

Forest County Social Service Committee Meeting  
February 26, 2019  
County Board Room  
5:00 p.m.

**Members present:** Dave Campbell, Melinda Otto, Scott Goode, Kellee Gallion

**Absent:** Scott Shaffer

**Others Present:** Tom Tallier

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 5:05 p.m. by Dave Campbell.
2. **Approval of Agenda-** Motion to approve agenda by Gallion, seconded by Goode. All in favor, motion carried.
3. **Approval of minutes from Social Services Meeting held January 22, 2019-**Motion to approve minutes made by Goode, seconded by Gallion. All in favor, motion carried.
4. **Public Comment on Agenda Items-**No comments.
5. **Department Updates-**Committee informed of the number of open cases that Forest County has for Child Abuse/Neglect, Child Welfare, and Juvenile Delinquency. The Committee was updated on the number of children that are currently placed out of home through Forest County DSS. 18 of the children are in foster homes. Of those, 5 are treatment foster homes therefore the costs are higher. 16 children are placed with family/unlicensed homes and there are 3 in voluntary placements. There are 11 children that are in the process of trial reunification with parents. One recent guardianship for permanency. Discussed the fact that Forest County DSS was able to set up a Foster Care Pantry using the former VFW Hall. The Committee was updated on the efforts that Brenda Ashbeck has put forth to request donations of items if people/businesses are interested. Banners purchased for Foster Care recruitment and Committee updated on the efforts being put forth for recruitment. Discussed the Foster Care advertisement at the movie theaters in Rhinelander and Woodruff, as well as, the Buyers Guide on the internet. Cost will be split between Oneida, Vilas and Forest County for the remainder of the year. \$600 per county for the movie theater advertisement and \$300 for the internet advertisement.
6. **Review, Discuss and if appropriate, Take Action on CST Equipment Request-**CST budget for 2019 included the cost for purchasing a laptop, wireless mouse and wireless printer. CST Coordinator would then be able to use the laptop in schools and homes as needed

or when between meetings with families. Bid submitted by Naunkca included two wireless printers for Social Services as well. Motion to accept the bid to purchase the laptop, wireless mouse and three wireless printers was made by Gallion, seconded by Otto. All in favor, motion carried.

- 7. Review, Discuss and if appropriate, Take Action on Policies for Social Services and CST Program-** Social Services Policies still need to be worked on. Discussed request for an employee to work from home when out of the office for family surgery. Employee Handbook does not allow for employee to work from home and this will be followed. Reviewed the CST policies including: Coordinating Committee, Crisis Response Plan, Data Collection and Flex Funds. Policies will be reviewed and updated every two years or as needed. Policies are the same as the Tribal CST Policies for consistency. Motion by Goode and seconded by Otto to approve the policies. All in favor, motion carried.
- 8. Human Services Update-**Informed Committee that in December they had made the request that Human Services provide written information on what programs they have and who they serve. Director has emailed and spoke to HSC regarding the request however has not received anything to date. Birth to 3 came to meet with the Forest County DSS staff yesterday and the Committee was given verbal information on this program. There are 10 children/families being served right now in Forest County. DSS is not aware of any clients in Winnebago, Mendota or Trempealeau. Discussed email that was sent out by HSC on the projected 2018 year-end financial status. Committee updated on the meeting that the Oneida, Vilas and Forest County Directors had on February 12.
- 9. Adjournment-**Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Gallion and seconded by Otto. All in favor, motion carried.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. Minutes will be reviewed and approved at the next scheduled meeting. Next scheduled meeting is March 26 at 5:00pm.