

Trempealeau County Human Services Board Meeting

Meeting called to order by Curtis Skoyen at 4:08 p.m. in the Wisconsin Room at the Trempealeau County Government Center, Whitehall, Wisconsin on Monday, May 5, 2014.

Board Members Present: Karen Sepich, Rob Reichwein, Jeanne Nutter, Curtis Skoyen, Diane Schroeder, Richard Frey, Wade Britzius,

Staff Present: Deb Suchla, Kathy Gauger, Jami Kabus, Melissa Jenneman, 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 Ms. Sepich. **Motion carried.**

Minutes of Prior Human Services Board Meeting – Motion by Mr. Reichwein to accept the minutes from the April 7, 2014 meeting; **seconded** by Ms. Blaha. **Motion carried.**

Public Comments – Mr. Reichwein mentioned an article that had been in the Winona Daily News regarding welfare fraud. Ms. Suchla stated she had received an anonymous letter regarding the article and had brought it to the Board's attention at the last meeting. Introduction of all board members and staff.

6. Election of Committee Officers

- **Chairman** – Mr. Reichwein nominated Mr. Skoyen for Chairman; **seconded** by Ms. Blaha. Mr. Reichwein made a motion to close nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Skoyen; **seconded** by Mr. Frey. **Motion carried.**
- **Vice Chairman** – Ms. Blaha nominated Ms. Sepich for Vice-Chairman; seconded by Mr. Britzius. Mr. Reichwein made a motion to close nominations and to cast a unanimous ballot for Ms. Sepich; **seconded** by Ms. Schroeder. **Motion carried.**
- **Secretary** – Mr. Britzius nominated Mr. Reichwein for Secretary; seconded by Ms. Blaha. Mr. Frey made a **motion** to cast a unanimous ballot for Mr. Reichwein; **seconded** by Ms. Nutter. **Motion carried.**

7. Appointment to the Trempealeau County Transportation Coordination Committee

Ms. Gauger was seeking a volunteer from the Human Services Board to serve on the Trempealeau County Transportation Coordination Committee. The committee meets quarterly, usually on Thursdays from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. Next meeting is Thursday, May 8. Ms. Blaha accepted Mr. Skoyen's appointment to serve on this committee.

8. ADRC News/Updates

Ms. Gauger spoke briefly on:

- GWAAR – contracting agency we work with for Aging Programs
- Explained the Human Services Committee's role in working with new ADRC Committee
- Explained the Advisory Council – Jeanne Nutter is our Human Services rep to that committee
- Hired an EBS worker, Tena Seipel, who is attending training this week

- June 15 is Elder Abuse Awareness Day. Mr. Miller will announce that is Trempealeau County Elder Abuse Awareness Day.
- Farmer's Market \$25 vouchers will start in June.
- Becky Severson will be going to Osseo to present adaptive aids at the Osseo City Library on Wednesday, May 14
- Monthly ADRC by the numbers handout
- Explained IRIS, Care WI (started in 2013) & WWC (started in 2009)

9. Approve Modification to Strategic Plan Goal

Ms. Suchla asked the Board to modify Priority #3 Space issue in the Strategic Plan. We had a long term strategy about co-locating with the Trempealeau County Health Care Center. The Strategy was changed to read "Explore long term facility options" to provide a broad range of potential options.

Motion by Mr. Britzius to approve modification to the Strategic Plan; **seconded** by Ms. Nutter.

Motion carried.

10. Summary of Child Protective Services Case Practice Review

Ms. Jenneman, FCS Supervisor, explained a Child Protective Services Case Practice Review. Due to the death of a child in our county, the state gets involved and did an on-site review. There are three different sections to a review:

1. **Access/Intake** – Mandated reporters by law have to report child abuse or neglect (schools, dentists, doctors, chiropractors, law enforcement, etc.) We have 24 hours to decide if we statutory criteria to screen in or out.
2. **Initial Assessment** – Two workers do investigation and have 60 days to determine if abuse occurred or did not. If there is present danger or impending danger need to do a face-to-face within 24 hours including weekends.
3. **Ongoing Services** – If family needs services to keep child safe in the home. Open them up for ongoing services (counseling for parents, ongoing treatment, parenting treatment, parenting skills, etc. to be better parents). There is face-to-face contact at least once a month.

11. Decision on Wisconsin Counties Human Services Association Proposals:

Revised Board Structure & Executive Director Proposal

Ms Suchla explained that the Wisconsin County Human Services Association (WCHSA) has been looking to make some changes. Currently the Executive Board members consist of nearly 40 individuals including Directors, Human Services staff from WCHSA committees and Human Services Board members from around the state. The WCHSA President job has become very difficult in that they need to attend and organize a lot of meetings as well as do a lot of travel. They have a lot of other board and state communications to do on a regular basis. It is getting difficult to find someone willing to serve as President. WCHSA is looking to hire an Executive Director position for the organization who could do much of time consuming work of the President as well as do some advocacy for the counties with the state. The cost of the Executive Director would be covered by one of three options to increase annual WCHSA fees based on county size. Further WCHSA is looking to change the Executive Board from nearly 40 members to a smaller number. Only Human Services Directors would serve as members. WCHSA is holding a vote in May for counties to cast a ballot indicating their preferences regarding these proposed changes. The Board concurred that Option #1 which would increase dues up to \$1,000 annually. However those costs would be offset by having an Executive Director to attend meetings and saving our county travel costs.

12. February 2014 Financial Projections

- All contracts are not out yet
- Some expenses and revenues not in yet
- State grants – we bill them and then pay us

13. Review Voucher Summaries

- a. Human Services \$148,202.32**
- b. Aging \$ 37,173.10**

Motion by Mr. Reichwein to approve vouchers; **seconded by** Ms. Nutter. **Motion carried.**

14. Next Meeting will be Monday, June 2, 2014

15. Adjourned at 5:23 pm

Respectfully Submitted,

Rob Reichwein
Secretary