

**MINUTES OF THE VILAS COUNTY  
BOARD OF SOCIAL SERVICES  
February 14, 2011**

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Present: Al Bauman, Dennis Nielsen, Leon Kukanich, Bob Rickard, Kathryn Gardner, and Sue Vogel.

Absent/Excused: Erv Teichmiller and Chris Mayer

Meeting called to order at 9:45 AM by Chairman Bauman.

Roll call taken.

**Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Kukanich, to approve the agenda in any order at the discretion of the Chair. Carried.**

**Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Kukanich, to approve the January 13<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>, 2011 and February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2011 minutes. Carried.**

**Approval of Administrative Vouchers-Juvenile Intake**

**Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Kukanich, to approve Juvenile Intake Administrative Vouchers. Carried.**

**Juvenile Intake Supervisor's Report**

**Budget**

Rickard reported they received 33 referrals in January, 2011, which was an increase over January 2010, when they received 21 referrals. Rickard indicated that some of the increase was due to an increase of trancies as they relate to Tribal cases already under their supervision.

Rickard presented the last of the 2010 bills received.

**Line Item Transfers**

Rickard indicated he will present a line-item transfer in March, but had nothing for today.

**Training Requests**

None

**Property Requests**

Rickard presented a report indicating a savings of over \$400 per month with the use of the county car as compared to the use of private vehicles. Discussion.

Rickard requested approval of the purchase of printer that needed to be replaced at a cost of \$100.00 through the IT Department and Clermont.

**Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Kukanich, to approve the purchase as presented. Carried.**

## **DSS Budget Report**

### **Line Item Transfers**

None

### **DSS Property Requests**

None

### **DSS Training Requests**

1. Two Economic Support Workers, Secretary A and Secretary B to attend “*Child Care Authorization Eligibility Training*” on March 8<sup>th</sup> in Rhinelander.
2. Two Economic Support Workers to attend “*Child Care Authorization Eligibility Training*” on March 9<sup>th</sup> in Rhinelander.
3. One Children’s Social Worker to attend “*Child Abuse and Neglect*” conference on April 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> in Middleton.
4. Financial Manager and Bookkeeper A to attend “*Wisconsin Personal Services Association*” Conference March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> in Wisconsin Dells.

**Motion by Kukanich, seconded by Nielsen, to approve the training as presented. Carried.**

### **DSS Personnel**

Gardner reported on the new workers and ongoing training for the Economic Support staff for child care services. There was discussion about the number of cases that workers currently have until all staff are trained and able to care a full case load.

Gardner reported to the board that she recently became aware of the 2009 resolution that allowed the agency to hire a fifth Economic Support Worker. The resolution indicated to the full county board that the fifth worker would be designated to do the fuel assistance program instead of hiring a temporary employee each year. It was also noted that since this resolution was presented that the unit has not been fully staffed or trained and has been unable to accept responsibility for that program due to the high number of cases already being managed. Gardner expressed concern about losing this fifth worker and how this would affect the already over worked unit.

There was discussion about the current Secretary A, who has been managing the fuel assistance program, in addition to her other duties, which makes her unavailable at times. The board directed Gardner to discuss this with Corporation Counsel and return next month.

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**DSS Director's Report**

Gardner reported that she was meeting the Lac du Flambeau ICW to review the current 161 Agreement.

Gardner also reported on the Children's Court initiative, and explained the focus group and possible recommendations to the Social Services and the court.

Gardner discussed with the board the Personal Care Program and since the last meeting she was informed that the Public Health Department does not want to take this program on due to the "employer" responsibility. Gardner explained that she had discussed this with Corporation Counsel and requested the board's approval to explore contracting out the Personal Care program altogether. The board directed Gardner to have any contract negotiated be reviewed by Corporation Counsel.

**Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Kukanich, to approve the agency to pursue a contract for the Personal Care Program. Carried.**

Gardner indicated that the State was completing a audit on the Child Care program this week and she would report back to the board on their findings.

Gardner reported to the board on the Diversion Report, which indicated a saving of over \$200,000 for the three counties; avoiding mental health placements.

Gardner reported to the board that the security issue for the agency was to be presented to the Property Committee and requested a board member attend. Bauman indicated he would attend.

**Approval of DSS Administrative Vouchers**

**Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Kukanich, to approve the DSS Administrative Vouchers. Carried.**

**Next Meeting Date: Monday, March 14, 2011, at 9:45 AM**

**Motion by Nielsen, seconded by Kukanich, to adjourn. Carried. 10:45 AM**