

WRIGHT COUNTY
HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
MINUTES
January 25, 2016

1:30 P.M. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE.

The regular meeting of the Wright County Health & Human Services Board was called to order at 1:30 P.M., Monday, January 25, 2016, by Chairperson Daleiden.

MINUTES: Approval of Minutes of January 11, 2016.

Action: The Minutes were moved for approval by Husom, seconded by Borrell. Motion carries unanimous.

AGENDA:

Action: The Agenda as amended was moved for approval by Potter, seconded by Husom. Additions: Personnel - Refer to Personnel Committee to hire Social Worker above Step 3; SS/PH/FS - Foster Care Support Group Presentation; Administration – Director’s Comments. Motion carries unanimous.

ROLL CALL:

Members Present:

Christine Husom - District 1
Pat Sawatzke - District 2
Mark Daleiden - District 3

Michael Potter - District 4
Charlie Borrell - District 5

Staff Present:

Jami Goodrum Schwartz, Director
Michelle Miller, Social Services Manager
Carol Schefers, Public Health Director
Christine Partlow, Fiscal Manager
Kimberly Johnson, Financial Services Manager
Tammi Martens, Financial Services Supervisor
Sue Gillman, Office Manager
Richelle Kramer, Social Services Supervisor
Adam Maertens, Social Worker
Social Workers - Marisa Ferguson, Kris Carlson, Lisa Gertken
MH Professionals/SW III - Teri Novacek, Christine Treichler, Niki Hoglund, Erik Rehwaldt
Heidi Davis, Secretary

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Social Services Payments Abstract – \$231,503.38
2. Grants:
 - a. DHS CY 2016 Adult Mental Health Grant; Community Support Program - \$189,321

Action: Motion by Potter, seconded by Sawatzke, to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion carries unanimous.

REGULAR AGENDA

ADMINISTRATIVE PAYMENTS:

Action: Motion by Husom, seconded by Potter, to approve the Administrative Payments in the amount of \$34,464.78; 68 vendors; 161 transactions, subject to audit. Motion carries unanimous.

PERSONEL:

1. Refer to Personnel Committee request to increase .8 FTE Planner position to a full-time position.
Action: Motion by Sawatzke, seconded by Husom, to refer item to the Personnel Committee. Motion carries unanimous.

2. Refer to Personnel Committee to hire Social Worker above Step 3 (and within 12% range).
Action: Motion by Husom, seconded by Sawatzke, to refer item to the Personnel Committee. Motion carries unanimous.

SOCIAL SERVICES/PUBLIC HEALTH/FINANCIAL SERVICES:

