

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

EOC

August 21, 2007

**Subject to change at the
September meeting.**

Board Members Present: Pat Carver, Tom Gordon, Kenneth Jardine, Clarence Henkel, James Crandall, Mary Podlesny, Delores Kittleson, Wayne Williams

Members Excused: Ted Benson

Staff Present: Elizabeth Skulan, Denise Kontny, Jan Karlen, Carrie Linder, Jeanine Spuhler

Call to Order and Introductions:

K. Jardine called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

Review of the Tentative Agenda:

There were no changes to the agenda.

Review of the July 26, 2007 Minutes:

C. Henkel motioned to approve the July 26, 2007 minutes as presented. Seconded by M. Podlesny. Motion carried.

Program Presentation:

J. Spuhler gave a presentation on the W-2 Program. On 6/19/07 the Appeals Court ruled that individuals who are ready for employment, but are unemployed, must be placed in a paid subsidized employment position. This change would likely place more individuals in a Community Service Job Characteristic which pays \$673 per month in benefits. There would be a negative financial impact on the department since there are apparently no additional funds available to pay for any increase that result from the policy change. There is a change included in one version of the budget that will create an unpaid employment ready category. At this time, we do not know if the change will be included in the budget, if it is not how many individuals will apply and be eligible for this new cash payment, or the amount of our 2008-2009 W-2 allocation.

Options:

1. Give the mandated 120 day notice that we will no longer administer the program.
2. Review program viability once the allocation amount has been announced so that we can determine if it is fiscally reasonable for us to continue to administer the program.
3. Commit to administering the program knowing that county dollars are likely to be needed to administer the program if the allocated amount is insufficient.

Recommendation:

Review decision again once the 2008-2009 contract allocation has been announced.

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

EOC

August 21, 2007

D. Kittleson motioned to recommend that option #2 be followed regarding the decision to administer the W-2 program in 2008. Seconded by T. Gordon. Motion carried.

Monthly Section Reports:

Family Services

J. Karlen and E. Skulan met with Clendon Gustafson and Becky Ranta of CESA 12, and Karen Williams, a state reviewer of the Birth to Three Program on Tuesday, August 14th. The goal of the meeting was to review and update the Program Improvement Plan for the Birth to Three Program. The meeting went well and a number of very positive changes that have taken place in the last year in the program were noted.

The Child Welfare Disaster Plan is due by the end of September. Family Services is working with foster parents and kinship parents to develop their plans.

J. Karlen and E. Skulan met with Rose Gurnoe-Soulier and Jeanne Gordon in Red Cliff to discuss the department's relationship with Indian Child Welfare and the 161 Agreement.

Support Services

The proposed 2008 budget is complete. The process went very smoothly this year which can be attributed to better budget monitoring tools.

The Department single audit is scheduled to begin September 4th. Staff are working with the auditors to identify the files to be pulled prior to their arrival.

Aging & Disability Services

The 2006 long term care audit will be completed by The Management Group during the week of August 20th.

The mobile food market has been designated as the recipient of the "14 Carrot Award." The award will be presented on September 26th.

Economic Support

J. Spuhler participated in her first budget preparation process for the Economic Support Section. The process was easier than she anticipated.

The Economic Support Unit has been responding to an increasing number of calls from individuals who have received disconnection notices from their gas and electric providers. Those who qualify are receiving help from the Energy Assistance program and those that do not qualify are referred to other potential resources in the community. In the past, many people in crisis were helped by using Salvation Army funds. However, that program is currently out of funding until at least mid-September.

More funeral and cemetery benefits have been requested recently. These benefits are sum-sufficient, which means that the full amount is covered by state and federal funding.

Monthly Reports:

The monthly financial, training, and waiting list reports were reviewed and placed on file.

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

EOC

August 21, 2007

Staffing Update:

A second and more extensive recruitment search was conducted for the Family Services Section Manager position. Three interviews will be conducted.

Family Care Development Council:

Resolution #2007-02 was reviewed. The resolution recommends the designation of a Bayfield County representative to the forming Family Care Development Council (FCDC). The FCDC will guide Family Care policy as it develops in the eleven county region included in the Northwest Wisconsin Long-Term Care Options (NW-LTCO) Consortium.

T. Gordon motioned to appoint D. Kittleson to the committee with J. Crandall as an alternate and to forward the resolution to the Full County Board. C. Henkel seconded. Motion carried.

2008 Budget:

The 2008 proposed budget which totals \$7,843,855 was reviewed. The request includes levy dollars in the amount of \$1,821,788, an increase of \$38,835 over 2007, or 2.2% in county dollars. This increase represents salary and fringe increases as well as a .40 FTE R.N. position.

In addition, as previously recommended by this board, a resolution is being presented to the full county board on August 28, 2007 that allows excess revenues in the amount of \$125,000 to be moved to the Human Services Risk Reserve account to be used to provide startup funding for an Aging and Disability Resource Center and the implementation of Family Care in 2008. The 2008 budget proposal includes the \$125,000.

T. Gordon motioned to approve the draft budget as presented. C. Henkel seconded. Motion carried.

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

The committee reviewed the NW-LTCO planning to implement proposal and request for financial assistance and other information presented at the August 6th consortium meeting.

Other:

Board members reported on the 2007 Tribal-County Relations Seminar held at Lakewoods Resort in Cable on August 1, 2007.

Articles were distributed on volunteer driver legislation and a proposal to reduce the number of counties from 72 to 18.

Future Meeting Dates:

Future meeting dates were scheduled as follows:

- September 27, 2007 – P. Carver and D. Kittleson will be absent.
- October 25, 2007
- December 4, 2007

BAYFIELD COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING

EOC

August 21, 2007

Adjournment:

M. Podlesny motioned to adjourn. Seconded by T. Gordon. Motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 5:41 p.m.

Submitted by:

Denise Kontny

Denise Kontny
Financial Manager