

SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

September 6, 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, Adam Day, Don Splinter, Bob Scallon, Gary Ranum present, and Brian Lucey. Also present Fred Naatz, Director, Sarah Digman, CST Coordinator, Amber McKelvey, Social Worker, Hilary Sahr, Service Support Specialist, LeaAnne Smith, Office and Financial Coordinator (z), Robert Keeney, County Board Chairman, Garry Pluemer, Maintenance Supervisor, Shane Drinkwater, IT Director (z), excused from meeting John Beinborn. The meeting was found to be in compliance with the open meeting laws. Fred requested to change the agenda order, Diane Nelson made a motion to approve the change of the agenda, second by Brian Lucey motion carried.

Minutes of August 2nd, 2023 meeting: Diane Nelson made a motion to approve the minutes; Bob Scallon seconded the motion, the motion carried.

Citizen Comments- None

FINANCIAL REPORTS:

Summary of Vouchers: The board reviewed the Vouchers Accounts. Fred will talk with Amanda Degenhardt to see if some of the information could be condensed down and see if the “other expenses” description codes could be updated.

Administrative Report: The DSS Management report was reviewed

Training Costs July: The Board reviewed the training costs.

Adam Day made a motion to accept the reports, seconded by Gary Ranum. The motion was approved.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ADMINISTRATION – GENERAL:

Report on Resource fair/Backpack Drive: Sarah Digman stated the Resource Fair was a success. Sarah explained this has been done the past 5 years. There were 24 service providers who were there. The Service Support Specialists put the backpacks together based on what school they go to. There were 275 backpacks given to families in Grant County.

Grant County Trauma Informed Care Summit Report: Amber and Hilary explained the Trauma Informed Care training’s they have hosted and what they entail. Their trainings have been very successful. This year they have provided 6 trainings serving 160 people. Hilary explained the different types of trainings they offer. Amber and Hilary have been asked to come back to the Children Come First Conference to present this year in November. They have been doing the training at the Southwest Tech for the past 5

years. They are consistently asking to come back each year. Amber and Hilary can provide a condensed training for the DSS Board. The Board commended Amber and Hilary on the outstanding work.

White Noise Proposal to increase confidentiality in the office – Fred stated that Lifeline had come in and came up with a proposal to do a white noise system around \$32,000. They suggested the whole building should be done and not just certain areas. Shane explained how the white noise system works and what it does. Shane stated IT could do the white noise system. Fred stated they received a re-bid for just the speakers in the hallway with the option of expanding to the offices. Economic Support received some extra funding that could cover this portion. The challenge is it has to be billed and paid by September 30th. Shane explained the three options. First, the white noise system proposed by Lifeline of the partial install and then would have to make sure there was money budgeted for the rest in 2024. Second, we would purchase the equipment we could and IT and maintenance would have to learn how to do the install. Three, an option the IT team provided, they use overhead Algo void speakers, which would be able to play radio and could be used as an intercom and are pretty reasonable in cost, \$300 - \$350 each. Adam made a motion to put the white noise machine on hold until we get more information from Shane and Garry, seconded by Bob Scallon. The motion was approved.

DSS 2024 Budget - Fred explained what changes were made on the 2024 budget. Fred asked for approval on increasing the contracted services \$6,000. It was approved to purchase a new van; it was budgeted \$50,000 for this. Fred went over the programs the budget was increased for the 2024. Adam made a motion to approve the 2024 budget with the \$6,000 increase under contracted services, seconded by Diane. The motion was approved.

Directors Report: - Fred stated he will be attending a joint conference with the Courts in September. He will be attending a Steering Committee meeting in November. Bob made a motion to accept the Director's report. Gary seconded the motion.

ADJOURNMENT- At 10:41 AM, Bob Scallon made a motion to adjourn until October 4th, 2023 at 9:00 AM, which was seconded by John Beinborn. The motion carried, the meeting was adjourned.