1. Non-Emergency Medical Transportation RFP – Request for RFP publication. (attachment)
Goodrum Schwartz provided background to how the County has addressed the MA Transportation program from 2007 until now. Partlow provided a handout to the Commissioners to update them on the current process regarding this program. Partlow shared that the ultimate goal for this program is to provide better customer service than we currently are with the present workload. Even with the new AGC phone system, only 46% of MA Transportation calls are currently being answered and we are not able to provide 24-hour service to our clients. In July 2016, there will be a rate structure that will need to be updated and changed for fiscal billing. This is another reason why now seems to be a positive time to request an RFP. Partlow shared that there is roughly \$89,000 per year of staff time with this program between five employees. She offered suggestions of where the staff time would go if we would change the program management to a contracted company. Borrell asked who the clients are that we serve in regards to this program. Goodrum Schwartz explained it is clients who are on MA. She stated that there are approximately 20,000 Wright County residents currently on Medical Assistance; with a large bump due to the Affordable Care Act. Sawatzke brought up the concern that this was never placed on the 2016 Budget and is concerned as to why this is coming up now, and if there will be staff lay-offs if this change occurs given Health & Human Services is continuing to ask for more FTE's. Goodrum Schwartz went into further explanation of what they are asking for and where staff time would be utilized; explaining that all they are asking for at this point in time is an RFP publication.
Action: Motion by Borrell to approve, seconded by Husom, to approve publishing the Non-Emergency Medical Transportation RFP. Motion carries unanimous.
2. January 2016 Employee of the Month – Adam Maertens
Goodrum Schwartz introduced Adam Maertens, January Employee of the Month. Maertens is a Social Worker in the Intake & Assessment Unit. He was nominated by a co-worker who said that he always does an outstanding job, is always willing to put in effort to learn more and help others as much as possible, and lends a hand wherever needed. Maertens supervisor, Richelle Kraemer, was also present to share how much of an asset Maertens has been to their team, and shared information on the rolls Maertens plays in their Unit.
3. Foster Care Support Group Presentation - Marisa Ferguson, Kris Carlson, Lisa Gertken, Teri Novacek, Christine Treichler, Niki Hoglund, Erik Rehwaldt
Rehwaldt began by explaining the goal of their presentation which is to define the mission statement of Health & Human Services and how it parallels with the Foster Care Program as a whole. Staff shared that the ultimate goal of foster care is to provide a safe and healthy reunification transition back into the home the child originally left. The team of staff working with this program gave an explanation of the program and that their goal has been to help strengthen and support these foster care families, their biological children, as well as the foster children themselves. In the spring of 2013, staff recognized a gap between the communication of the County and the Foster Care Program. The In-Home Service Team was created to help close this gap; which provides individual therapy sessions for foster homes to help them function at their best capability. In 2013, the main barrier was that parents could not attend this function without their children due to childcare needs. The team decided to bring the program in-house in the fall of 2014. This has resulted in families feeling more supported by Wright County as well as more supported by one another. Currently, there are about forty children and twenty parents who attend the support group. There has been a lot of success in the adult component, and by having the children attend as well it helps to eliminate barriers between the foster parents and foster children. The children are able to be in groups with one another based on age during the meetings. The children who come are both foster children and biological children of foster parents. Meetings are held once a month which helps create a sense of community for these families. The families include relatives who have taken over custody as well as

licensed foster care parents. Currently, the Agency hosts a picnic every August, May is Foster Care Recognition Month, and a holiday party which is now held at Huikko's Event Center due to how many families come. The purpose of these yearly events are to serve our foster care families and recognize all they do. Goodrum Schwartz acknowledged all of the great work and effort this team has put into the Foster Care Support Group and thanked them for recognizing the things that needed to change to make this more successful for our foster care families in Wright County.

ADMINISTRATION:

1. December 2015 Financial Statement. (attachment)
Partlow presented the December Financial Statement. We are at 100% of the Year with Revenues at 95% and Expenditures at 93%. The State sent a \$37,000 overpayment in MH TCM grant money in error and this still needs to be returned. PH SHIP Grant revenue is up by \$193,000, with expenses only up by \$138,000. The difference is covering staff time. MA Transportation billing was delayed so revenue is missing from October through December due to a billing code issue. Waiver Revenue is at 80% of budget which in dollars is at \$2.26 million versus the budgeted \$2.84 million. Target Case Management is at 87% of budget which in dollars is \$1.13 million versus the budgeted \$1.30 million. Social Services Time Study is at 120% of budget which in dollars is \$1.49 million versus the budgeted \$1.24 million.
Action: Motion by Potter, seconded by Borrell, to accept the December 2015 Financial Statement.
Motion carries unanimous.
2. Director's Comments.
 - a. As related earlier, we continue to work with Brian Asleson on a County Collaborative where eight counties will enter into a contract to guarantee seven beds at a NEXUS facility in Annandale. Asleson is drawing up the contract that the other seven counties have either taken to their Boards or will take in the next week or two. Goodrum Schwartz stated that they hope to have something finalized in early February; at which point NEXUS will purchase the old Annandale IRT facility.
 - b. Goodrum Schwartz will be joining Sawatzke and Husom at the Central MN Mental Health Center Board meeting this evening to meet Dr. Lee.
 - c. Goodrum Schwartz shared with the Board that an issue of a Motion of Contempt of Court was filed against an Agency Social Worker this past Friday. Michelle Miller and Goodrum Schwartz have already met with the County Attorney, and they anticipate this will be denied or dismissed as there is no merit to it.

The next regular meeting will be held at 1:30 P.M., Monday, February 8, 2016, in the Commissioners Room, at the Wright County Government Center. Chairperson Daleiden adjourned the meeting at 2:55 P.M.