

MINUTES

The Vernon County Department of Human Services Committee met on Monday, August 18, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Sherman Erlandson. Proper public notice was given. Motion made by McCoy to approve the minutes as sent. Second by Cox. Motion carried.

Audience to Visitors

No one from the audience wished to speak.

Review/Approve 2014 Purchase of Service Contract Amendments

Eitland went over the contract amendments for 2014. Eitland stated that the mental health changes are not in the mental health line item budget but they are in the overall budget. Motion made by Hicks to approve the contract amendments. Second by McCoy. Motion carried. Eitland also stated we have completed the initial contact with Couleecap for 2014-2015. Motion made by Vosseteig to approve the Couleecap contract. Second by Cox. Motion carried.

Presentation of Vouchers/Internal Transfers

Vouchers were presented. Eitland stated after the vouchers were printed an error was found in one of the bills. Eitland stated the correction has been taken care of between fiscal and the Clerk's office and there is a new total for the vouchers of \$309,872.10. Motion made by Hicks to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$309,872.10. Second by Radcliffe. Motion carried.

Internal Transfers

There were no internal transfers.

Clerical/ES/Administration – Kelly Schwarz

Schwarz stated the staff appreciation lunch was held July 22, 2014 and staff really enjoyed it. Schwarz stated during the meeting Eitland gave yearly reminders on things such as what to do in the case of a fire, bad weather, or security issues.

Schwarz also stated that she has been working with Chad Buros, Director of Emergency Management, on new ID badges for County Board Members and staff. The new badges will have an issue date and employee ID number.

Financial –Marsha Everson

Everson went over the Budget vs. Expenditure report and stated we should be at 58%.

Eitland stated that the county general fund covers costs at Mendota and Winnebago. Eitland stated the true number as to what has been spent this year at state mental health facilities is \$455,076. Eitland stated that after the reversals, when a different source pays such as medical assistance, the balance is approximately \$265,000 that is paid from the general fund.

Long-Term Support/ADRC WW – Jean Klousia

Hicks asked Klousia about the ads for the ADRC that he has seen on television. Klousia stated that there are now ADRC's in all 72 counties and people are realizing there are other options for consumers besides nursing home care. The state has put out ads statewide to encourage use of the ADRC's.

Klousia stated the ADRC will be having a booth at the fair again this year and stated we will have a representative there Thursday through Sunday.

Klousia stated the mental health budget is critical and we are seeing younger adults needing assistance. Klousia stated calls to Helpline have increased.

Klousia stated we receive \$17,401 each year in Elder Abuse funds. Klousia stated we have spent 71% of those funds through July.

Klousia stated the Service Coordinator for Coulee Children's Center in La Crosse has taken another position. Klousia stated we are looking at all of our options contracting with Coulee Children's for case management services.

Income Maintenance – Chris Stanke

Stanke stated she has had a lot of involvement with the State this year regarding the Child Care pilot program. Eitland stated when she attended her Director's meeting the state representatives were very impressed with our program and want to use it as a statewide model. Eitland gave kudos to Stanke and staff for doing an excellent job with the pilot child care program.

Stanke stated that the Department of Health and Human Services conducts a Management Eligibility Review each year. Stanke stated this is a random check by the State on consortiums. Stanke stated that ghost calls were made asking how to apply for assistance and while all 8 counties were helpful, Vernon County was the only county that gave the consumer all four options of how to apply.

Family & Children's Center – Jim Lee

Lee handed out the statistics for July.

Lee stated they are approaching 20 children in out of home care.

Lee stated there are 10 individuals receiving Kinship Care.

Lee stated there are 8 families in the CST program.

Lee stated they are still one worker short in his unit but will be holding interviews this afternoon.

Eitland wanted to inform the board that our office has been involved in the recent meth lab situation. Eitland stated that the public usually only hears about the law enforcement involvement but wanted the board to know that we are always involved when children are involved in situations.

Resolution for Comprehensive Community Services Development and Implementation

Eitland stated she has prepared a resolution regarding the Comprehensive Community Services program. Eitland stated the reason for the resolution is because we don't have the funding in our budget for 2014. Eitland stated a separate line item will be created for this program and any bills that are paid in 2015 will offset the 2014 costs. Eitland stated the resolution is

requesting up to \$30,000 in tax levy in advance that will be expensed in 2015. Motion made by Vosseteig to approve the Comprehensive Community Services resolution. Second by Radcliffe. Motion carried. Eitland stated this resolution will now go on to Finance and ultimately to the County Board.

Director's Report – Pamela Eitland

Eitland gave an update on the WCHSA redefining the structure of the Board. Eitland stated she entered a split vote to support the new structure but not an executive director. Eitland stated the vote passed to hire an executive director and this person will attend committee meetings that are not topic focused and will be a first point of contact for directors. Eitland stated our dues will increase from \$300 to \$1,000 per year based on our county population. Eitland stated that those who voted against the executive directors received calls asking if they were still wanting to be members of WCHSA. We will continue to evaluate the benefits of being a member.

Eitland stated the first public hearing on the 2015 budget was held on August 7, 2014. Eitland stated she and the four managers were the only ones in attendance. Eitland stated the 2015 budget was discussed and stated we will struggle to come in at a 0% levy increase as requested by Finance. Eitland stated that committee members should encourage people to call or stop in with questions regarding the budget.

Eitland stated Federal OMB Rules, also referred to as the Super Circular describes the new contracting and audit requirements for federal awards. These rules apply if there is even a dime of federal money in the mix of payments to providers of service. There is a Senior Auditor from the state Department of Children and Families that will work with counties to ensure that we have the accurate wording and monitoring in place for our contracted services. There are requirements on us (Marsha and Pam) for reviewing audits that are received; and new allowable cost instructions for contractors and service providers about what can be purchased with federal dollars. The impetus for these new rules is to reduce waste, reduce fraud, reign in extravagant purchases, model and monitor efficiencies, and to ultimately provide incentives for merit and achieving performance outcomes. Those that perform well will receive more federal dollars. The new rules are effective on December 26, 2014 so they will be incorporated into the purchase of service contracts for 2015. Our county auditors (Johnson and Block) will receive information from the state DCF on the new rules.

Eitland stated a special meeting of the Human Services Committee needs to be scheduled for Tuesday, September 2, 2014 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the 2015 budget and approval to submit to Finance.

The next meeting of the Human Services Committee was scheduled for Monday, September 15, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

Motion made by Hicks to adjourn. Second by Vosseteig. Motion carried.

Submitted by,

Kim Tainter
Administrative Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sherman Erlandson
Frank McCoy
Brian Richardson
Ralph Hicks
Jay Vosseteig
Maynard Cox
Dianne Radcliffe

MEMBERS ABSENT

Dennis Brault
Mary Bringe

OTHERS PRESENT

Pamela Eitland
Kim Tainter
Kelly Schwarz
Jean Klousia
Marsha Everson
Chris Stanke
Jim Lee
Sherri Hammond