

MINUTES

The Vernon County Department of Human Services Committee met on Monday, September 14, 2015. The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairperson Sherman Erlandson. Proper public notice was given. There were two sets of minutes to approve. Motion made by Cox to approve the August 17, 2015 minutes as sent. Second by Redington. Motion carried. Motion made by Richardson to approve the August 24, 2015 minutes as sent. Second by Radcliffe. 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. Motion made by Richardson to approve the vouchers in the amount of \$278,579.02. Second by Cox. Motion carried.

Internal vouchers were presented. Motion made by Redington to approve the internal transfers in the amount of \$2,180.32. Second by Bringe. Motion carried.

Financial – Marsha Everson

Everson presented the budget vs. expenditures and stated that we should be at 67%. Everson stated the Family & Children's Unit out of home care costs are significantly higher this year. Everson stated that the state mental health facility costs are \$10,676 for June. Everson stated the Kwik Trip bill was \$999.12 and this amount is transferred to the County Clerk's office. Richardson asked why the administrative expenses were so low. Eitland stated this question is a great example of bringing other programs and revenue into our office to offset part of salaries and this reduces the amount of levy dollars we spend.

Family & Children's – Jim Lee

Lee handed out the intake and access statistics for August.

Lee stated there are 12 individuals in out of home care.

Lee stated there are 11 individuals in Kinship Care.

Lee stated there are 4 individuals in the in-home safety program.

Lee stated there are 10 individuals in the post reunification program.

Lee stated there are 11 individuals in the CST program.

Lee stated he attended a Project Director's meeting in Stevens Point and continued funding for the CST Program looks good.

Lee stated the meeting with the State Permanency staff went well.

WREA/Income Maintenance – Erin Davis

Davis informed the Board that the Economic Support workers are still having trouble with slowness in their computers. Davis stated that La Crosse County has taken the lead to try to resolve the issue with the State. WREA IT departments are working together to resolve this issue with DHS and DOA because the problem is on the state-end of the system.

Davis stated that Diana Lambries has been hired as the new Economic Support Supervisor in Monroe and Jackson counties for the WREA Consortium beginning September 1, 2015.

Davis stated that WREA will be involved in the Parent Pay pilot program in 2016. Davis stated parents will be given an EBT card to pay their providers for childcare subsidy.

Clerical/ES/Administration/WHEAP – Kelly Schwarz

Eitland gave Schwarz's report in her absence. Eitland stated that Cindy Harter is working with the WHEAP program. Eitland stated Cheryl Pinkham who is on the on-call list through Vernon County is assisting with the WHEAP Program. Eitland stated the workload in the front office has increased significantly due to phone calls and walk-in customers.

Long-Term Support ADRC WW – Jean Klousia

Klousia stated things have been extremely busy at the ADRC with 87 open cases and 2 social workers.

Klousia stated there have been meetings regarding the ADRC due to recent changes in the budget. Klousia stated she is happy that we are keeping the ADRC's local instead of having an agency run by the state. Klousia stated that these changes may require a new IT system as there will be more stringent reporting requirements. The ADRC will be required to provide additional data reports and outcome reports to the state on January 1, 2016.

Klousia stated that the Medicare Part D open enrollment begins in October and that will keep the Benefit Specialist at the ADRC very busy.

Klousia stated there will be a public hearing at the La Crosse Public Library on Family Care and IRIS. Klousia stated there will be representative there from the ADRC to answer questions. Cox handed out a list of locations and dates of public hearings state wide.

Klousia stated that we currently have one individual at Mendota but hopefully they will be going to a group home soon.

Klousia stated that emergency detentions have been relatively stable but that our options for individuals to be admitted are very limited. Klousia stated that psychiatric services are a critical concern due to many facilities having vacant psychiatrist positions.

Klousia stated she and Barb Mattice will be attending an Adult Protective Services conference for two days in October in Wisconsin Dells.

Klousia stated the ADRC will have a booth at the Vernon County Fair in the Aging Unit Building.

Review & Approve plan for COP Carryover Funds - Klousia

Klousia stated that we were informed there is \$1,495 in COP carryover funds. Klousia stated there were 2 options to use this money - administration or direct services. After discussion a motion was made by Bringe to use the \$1,495 in COP carryover funds for direct services. Second by Richardson. Motion carried.

Financial Planning Committee Informational Report – Brault & McCoy

McCoy went over a few of the items that were being looked at by the Financial Planning Committee 1) Renting vs. purchasing the Land & Water Building. 2) County wide raffle similar to the one La Crosse County held. 3) Meet with a financial analyst to look at the whole picture of Vernon County but that idea may have ended due to the good ideas from employees. 4) Ordering office supplies through one supplier for the best prices. 5) Salaries for 2016 will be contingent on health insurance prices.

Director's Report, Updates & Announcements – Pamela Eitland

Eitland stated that Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) are for mental health and alcohol and other drug abuse consumers. Eitland stated this is a Medicaid program where we are reimbursed at 100%. Eitland stated our thoughts were to start with a small group with approximately 10-12 clients but to date we already have about 22 referrals to the program. Eitland stated again that we want high enrollment numbers as that brings in revenue and the more revenue we receive allows for expansion of the program in addition to reducing our overhead expenses. Eitland stated we will have monthly financial/billing meetings to make sure the program sustains itself.

Committee members asked about programs and services at VARC, Inc. Eitland offered to contact the VARC CEO about a tour and explanation of services at VARC.

Eitland stated she will be meeting with the Finance Committee on September 15, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. to present the 2016 budget. Committee members are welcome to join her.

The next meeting of the Human Services Committee was set up for Monday, October 12, 2015 at 9:00 a.m.

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

Submitted by,

Kim Tainter
Administrative Secretary

MEMBERS PRESENT

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

MEMBERS ABSENT

OTHERS PRESENT

Pamela Eitland
Kim Tainter
Jean Klousia
Marsha Everson
Erin Davis
Jim Lee