or half-way house), but this has to go through the court process. Question was raised by Mr. Suchla about why we have three Social Workers. He stated, "If we don't need a Social Worker, don't get them". Mr. McIntyre passed out a handout explaining when and where we were over budget. Discussion followed. **Motion** by Mr. Suchla to adjourn, **seconded** by Mr. Smick. **Motion carried.**

Motion by Mr. Reichwein to go into closed session, **seconded** by Mr. Engeliën.

8. Closed Session per Wis. Stats. 19.85(1)(c) to Consider Employment, Promotion, Compensation, or Evaluation of a Public Employee

9. Reconvene to Open Session

Motion by Mr. Reichwein to return to open session, seconded by Ms. Blaha.

10. Any Action Deemed Necessary from Closed Session

Motion to approve a requested leave of absence discussed in closed session by Mr. Vold, **seconded** by Ms. Haines. Vote: 5 yes 1 no

11. Approval of Meal Provider Sites

Ms. Gauger noted that several meal sites were approved at the last meeting except for two that we had not heard from and one that was excessively high. We have received a bid from Norske Nook in Osseo for \$6.00/meal; Pammy K's in Eleva – Dining at 5:00 on Thursdays and home delivered meals for \$6.50/meal and frozen for \$2.00/meal. Ms. Gauger spoke with the Administrator of the Osseo Hospital whose bid had come in high at \$9.00/meal. Ms. Gauger asked if that was final bid or would they consider doing it for less. They would get back to Ms. Gauger. Ms. Gauger planned to talk with Tri-County Memorial Hospital to see if they would be able to pick up the eight meals.

Motion by Mr. Engeliën to approve the Norske Nook and Pammy K's bids; **seconded** by Ms. Blaha. **Motion carried.**

12. Approval of 85.21 Application

Ms. Gauger stated that every year we have to apply for these funds. Of the total dollars that are received, the County has to match by 20 percent. Handouts were passed around explaining the three projects:

1. County Bus – budget \$75,000 – charge is \$4/ride
2. County Van Service – \$11,746 - four vans deliver home delivered meals and provide shopping where they deliver home delivered meals.
3. Volunteer Driver Program - \$78,000—receive about \$58,000 from WWC – transport to and from doctor appointments – about 30 drivers

Motion by Mr. Reichwein to approve the 85.21 application; **seconded** by Ms. Johnson. **Motion carried.**

13. ADRC/Senior Services Report

Ms. Gauger informed the group that Michelle Olcott had been hired in Senior Services and would officially start on December 12. There has been 100 percent time reporting in the ADRC. Poor Richard's Café Nutrition Site had been struggling with attendance. It is now under new management and the numbers have more than doubled since last year.

14. Approval to Hire Social Worker – Family & Children's Unit

Mr. McIntyre passed out a job description. This position is funded by basic county allocation, state and grant dollars. We have been down two Social Workers at one time. During this time we have had to replace kids in institutions rather than foster care which is more expensive. Reducing staff does not reduce the budget. **Motion** by Mr. Vold to move forward with the hiring; **seconded** by Mr. Reichwein. **Motion carried.**

15. IM Consortia Update

Ms. Palkowski stated that we have been certified by the State to operate the eight county consortia. Ms. Palkowski will supervise staff in Buffalo, Pepin and Trempealeau Counties. There are some State administrative rules to follow. We will still maintain a face-to face presence. Clients will be given a toll free number to the Economic Support Change Reporting Center to make appointments as well as report changes.

16. Review Voucher Summaries

a. Human Services – 153,235.45

b. Senior Services – 32,517.30

Motion by Mr. Reichwein to approve the vouchers; **seconded** by Mr. Engelen. **Motion carried.**

17. Next Meeting will be January 3, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room

18. Motion to adjourn at 2:28 p.m. by Mr. Engelen; **seconded** by Mr. Reichwein. **Motion carried.**