

MINUTES

The Vernon County Department of Human Services Committee met on Monday, August 17, 2015. 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.

Review and Approve 2015 Service Contract Amendments

There were no new contracts or amendments.

Presentation of Vouchers/Internal Transfers

Vouchers were presented. Eitland stated the voucher amount was higher by approximately \$80,000 due to our quarterly Family Care payment. Motion made by Cox to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$354,950.61. Second by McCoy. Motion carried.

Eitland stated the internal transfers were for the WHEAP office computer set-up. Eitland stated these costs are covered by the WHEAP program and involve no levy dollars. Motion made by Redington to approve the internal transfers in the amount of \$2,921.49. Second by McCoy. Motion carried.

WREA/Income Maintenance – Erin Davis

Davis was not present at the meeting and Schwarz will give a brief IM report during her presentation.

Family & Children's – Jim Lee

Lee handed out the intake and access statistics for July.

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

Lee stated there are 10 individuals in the CST program.

Lee stated there are 3 individuals in the in-home safety program.

Lee stated there are 7 individuals in the post reunification program.

Lee stated he attended the State Permanency Planning round table session.

Lee stated Eloise Anderson visited our office and met with the unit.

Long-Term Support ADRC WW – Jean Klousia

Klousia stated that the Governor's Budget passed with no significant changes to the ADRC.

Klousia stated there will be changes to the Children's Waiver which currently involves 15 children in the program ages Birth to 21.

Klousia stated there will be changes in the Children's Waiver for Autism beginning January 1, 2016. Klousia stated therapy will be billed directly to medical assistance. Klousia stated she feels that referrals will increase and there are currently 8 children on the waiting list.

Klousia stated there will be big changes in the COP program mainly for adults with a serious mental illness.

Klousia stated that the Family Support Program will end as it is now but will become part of the Community Options Program.

Klousia stated that the bottom line is that there will be a decrease in funding and the funding will only be for children. Klousia stated that all of these changes are included in the 2016 budget proposal. Klousia stated we don't know how these programs will operate yet.

Klousia stated the ADRC will have a booth at the fair again this year and will be housed in the Aging Unit building. Klousia stated this is a great avenue for public outreach.

Clerical/ES/Administration/WHEAP – Kelly Schwarz

Schwarz stated that the Economic Support workers have had trouble the past several months with slowness in their computers. Schwarz stated that after investigation it seems many counties are having the same issues but not complaining anymore. Schwarz stated that La

Crosse County is taking the lead to try to resolve the issues. Schwarz stated that each time there is a problem La Crosse will be notified. Staff have deadlines to meet and the problems appear to be with the band width at the state level.

Schwarz stated there has been an increase in call volume due to the energy assistance program moving internal.

Schwarz stated there has been an increase in people applying for Badgercare and Foodshare.

Schwarz stated there have been inquiries about the summer fill program for the energy assistance program with calls wondering if this program is legitimate. This program allows for consumers to purchase fuel at a lower rate and this program ends in October.

Schwarz stated we have received the 3 page short application form for the energy assistance program. Schwarz stated this form will be mailed to people who have qualified for energy assistance in the past.

Financial – Marsha Everson

Everson stated the CCS program was officially certified as of August 1, 2015. Everson stated that we have been working closely with Crawford County and working on the unit rate.

Everson presented the budget vs. expenditures and stated that we should be at 58% and that most line items are within budget.

Financial Planning Committee Information – Brault & McCoy

McCoy stated that Herb Cornell is preparing a list of recommendations to present to the County Board on September 22nd. McCoy stated some issues being discussed are changes to number of committee members, number of committee meetings, tablets for county board members to save on mailing costs, contracting landscaping and snow removal costs, contracting corporation council, ordering office supplies in bulk, and offering staff rewards for cost saving suggestions.

McCoy stated there should be news on the health insurance for 2016 in a few weeks.

Biennial Budget Impact on MCO's Report – Maynard Cox

Cox stated he was at a recent Western Wisconsin Cares meeting where there was discussion on the Governor's budget. Cox stated 3 vetoes were done to the budget 1) ADRC healthcare, IRIS program and Family Care 2) An open enrollment timeline and 3) centralizing the long-term care programs. Cox stated we should know more about the outcome of these changes in September. Cox said that as of today the MCOs are okay and will continue to serve vulnerable adults.

Closed Session

Erlandson read the motion to go into closed session. Motion made by McCoy to go into closed session. Second by Cox. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion made by Redington to go into open session. Second by Richardson. Motion carried unanimously. Motion made by McCoy to approve and implement the reclassification of three positions and authorize the one-time payment as presented. Second by Redington. Motion carried unanimously.

Director's Report, Updates & Announcements – Pamela Eitland

STRIVE Comprehensive Community Services has been officially certified as of August 1, 2015.

The meeting with EDF Secretary Anderson went very well. She and her staff were impressed by the Children and Families Unit and administration.

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

Submitted by,

Kim Tainter
Administrative Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT

Sherman Erlandson
Frank McCoy
Dianne Radcliffe
Brian Richardson
Shawn Redington
Maynard Cox
Mary Bringe (by phone)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jay Vosseteig
Dennis Brault

OTHERS PRESENT

Pamela Eitland
Kim Tainter
Marsha Everson
Jean Klousia
Kelly Schwarz
Jim Lee
Courtney Messer