

SOCIAL SERVICES BOARD MINUTES

December 2nd, 2020

The Grant County Department of Social Services Board meeting was held via Zoom due to COVID. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson John Beinborn at 9:00 AM. Roll Call was taken with Dale Hood, Greg Fry, Don Splinter, Lester Jantzen, Robert Scallon, Dwight Nelson and John Beinborn present. Also present was Fred Naatz, Director, Robert Keeney, County Board Chairman, Shane Drinkwater IT, Joyce Roling, Personnel Director, LeaAnne Smith, Office and Financial Coordinator. The meeting was found to be in compliance with the open meeting laws. Lester Jantzen made a motion to approve the agenda. Don Splinter seconded, the motion carried.

Minutes of November 4th meeting: Don Splinter made a motion to approve the November 4th minutes. Greg Fry seconded the motion, the motion carried.

ADMINISTRATION – GENERAL:

Personnel: Second interviews for the Service Support Specialist will be Friday. There will be four candidates being interviewed and will be done by zoom. Anticipating we will have someone hired soon and will start by the first of the year. Notice was given by an Economic Support worker they will be retiring by the end of the year. Fred will talk with Joyce about whether or to not to post now or wait until the end of the year. One advantage of being in the Consortium is there is six other counties who can help cover through the interview process. John asked Joyce if this was a good time of year to higher people. Joyce stated it is not a good time typically we always have less applications during the holidays. Joyce recommended waiting until after the first of the year.

Vouchers: On Handout #1 the blank spots under the invoice numbers is where the kid's name would be due to this being confidential it is whited out. John asked how long the kids in out of home placement would be and if there was an end in sight. Fred stated one of the kids turn 18 in January, which will help. There is two kids that are ready to go back home. The down size is we still have a couple kids we are not able to find placements for due to COVID and places not accepting people. They want them to isolate for 14 days before coming in to the facility. Greg asked when the kid turns 18 where do they go. Fred stated up until a few years ago we had a role of providing support for these kids that they could stay and get support until age 21. The state wanted to centralize this so they have regional support of this now. Workforce Development in Platteville has the contract; what we do is make contact with that person with the kid, so they have a contact and that person can follow along with them for the next few years and offer some support. Historically what we have ran into is the vast majority of the kids are so tired of being told what to do and controlled and not have much input in their lives that they don't want anything to do with anyone.

Advocates Healthy Living on page three is for one kid who is placed. The \$185.00 was for one night of respite due to the kid acting out in the group home; the \$1,500 is for the services in September; because they could not find placement for the kid they had done 29 nights of respite. Page 5, is for the same kid, but to make the respite successful they have a person who works with them 1 on 1 during the day.

Handout #2 shows through October about 83% of the year having gone by. Last page shows revenues at 85% and expenses are 84%. Since some of the funding cannot be used in other areas this reflects overall some programs are lower and some higher. The expenses for AMSO is a low, Long Term Support and Child Welfare staff is under 78%, the Juvenile staff is at 98% these numbers are based on the time studies worker's do quarterly. Alternate care will be at \$300,000 over again. Supportive Home Care budget is over due to having a gentleman placed at a nursing home in Trempealeau County because of his level of aggressiveness. Trempealeau county only accepts people if Grant County contracts with them. How it works is Trempealeau County bills us and we bill the Guardian for reimbursement; they have been good at paying. It should come out as a zero balance. Training costs was not sent out since it was a small amount for November. Fred attended a virtual training that was offered on Treatment for Stimulus Disorders, unfortunately into 10 minutes of it the trainer's zoom froze up. This will be reoffered in December. Total costs for training is \$195, which \$80 of it is for Foster Parents webinar trainings.

Dwight Nelson made a motion to approve the financial reports. Greg Fry seconded the motion, the motion carried.

Correspondence: Director's had their annual meeting for the Southern Consortium with Rock County being the lead of this. When they presented the statistics and the numbers it showed how well the staff in all seven counties were able to provide services for the people in these counties. The Director's sent a letter to all the staff in the seven counties congratulating and thanking them.

Handout #4; DCF Letter of appreciation came from Wendy Henderson the Administrator for Division of Safety and Permanency. Thanking the Child Welfare workers for all of the hard work that they do.

Director's Report

Similar to the income maintenance; the child welfare program workers have to do a monthly face to face contact with each kid on their caseload. When we completed the one for last year we had 349 contacts that were required and staff completed 346 of them and a couple of these we were not able to complete as kid ran away. We were over 99% of making contacts; the standard is 95%. We were able to tap into the CARES funding and get some more laptops, now everybody who needs laptops has them. This will help the budget for next year too. People are registering for the JAIS training the new model of working with Youth Justice kid's. We should have implemented this already, but it was delayed when

COVID hit and the Department of Children and Families had hired someone and they ended up leaving so they had to rehire again.

Adjournment to Closed Session

Don Splinter motioned to go into closed session. Dwight Nelson seconded the motion.

Next Meeting will be January 6th, 9:00 AM

CITIZEN COMMENTS: None