

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

EOC

October 26, 2006

Board Members Present: Kenneth Jardine, Mary Podlesny, Pat Carver, James Crandall, Ted Benson, Clarence Henkel, Thomas Gordon (4:12 p.m.)

Board Members Excused: Wayne Williams, Delores Kittleson

Staff Present: Elizabeth Skulan, Denise Kontny, Carrie Linder, Jan Karlen, Ann Green, Jan Bergst

Call to Order and Introductions:

The meeting was called to order by K. Jardine at 4:00 p.m.

Review of the Tentative Agenda:

There were no changes made to the agenda.

Review of the September 28, 2006 Minutes:

C. Henkel motioned to approve the September 28, 2006 minutes as presented. Seconded by M. Podlesny. Motion carried.

Program Presentation – Aging & Disabilities Section

Jan Bergst gave a presentation on E-Supp. E-Supp is a monthly cash benefit of up to \$95.99 that is available for elderly and disabled SSI recipients. This benefit is administered by the state, and is in addition to monthly federal and state SSI payments. It is designed to help pay for exceptional expenses related to long-term care needs, thus helping the recipient live as independently as possible, whether in a substitute care or a natural residential setting.

Monthly Section Reports:

Family Services

New legislation requires that foster parents be fingerprinted and checked against a national registry. However, lack of a federal data base to store and compare prints has made it difficult for states to comply with this new mandate.

Kinship Care is a program designed to help support a child who resides outside of his or her own home, either temporarily or long term, with a relative rather than being placed in a foster home or other type of out-of-home placement. This year, projections indicate Bayfield County will have approximately \$9,000 in unspent Kinship funds. Outreach activities will be conducted to determine if there are any other residents who can benefit from this program.

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Chris Kobesko has been hired to fill the vacant AODA Case Manager position. His first day of employment was October 16th.

Aging & Disability Services

There was some discussion on the Medicare Part D program. The annual coordinated election period is November 15 – December 31, 2006 for the 2007 coverage year, beginning January 1, 2007.

Economic Support

A. Green distributed the Federal Poverty Level Guidelines effective February 2006.

To date, approximately 300 applications have been processed for the 2006-2007 Energy Assistance Program which began on October 2nd. Bayfield County processes approximately 600 applications each year.

The Electronic Case File scanning project is proceeding smoothly. To date, approximately 45% of the current open files have been scanned into the online data storage system.

Support Services

The 2005 single audit is complete. Three providers failed to provide their agency audit report by the June 30, 2006 deadline, which were included in the minor findings reported.

Support Services staff have been preparing the 2006 year-end projections and contract monitoring for amendments.

E. Skulan and D. Kontny attended Superior Days issues identification meetings held in Ashland and Superior.

Monthly Reports:

The monthly 2006 Financial, Training, and Waiting List reports were reviewed and will be placed on file.

2006 Budget Resolution – Resolution to allow for the increase in the 2006 budget to reflect changes in state allocations.

T. Gordon motioned to approve the proposed resolution to allow for the \$350,500 increase in the 2006 budget to reflect changes in state allocations. Seconded by C. Henkel. Motion carried.
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Resolution to Designate Human Services as the Lead “Adult at Risk Agency” – Resolution to comply with a change in State Statutes that require each county to identify a lead agency for “adults at risk.”

M. Podlesny motioned to approve the resolution designating Human Services as the lead “Adult-at-Risk Agency” with responsibility for addressing allegations of abuse and/or neglect as defined under WI. Stats §55.01. Seconded by P. Carver. Motion carried.

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Staffing Update

The AODA case manager position has been filled by Chris Kobesko who began his employment on October 16.

The committee reviewed a letter from Elizabeth Skulan to the County Administrator dated October 2, 2006 requesting to fill the Economic Support Supervisor position upon Ann Green's retirement. The request was approved and the position has been advertised with a November 10th application due date.

Northwest Wisconsin-Long-Term Care Options (NW LTCO)

Carrie Linder and Elizabeth Skulan presented at a Town Hall Meeting on October 17th at the Northern Great Lakes Visitors Center with Ashland County to introduce the long-term care reform initiative. Approximately 50 people representing consumers, advocates, family members and providers attended.

The committee reviewed a letter dated October 18, 2006 from DHFS Secretary Nelson to Craig Thompson at WCA regarding county contributions for the long-term care reform costs.

County contribution variations for the Long-term Care Reform Initiative will be presented as a Superior Days agency issue.

Other

A Long-term Care Reform Meeting for County-Elected Officials facilitated by WCA is scheduled for November 9th. Board members, particularly elected officials, were encouraged to attend.

There was some discussion on congregate meal sites.

Future Meeting Dates:

The future meeting dates were scheduled as follows:

- December 5, 2006
- January 25, 2007
- February 22, 2007

Adjournment:

M. Podlesny motioned to adjourn. Seconded by C. Henkel. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.
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Submitted by:

Denise Kontny
Financial Manager