

Minutes

The Vernon County Department of Human Services Committee met on Monday, November 17, 2014. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Sherman Erlandson. Proper public notice was given. Motion made by Richardson to approve the minutes as sent. Second by McCoy. Motion carried.

Audience to Visitors

There were no visitors present who wished to speak.

Discussion of Erlandson Building: Access to Offices

Eitland stated that Phil Hewitt, Building and Facilities Supervisor and Jerry Cade, Building and Grounds Committee, were present at the meeting. Eitland stated she also invited all Erlandson Building Department Heads to the meeting. Eitland stated there have been numerous meetings regarding the security of the Erlandson Building. Eitland stated several changes have been made including a floor to ceiling wall down the west hallway at the Erlandson Building and security cameras and a monitor at the main desk at the ADRC. Hewitt stated that discussions came to a standstill since the north east door to the building remains unlocked. Hewitt gave several examples of solutions and the cost estimates of upgrading security. Bringe stated she did not see how the north east door could be locked as that was the best entry for handicapped persons. Brault suggested making a parking lot closer to the main entrance of the building to accommodate handicapped individuals. Pat Peterson, Director of Aging, stated the north east door is currently used for handicapped visitors, deliveries and the post office worker who delivers mail. Discussion on each department having cameras to see who was wanting access to the building with buzzer access allowing people to enter. Hewitt and Cade stated that the options are endless but the question is where does the funding come from? Richardson stated that the money would be well spent if it saved one life. Radcliffe asked Eitland if she felt locking the north east door would work. Eitland stated yes. Brault stated that if offices are staying in this building we have to do something. Eitland stated that departments all have different needs and that the Department Heads like the idea of a closer parking lot in the current front/main entry. Discussion ended with the plan of getting some cost estimates and bringing them to this committee in the future. (No timeline set).

Long-Term Support/ADRC – Jean Klousia

Klousia stated we currently have 1 individual at Winnebago.

Klousia stated there were 15 new referrals at the ADRC last week and we are seeing more complicated cases.

Klousia stated the streamline enrollment process into managed care programs is beneficial for consumers.

Klousia stated we are seeing more requests for guardianships.

Klousia stated that Vernon Memorial Hospital offers an outreach for Power of Attorney for Healthcare and they are held the first Thursday of the month.

WREA/Income Maintenance – Chris Stanke

Stanke stated she had a snapshot of figures for the month of September she wanted to share regarding the consortium. Stanke stated the caseload for the Western Region for Economic Assistance is 34,000 and state wide 700,000 people are being served. There were 2,500 applications taken and 1,900 yearly renewals were done. The Call Center in La Crosse received 12,500 calls in September.

Family & Children's – Jim Lee

Lee introduced the new CST Coordinator Amy Bahr. Lee stated Bahr is from Sparta and previously worked for Mayo Health Systems.

Lee handed out the statistics for October. Lee stated that delinquency is up due to 6 juveniles being involved in vandalism.

Lee stated that we are currently at 325 incidents being investigated for 2014 and he is positive we will surpass last year's total. Lee stated this number only includes cases that are screened in and not the screened out cases. Lee stated if the screened out cases were included that would make the total higher.

Lee stated there are 11 individuals in out of home care.

Lee stated there is 1 individual in residential services.

Lee stated there is 1 individual in non-secure detention.

Lee stated there is 1 individual in in-home safety.

Lee stated there is 1 individual in post re-unification.

Lee stated there are 6 families in the CST program.

Clerical/ES/Administration – Kelly Schwarz

Schwarz stated that things are going well in the front office and that for many this is the first point of contact when they enter the building.

Schwarz stated she, Eitland and Jill Bender attended Career Days at Westby School and Cashton Schools were also involved. Schwarz stated there was a lot of energy with the kids and that most in attendance did not know what services were provided by Human Services. Eitland and Bender were also involved in breakout sessions. Eitland added that Jill Bender did a very nice job in the Social Worker session.

Schwarz stated that Ashley Bermudo who is a limited term employee working with Economic Support has taken a new position with Workforce Connections in Viroqua.

Financial - Marsha Everson

Everson went over the Budget vs. Expenditure report and stated we should be at 83%. Everson stated that mental health court committed is at 93% and includes the \$100,000 that Eitland requested. Everson stated that lint item transfers will be requested at next month's meeting.

Everson stated we received a \$17,000 credit from Winnebago and that COP funds were approved and secured from last year.

Review/Approve 2014 Service Contract Amendments

Eitland stated there was one contract amendment for Longview Group Home for Boys for \$23,000. Motion made by Brault to approve this contract amendment in the amount of \$23,000. Second by Hicks. Motion carried.

Presentation of Vouchers/Internal Transfers

Vouchers were presented. Eitland stated we continue to have expenditures of approximately \$95,000 per month in mental health court committed costs. Eitland stated this number has been very consistent for the past year and a half.

Eitland stated the Performance Management Team worked together to implement the county wide Kwik Trip gas program. Eitland stated that this is a substantial savings throughout the county as we pay less money per gallon while in this gas program. Eitland wanted to bring to the Board's attention that the Kwik Trip bill will no longer be on the monthly vouchers. Eitland stated the County Clerk's Office will get the bill and do a breakout by department and an internal journal entry will be done to pay the bill. Eitland stated this is the same exact way we pay our telephone landline bill. Eitland stated that Everson can inform the Board of our portion of the bill each month if they would like to know.

Motion made by Cox to approve the monthly vouchers in the amount of \$271,164.92. Second by Bringe. Motion carried.

Internal transfers were presented. Eitland stated these costs are for transportation provided by the Vernon County Sheriff's Department for Mental Health, AODA and juvenile transportation and one new computer. Eitland stated these costs are all within budget. Motion made by Hicks to approve the internal vouchers in the amount of \$6,118.55. Second by McCoy. Motion carried.

Discuss & Take Action on unspent 2013 COP funds

Klousia stated that in previous months it has appeared that we have over spent COP dollars but the State is behind in reporting. Klousia stated we have now been approved to use \$1,733 in COP carry over funds for 2013 in 2014. Klousia stated there are several options on how to use these funds but she is recommending to use it in services. Klousia stated there needs to be a formal approval of this by the Board. Motion made by McCoy to accept these COP funds and use the money for services. Second by Hicks. Motion carried.

Director's Report, Updates, and Announcements

Eitland stated that all Board Members should have received a meeting schedule for 2015 in their packet. Eitland stated to contact her with any concerns and she will work with Chairperson Erlandson to resolve issues.

Eitland stated last year we received federal funds for the Affordable Care Act to increase staff by 3 positions in Vernon County for WREA. Eitland stated that the County Board resolution states that as long as the federal funding was available the WAEA positions would be here. Eitland stated these positions will be fully funded through December 31, 2015.

Eitland stated that the Mental Health Crisis Team has received recertification for two years.

Eitland stated that she saw on the Personnel Committee agenda that pay increases are being requested for some employees. Brault stated this could not be discussed at this meeting but would be discussed at Personnel on Thursday.

The next meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 15, 2014.

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

Submitted by,

Kim Tainter
Administrative Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Pamela Eitland
Kim Tainter
Jim Lee
Kelly Schwarz
Amy Bahr
Marsha Everson
Jean Klousia
Chris Stanke
Phil Hewitt
Jerry Cade
Chad Buros
Pat Peterson
Beth Johnson

