

**MINUTES OF THE VILAS COUNTY
COMMITTEE OF SOCIAL SERVICES
June 18, 2014**

Present: Alden Bauman, Mark Rogacki, Kim Simac, Vernon Wiggerhauser, Kate Gardner, Jason Hilger, Corinne Hoffmann, Eric Swanson

Absent/Excused: Erv Teichmiller

1. Call to Order

Meeting called to order at 9:01 AM by Bauman.

2. Roll Call

Roll call taken by Hoffmann

3. Approval of Agenda

Motion made by Rogacki, 2nd by Wiggerhauser, to accept the agenda as published. All voted aye, carried.

4. Approval of May 19, 2014 minutes

Motion made by Rogacki, 2nd by Wiggerhauser, to approve the minutes from the May 19, 2014 Social Services Board meeting. All voted aye, carried.

5. Juvenile Intake Supervisor's Report

There are 4 qualified applicants for the part-time intake worker position. Interviews will be held on June 25, 2014.

A Memorandum of Understanding has been drafted between the Juvenile Intake Department and the Lac du Flambeau Tribe. Once it is signed by both parties, a copy will be distributed to each member of the Board.

Juvenile Intake workers (3) will soon be working on a rotating on-call system. This should start the week of June 30, 2014.

- a) Budget –
 - Budget was handed out to review and sign by board members.
- b) Property – None

6. Department of Social Services Report

- a) Monthly Budget & Review –
 - No budget concerns at this time.

b) Property – None

c) Resolutions – None

d) Policies –

- (2) Policy/procedure documents were presented by Gardner. Discussion pursued.

Motion made by Simac, 2nd by Bauman to accept the procedures as written. All voted aye, carried.

7. 2015 Budget Review

The preliminary 2015 Social Services Budget was handed out to the board members. Discussion pursued.

Gardner identified trends with potential to impact 2015 and future budgets

- A relatively new form of placement, Subsidized Guardianship, will likely have an impact on the 2015 budget. Subsidized Guardianship, which allows for more flexibility in child placement, is projected to be around \$52,000 in 2015. Ultimately, however, Subsidized Guardianship may bring substitute care costs down as Vilas County has a shortage of non-treatment foster homes. In addition, Subsidized Guardianship provides another option available in the best interest of the child.
- Though the number of children placed in out-of-home care in Vilas County in 2014 is up 70% from 2013 and 79% from 2012, substitute care costs are projected to be up by less than 10% for the year. Much of this is related to the efforts of the Vilas County Juvenile Intake Office to manage children in the home setting with expanded use of the electronic monitoring system and by the partnership between Anu Family Homes, The Lac du Flambeau Tribal Indian Child Welfare Department and Vilas County to recruit and retain more foster homes in the area and on the Reservation.
- Gardner reported the State is finding that many children aging out of care do so with bad credit, often because their social security number was used by others. The remediation of a poor credit report for children in out-of-home care is now the responsibility of CPS social workers. VCDSS has found it to be a very time consuming job requiring extensive paperwork to the various creditors and credit bureaus. Depending upon the volume of the cases assigned to the Department, this could impact FTE needs.
- Gardner reported on recent multi-county meetings related to regionalization of the Child Protective Services access/screening functions. While these discussions are very preliminary, regionalization of the Access function could free up current social workers for initial assessment and ongoing case work. Gardner indicated that regionalization of the screening process might remove too much of the decision-making process from the local level, however.

Hilger provided a detailed, line-by-line explanation of the VCDSS budget.

The county board will be approving the final budget in October, and Hilger would like to see the VCDSS budget approved by the Social Services Board no later than September.

8. FSET presentation and request for letter of support

Gardner advised that Wood County is making a proposal to the State to take over the FoodShare, Education and Training Program (FSET) in the North Central Region of which Vilas is a part. Gardner presented statistics on Wood County's performance and requested approval to provide Wood County with a letter to the Department of Health Services supporting this proposal. Gardner also indicated that, if Wood County is chosen by the State to provide FSET in the area, they will want a presence within the Income Maintenance Unit offices. Vilas Income Maintenance Unit does have an open cubicle for their worker, which Wood County would rent. No County expenses are expected with this arrangement.

@ 10:23 Bauman was excused. Rogacki was able to take over the meeting.

Motion made by Wiggenhauser, 2nd by Simac, to elect Rogacki in Teichmiller's absence, as 2nd vice chair of the Social Services Board for the purpose of completing board business . All voted aye, carried.

Discussion pursued about the FSET program.

Hilger suggested next step would be to talk to Corporation Council about this program to determine whether a contract or just an MOU would be required should Wood obtain the contract from the State to provide FSET in this area.

Motion made by Wiggenhauser and 2nd by Simac to send all related information to Corporation Council and the Public Property Committee, along with Social Services Board support for allowing Wood County to rent space in the Income Maintenance Unit if awarded the State FSET Program. All voted aye, carried.

Motion made by Simac, 2nd by Wiggenhauser, for approval for Gardner to sign and provide Wood County with a letter to the Department of Health Services supporting this proposal. All voted aye, carried.

9. SS Board representation at next Personnel Meeting

It will be noted that Teichmiller will represent the Social Services Board at the next Personnel Meeting regarding the formalization of the Child Protective Services On-Call system and the Social Services Board's intent to fill the current Income Maintenance Vacancy.

10. It is anticipated that a motion will be made and seconded to convene into closed session pursuant to Wis. Stat. Section 19.85(1)© for the purpose of considering employment and performance evaluation data of a public employee over which the Social Services Committee exercises responsibility.

RE: reducing costs of contracted position by changing to a part-time county position, and, filling Income Maintenance vacancy

Motion made by Simac, 2nd by Wiggenhauser, to convene in closed session pursuant to

Wis. Stat. 1985(1)©, for considering employment, promotion, compensation, or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the government body had jurisdiction or exercise responsibility. All voted aye, carried.

Motion made by Simac, 2nd by Wiggenhauser, to return to open session pursuant to Wis. Stat. 19.85(1) ©. All voted aye, carried.

Motion made by Wiggenhauser, 2nd by Simac, to change the Part Time contracted Wisconsin Home Energy Assistance Program (WHEAP) position to a part-time county position. All Voted Aye, carried.

Motion made by Simac, 2nd by Wiggenhauser, to fill the vacant Income Maintenance position as soon as possible. All voted aye, carried.

11. DSS Directors Report

Community Options Program (COP)/Managed Care Update: It was reported at a recent Tribal Concerns Committee meeting that the Lac du Flambeau tribe is in the process of talking with the State to provide their own COP program for tribal members. Gardner noted that Lac du Flambeau Tribal Members constitute 21% of the current COP caseload. If implemented prior to Managed Care, there is potential for early impact on FTE.

12. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Monday, July 21, 2014 at 10:00 am.

13. Adjournment

Respectively submitted by Corinne Hoffmann, subject to committee approval.