

## **MINUTES**

The Vernon County Department of Human Services Committee met on Monday, September 15, 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 August 18 and September 2, 2014 minutes as sent. Second by Hicks. Motion carried.

### **Audience to Visitors**

No one from the audience wished to speak.

### **Review/Approve 2014 Purchase of Service Contract Amendments**

Eitland stated we are over budget on the mental health court committed line item but we can't stop court commitments. Eitland stated the increase to the Lakeview line item is in the amount of \$36,680. Motion made by Brault to approve this increase to the Lakeview contract. Second by Hicks. Motion carried.

### **Presentation of Vouchers/Internal Transfers**

Vouchers were presented. Motion made by Cox to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$308,273.89. Second by Radcliffe. Motion carried.

Internal vouchers were presented. Motion made by Richardson to approve the internal vouchers in the amount of \$803.26. Second by Vosseteig. Motion carried.

### **Long-Term Support/ADRC WW – Jean Klousia**

Klousia stated a new Service Coordinator for the Coulee Children's Center has been hired. Klousia stated her name is Lara Roberts and she is a registered nurse. Klousia stated Roberts has excellent experience. Klousia stated there have been 10 new referrals to the Birth to 3 Program this past month.

Klousia stated we are part of a pilot program called the CARES program. Klousia stated this specialist works with children who have a permanent hearing loss.

Klousia stated they continue to be busy at the ADRC and are seeing an increase in referrals. Klousia stated the ADRC had a booth at the fair again this year in the Aging Unit building. Klousia stated more and more people are aware of the ADRC and the services they offer.

Klousia stated the mental health court committed budget is struggling. Klousia stated we are seeing more juveniles and more people who are needing long term care.

Klousia stated she has budgeted for one person at Northwest Passages for 2015. Klousia stated they are working with the family to return the client to the community.

Klousia stated on-call has been relatively quiet.

#### **WREA/Income Maintenance – Chris Stanke**

Stanke stated the Affordable Care Act (ACA) open enrollment will be coming soon. Stanke stated that last year we were able to hire additional help with this process but that will not be possible this year. Eitland stated that counties have had a snapshot of numbers since the ACA came into place and we have seen an increase of approximately 2,000 people requesting public benefits. Stanke stated that an On Demand Team has been put in place for people needing immediate assistance.

#### **Family & Children's - Jim Lee**

Lee handed out the statistics for August.

Lee stated there are 14 children in out of home care.

Lee stated there are 10 individuals receiving Kinship Care.

Lee stated there are 6 families in the CST program.

Lee stated the vacant social worker position in his unit has been filled by Allison Waege and she will be present at the October meeting.

#### **Clerical/ES/Administration – Kelly Schwarz**

Schwarz stated the WREA Child Care Pilot Program took another step in confirming hours entered on line by day care providers and that we are looking for inconsistencies.

Schwarz stated that Megan Hanson is finishing her Economic Support training and moving towards having her own caseload.

Schwarz stated she is part of the Performance Management Team. Schwarz stated this team is made up of other county employees who have done some research with Kwik Trip on how much gasoline is used by county departments. Schwarz stated the outcome is that Vernon County will be receiving a significant savings on gasoline. Schwarz also stated research has been done on cell phone use and a new cell phone plan has been implemented with savings up to \$150 per month.

### **Financial – Marsha Everson**

Everson went over the Budget vs. Expenditure report and stated we should be at 67%. Eitland stated that she will have a dollar amount figure at the October meeting showing how much over budget we are projecting for the remainder of 2014. Eitland stated she will have a resolution prepared.

Everson stated we received a reversal on the state mental health facility money in the amount of \$23,790.38. Everson stated this takes place when a different source pays such as medical assistance.

### **Discuss & Take Action to fill vacant CST Coordinator position**

Eitland stated Lee wrote a grant 5 years ago for the CST Coordinator position. Eitland stated this program prevents placements and has been very well received by the schools, faith community and staff. Eitland stated this program is fully funded by the grant and there are no levy dollars involved. Eitland stated there was an increase in the funding for the CST program to \$60,000 for 2015. Eitland stated any unused grant funds could be carried over to the next year. Eitland stated the other social workers in Lee's unit have been taking on the additional work in the absence of this position. Motion made by Bringe to approve the advertising for the CST Coordinator. Second by Vosseteig. Motion carried.

### **Discuss & Take Action on Request for Ho Chunk funds in 2015**

Eitland went over the requests for Ho Chunk funding and stated the requests are due this Friday, September 19, 2014. Eitland stated she is requesting to carry over funds not spent in the AODA voluntary treatment program, Connections Program and the dental program. Eitland

stated she is also requesting \$1,000 for the Foundation Program. Eitland stated she is also requesting \$1,700 in Ho Chunk funding for a Department BOOST program to support, lead, and encourage staff in healthy living choices. Eitland stated staff have come to her with this as being one way to reduce insurance claims as premiums continue to increase. Eitland stated that a list of all Ho Chunk requests will be submitted to Finance for approval at the November County Board meeting. Motion made by McCoy to submit both requests for Ho Chunk funding to the County Board. Second by Hicks. Motion carried.

### **Director's Report and Announcements**

Eitland stated she attended the Mississippi Valley Health Services annual meeting along with Sherman Erlandson and Ole Yttri. Eitland stated they learned that La Crosse County's Request for Proposals (RFP) for the new 50 bed nursing home came in millions over what they expected. Eitland stated La Crosse County is editing the specs in the RFP in order to put out a new RFP in hopes they will come in within budget. Eitland stated there is an increase in the daily rate that has been budgeted for. Eitland stated that Vernon County residents will be allowed to move into the new nursing home in 2016. Eitland stated Klousia is working on transition planning for our residents.

The next meeting of the Human Services Committee was scheduled for Monday, October 13, 2014 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Submitted by,

Kim Tainter  
Administrative Secretary

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Sherman Erlandson  
Dennis Brault  
Frank McCoy  
Dianne Radcliffe  
Brian Richardson  
Ralph Hicks  
Jay Vosseteig  
Maynard Cox  
Mary Bringe

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

**OTHERS PRESENT**

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