

## Trempealeau County Human Services Board Meeting

Meeting called to order by Rob Reichwein at 4:15 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room at the Trempealeau County Government Center, Whitehall, Wisconsin on Monday, March 3, 2014.

**Board Members Present:** Arild Engelién, Diane Schroeder, Curtis Skoyen, Rob Reichwein, Dora Jean Blaha

**Staff Present:** Deb Suchla, Kathy Gauger, Linda Seever, Mary Manka, Jami Kabus, Melissa Lighthall, UW Madison student observing

Notice was posted according to open meeting law requirements.

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

**Minutes of Prior Human Services Board Meeting – Motion** by Mr. Skoyen to accept the minutes from the February 3, 2014 meeting; **seconded** by Mr. Engelién. **Motion carried.**

**Public Comments – None**

### 6. Energy Assistance Program Presentation

Ms. Seever, along with her other assigned job duties, graciously volunteered to do the Energy Assistance Program for the heating season that runs from October 1 thru May 15. She spoke briefly about:

- Six Outreach sites – plus two Hispanic events for this heating season
- Appointments at the courthouse on Tuesdays & Thursdays
- Eligibility requirements: must be legal resident of this country with a valid SSN, include all persons in the household's income, must have an energy burden, must be within the income guidelines for the number of people in the household
- There are no asset guidelines for assistance, only income
- Benefits are available for Fuel Oil, LP, Natural Gas & Electric – payments go to the vendor
- Other heat sources like wood or pellets – payments go to the customer to purchase wood or pellets
- Assist with electric, except for Riverland Energy Cooperative
- It is once a heating season benefit, but Crisis Funds are available through Western Dairyland
- In 2013 709 applications were completed – In 2014 to date we have done 772.
- In 2012-13 season a total of \$584,558.70 was spent
- In 2013-14 season a total of \$497,013.30 was spent

### 7. Approve Receipt of T.A.D. Grant

An approval was needed of the Treatment Alternatives and Diversion (T.A.D) Grant, a new drug court focused on opiate addictions and a mental health component to the current drug court.

**Motion** made by Mr. Reichwein for approval of the T.A.D. Grant; **seconded** by Ms. Blaha. **Motion carried.**

### 8. Refill Vacancy – EBS Position

Ms. Suchla informed the Board that the Elderly Benefit Specialist has resigned her position. This is a required position and is a big benefit to help with Senior Care, Medicare Part D, help to apply for disability, etc. **Motion** made by Ms. Blaha to refill this position; **seconded** by Mr. Engelién.

**Motion carried.**

**9. DHS Dementia Changes**

Ms. Suchla and Ms. Gauger spoke on what is happening in the state regarding dementia. The Supreme Court has said you cannot put a person with dementia in a mental health facility. This has caused the State DHS to look at strategies to provide quality care for dementia patients and support for their caregivers. The State is moving quickly on this. Deb gave the Board an outline of the State’s plan. Dementia is a progressive disease. Question is where people will go with challenging behaviors in dementia. Work has begun in the Aging and Disability Resource Center (ADRC) to help provide awareness and services to people in need.

**10. Aging Plan Self-Assessment**

Ms. Gauger stated that the Older American Act requires the ADRC to do a Three Year Plan and at the end of one year requires us to go over the goals to see if they have met them. A copy had been mailed to each board member to review before meeting. Basically everything we were going to do has been done. We do need to do more work with the caregivers’ coalition. **Motion** by Mr. Reichwein to approve the plan; **seconded** by Ms. Schroeder. **Motion carried.**

**11. Title 6 Plan Approval**

Agenda item was tabled.

**12. Strategic Planning Update**

The second meeting of the Strategic Planning Committee was held earlier today. Time was spent prioritizing the strategic questions from the first meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for March 18 to continue refining. The final meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 7 at 3:00 p.m. for staff and board. Deb gave committee a handout of strategic questions and mission statement value words.

**13. December 2013 Financial Projections**

Ms. Suchla presented the December 2013 financial report. It is looking like there will be a surplus. It would be advantageous to invest some of this money into creating a new centralized data base system as well as investing in some needed technology for Human Services. Board members suggested it would be good to piggy-back with another department. The Board agreed to discuss at a future meeting.

**14. Review Voucher Summaries**

a. Human Services	\$219,168.53 (2013)	\$81,820.98 (2014)
b. ADRC-Aging Services	\$ 33,247.25 (2013)	\$30,087.11 (2014)

**Motion** by Mr. Skoyen to accept the voucher summaries; **seconded** by Ms. Blaha.  
**Motion carried**

**15. ADRC Supervisor Report**

Ms. Gauger reported:

- Provided a handout on the services provided by the ADRC
- Transportation numbers comparing 2012 to 2013
 

Bus One Way Trips:	2,178 to	1,956
Van In-Town One Way:	178 to	188
Volunteer Drivers One Way:	5,141 to	5,198
Miles:	170,991 to	166,364
- Good Volunteer Driver Program
- First ADRC Advisory Council meeting on March 4
- Still involved in the weekly relocation team at Benedictine Manor in Arcadia

**16. Director Report**

Ms. Suchla reported:

- Melissa Jenneman has accepted the position as FCS Supervisor
- Two people have accepted the FCS Social Worker positions and will start on March 17
- Waiting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> FCS Social Worker position and will then be fully staffed
- State review for Family & Children's unit coming up

At 5:25 p.m. **motion** to go into closed session by Ms. Blaha; **seconded** by Mr. Engeliem. **Motion carried.**

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

**18. Reconvene to Open Session**

Motion by Mr. Engeliem at 5:37 p.m. to reconvene to opens session; seconded by Ms. Blaha. Motion carried.

**19. Any Action Deemed Necessary from Closed Session**

No action deemed necessary

**20. Next Meeting** will be Monday, April 7 at 4:00 p.m.

**21. Adjourned** at 5:39 p.m.

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Rob Reichwein**