

Trempealeau County Human Services Board Meeting

Meeting called to order by Michelle Haines at 4:04 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room at the Trempealeau County Government Center, Whitehall, Wisconsin on Monday, February 3, 2014.

Board Members Present: Rob Reichwein, Arild Engelién, Curtis Skoyen, Karen Sepich, Dora Jean Blaha, Michelle Haines, Diane Schroeder

Staff Present: Deb Suchla, Sandy Palkowski, Kathy Gauger, Jami Kabus, Mary Manka

Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.

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

Minutes of Prior Human Services Board Meeting – Motion by Ms. Sepich to accept the minutes from the January 13, 2014 meeting; **seconded** by Mr. Skoyen. **Motion carried.**

Public Comments – None

6. Staff Presentation, Sandy Palkowski, WREA Consortium

Ms. Palkowski distributed a handout explaining the layout of the WREA Consortium. She spoke briefly on the following:

- Cases pooled among the eight county consortium
- The Team structure – she heads the EBD Team, Family Team #1 and the Bilingual Spanish Team
- Staffings done by phone on Tuesdays – looking for other technologies
- Child Care is in a pilot program

Another handout explained:

- Total caseload count
- Total Trempealeau County recipients
- Map of the whole State of Wisconsin showing the number of people affected by BadgerCare Plus or Marketplace. Almost 3,000 people in need. Insurance through the Marketplace is expensive

Ms. Palkowski noted that about 20 people attended the meeting regarding the Marketplace. A CAC was available as well as staff to assist individuals wanting to apply. Maybe could have had a bigger turnout if weather would have been better.

7. Strategic Planning Timeline and Update

Ms. Suchla updated the Board on the Strategic Planning process with a summary of the surveys from stakeholders and clients. The Lead Team had met today with the help of the UW Extension. Another meeting will be Thursday, February 20 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss our mission and vision and prioritize our issues. Another meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 3 at 1:00 p.m. and on Monday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m.

8. Position Requests – Children & Families Unit

An organizational chart was handed out and discussed. We are asking for consideration of adding two lead workers in the Childrens & Families unit as well as a Program Aide who would do supervised visits, client transportation, as well as partial case load from the two lead workers positions. **Motion** by Ms. Haines to forward this request to the Personnel & Bargaining Committee, Exec/Finance and the full County Board for approval; **seconded** by Ms. Sepich. **Motion carried.**

9. Trempealeau County Demographic Report

Ms. Suchla gave a very detailed report on the demographics of Trempealeau County. Just a few of the amazing statistics:

- Out of 72 counties we rank 43rd in population and 39th in square miles
- 2010 Trempealeau County population was 28,820
- 24% of the population is under 18 years old – 18th highest in the state
- 16% of the population is over 65 years old
- 6% of the total population is Hispanic
- 13% of the births in Trempealeau County in 2010 were Hispanic Children
- 18% of the 2010 births were to mothers without a high school diploma
- 12.8% of our population lives in poverty (32nd highest in state)
- Trempealeau County's November 2013 Unemployment rate is 4.2% - 5th lowest in the state
- Trempealeau County has 12,657 housing units which ranks 53rd highest in the state
- Behavioral Health – Wisconsin has a higher rate of suicides than neighboring states.
- 90% of individuals who die of suicide have diagnosable mental illness
- Trempealeau County has the highest suicide rates with 62% higher suicide rates than La Crosse, Jackson or Vernon Counties

10. Recovery Court Grant Award

Ms. Suchla noted the T.A.D. grant we were awarded will allow us to provide additional mental health screenings in Recovery Court, to open up an Opiate Heroin Drug Court, to help those people who want to quit, etc. The Team is planning on going to different locations and look at what they are doing for opiate court. There is terrific support for this program from the Judge, District Attorney, law enforcement, etc.

11. November 2013 Financial Preliminary Projections

As of November we are doing very well, but there are a number of transactions to be entered before the end of the year.

12. Review Voucher Summaries

- a. Human Services - \$39,721.80
- b. Senior Services - \$32,520.86
- c. e-WISACWIS - \$ 2,939.56

Motion by Mr. Engeliem to approve the vouchers; **seconded** by Mr. Skoyen. **Motion carried.**

13. ADRC Supervisor Report

Ms. Gauger touched briefly on:

- Update on the Benedictine closure – working with relocation committee
- The recent consolidation of the ADRC of Trempealeau County and Senior Services is going well.

- Shared copies of the new ADRC logo and the press release that went to all the publications in Trempealeau County regarding the merger.
- Discussed the meal counts for the Home Delivered Meals program as well as the Congregate Meal Sites

14. Director Report

Ms. Suchla updated the Board on the Mental Health Regionalization process. We are still in the early stages of planning. Ms. Suchla gave an update on the plan for a Hispanic outreach event for energy assistance in Arcadia on Sunday, February 23, 2014.

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

Motion by Mr. Reichwein to go into closed session; **seconded** by Ms. Blaha. **Motion carried.**

16. Reconvene to Open Session

Motion by Mr. Reichwein to reconvene to open session; **seconded** by Mr. Sepich. **Motion carried.**

17. Any Action Deemed Necessary from Closed Session – no action deemed necessary

18. Next Meeting will be Monday, March 3, 2014 at 4:00 p.m.

19. Adjourned at 5:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rob Reichwein