

SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

March 1, 2023

The Grant County Department of Social Services Board meeting was called to order by Chairperson Don Splinter at 9:00 AM. Roll Call was taken with Diane Nelson, Brian Lucey, Adam Day, Don Splinter, Bob Scallon and John Beinborn, present. Also present Fred Naatz, Director, Robert Keeney, County Board Chairman (z), LeaAnne Smith, Office & Financial Coordinator (z), Garry Pluemer, Maintenance Supervisor (z), Tonya White, County Clerk (z). Absent was Brandon Snyder. The meeting was found to be in compliance with the open meeting laws. John Beinborn made a motion to approve the order of the agenda, second by Adam Day, motion carried.

Minutes of February 1, 2023 meeting: John Beinborn made a motion to approve the minutes; Diane Nelson seconded the motion, the motion carried.

Citizen Comments- None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Summary of Vouchers: The board reviewed the Vouchers Accounts.

Administrative Report: The DSS Management report was reviewed

Training Costs January: The Board reviewed the training costs.

Brandon made a motion to accept the reports, seconded by Bob Scallon. The motion was approved.

CORRESPONDENCE:

None

ADMINISTRATION – GENERAL:

2022 Income Maintenance – Details of the “Unwinding” of Income Maintenance programs and approval of overtime pay/funding – Fred explained there is anticipation in an increase in workload due to the reviews etc. that were put on hold due to COVID. Starting March 1st this will change. The workers will have to go through all the cases and see if they are still eligible for the programs. Due to the extra workload the state is offering extra funding for the staff to get paid overtime. In the past the DSS board approved to pay workers overtime even though the funding will be coming from the State. It was asked if it had to go through HR, Fred will check on this with Joyce. The workers will not be working on Milwaukee cases; it will be the 7 county Southern Consortium cases. Diane asked if this will impact their current caseload. Fred explained it will not. It was asked if the employees will have an option of working overtime since they did not take the overtime. Fred stated they will have an option. It was asked if the workload was going to increase how it could be made optional. Fred stated he misspoke and they are

going to have to do overtime this time. The overtime will be paid out not earned comp time. John made a motion to accept the overtime, seconded by Adam Day. The motion was approved.

Family First Dashboard Review – Fred explained a couple of years ago Wisconsin starting implementing this. One of the major changes of this is to allow counties to pay for stuff on the front end. Try to do prevention and keep the families together rather than removing the child from the home. Fred shared the numbers for all of the State of Wisconsin and Grant County.

Youth Village/Interception Model Proposal: Fred explained Wisconsin has had a numerous amount of hard to serve kids who have needed out of home care. The providers in Wisconsin would not take them and counties had to start looking outside of the state where they would take them. The Youth Village in Tennessee a lot of counties place them there. They have a nice model, which is therapeutic and clinically focused. The state is looking at bringing this model to Wisconsin and having counties or individual agencies to apply for grants to implement this model. Fred stated should Grant County do this since we have a lot of kids out of the home. Fred stated the kids out of home rate went up when we lost the In-Home Intensive Therapy program. Fred had a meeting with Tom and Holly and brought this up. One of the thoughts was if Unified could pull this together if we got the grant money. Holly will look at it, but did not think this was a good time for her staff to take on a big project as they have a lot going on right now. Fred is talking with Stacey Parke of Orion who does In Home Safety Services for us, may be interested in doing this, which may work out better as they serve 5 to 6 counties. Social Services would assist with working on the Grant. Ideally they would build a team for Southwest Wisconsin; the challenge is the In Home Therapist right now comes from Madison.

Results of Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) Desk Monitoring Review PY2023: Fred stated the state conducted a Desk Top Monitoring review for the WHEAP program, which the Support Unit operates; this went very well.

Governor's Budget items impacting Social Services: Fred explained the increase and decrease of money in the different programs and what would impact Social Services.

Safety Update: Fred explained both the safety glasses are installed. Fred explained he has been talking with the Grant County Sheriffs doing active shooter training for all the Departments in the building. Adam stated the Sheriff's Department does great job training and would be a good idea for all Departments to go through this. John asked if this could be put on the Sheriffs board agenda. Adam will talk with the Sheriffs and see if it needs to be put on the agenda.

Directors Report: - Fred informed the board the Department is working on having their first Grant County Trauma Summit, which would be one day training. Amber and Hillary will be taking the lead on this. Fred stated he did not put on the agenda the potential Human Services since it is on pause. Fred did get together with Tom and Holly did discuss it some. Fred stated there was an opportunity, but unfortunately could not participate in a new type of training the Professional Development is doing. This is contracting with a nationwide training organization who is trying to get into Human Services. Fred stated all of the Social Services staff attended the Kwik Trip presentation.

ADJOURMENT- At 10:22 AM, Bob Scallon made a motion to adjourn until April 5, 2023 at 9:00 AM, which was seconded by Diane Nelson. The motion carried, the meeting was adjourned.