

## FOREST COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

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**COMMITTEE:** CHILD SUPPORT COMMITTEE

**DATE:** THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020

**TIME:** 4:30 P.M.

**PLACE:** COUNTY BOARD ROOM

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### CALL TO ORDER

Goode called the meeting to order at 4:30 p.m.

### ROLL CALL

Committee members present: Scott Goode, Lynne Black, and Tina Anderson  
Committee members absent: None  
Others present: Cindy Gretzinger, County Board Chair &  
Shannon Boney, Child Support Director

### APPROVE MEETING AGENDA

Goode read the agenda. Motion by Black to approve the agenda as presented, seconded by Anderson. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

### APPROVE MINUTES FROM THE SEPTEMBER 30, 2020 CHILD SUPPORT COMMITTEE MEETING

Motion by Black to approve minutes of the September 30, 2020, seconded by Goode. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

### PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No appearances by anyone from the general public, therefore, there were no comments.

### PROGRAM/DEPARTMENTAL UPDATES

Shannon Boney provided members with a draft copy of an agreement between Forest and Florence Counties for COVID-19 emergency mutual aid for child support services. The Bureau of Child Support is encouraging agencies, especially smaller agencies, to work out an agreement with another agency to assist with providing basic services in case of a total shut down. Shannon just sent the proposed agreement to the Florence County Child Support Agency Director to review and make additional changes, however, she hasn't received anything back yet. If there are any subsequent changes to the agreement, the Committee would like to meet again to review the agreement with the new changes. A tentative meeting was scheduled for Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. to review any subsequent changes that may be made to the agreement. If there are no changes that need to be made, the two agencies can sign the agreement that was presented to the Committee, and the Committee meeting scheduled for January 21, 2020, at 4:30 p.m. may be cancelled. Motion by Anderson to approve the agreement to provide Covid-19 emergency child support services between Forest and Florence County as written as long as it is returned in

its original format without any additional changes, seconded by Black. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

Shannon informed members that she has agreed to continue her appointment for the Policy Advisory Committee (PAC) for the CY2021 term. She explained that the meetings are typically held in Madison, however, she believes the PAC meetings will continue to be held virtually in 2021 as they have been for most of 2020. She does have money budgeted in case they do decide to resume the meetings in Madison again.

When the Child Support Committee met in September, Shannon informed them they were almost ready to publish their Child Support Agency's (CSA) website. After making some minor changes, the website was published in October. Shannon explained, however, that it is a work-in-progress. They would like to make additional changes as time permits. She encouraged committee members to let her know if they ever have any suggestions on things to add to the website.

#### BUDGET/FUNDING UPDATES

The Committee reviewed the Child Support Budget status report for 2020 which provided expense balances through November 2020. Shannon explained that the state aid revenues only includes administrative cost reimbursements through September 2020 as they are only reimbursed on a quarterly basis.

#### PERFORMANCE MEASURES UPDATES

Shannon updated members on the status of their performance and provided a handout regarding the's CSA performance through November 2020. She explained that the 2021 Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) runs from October 1, 2020 to September 30, 2021.

Shannon explained that they had a substantial and rapid decrease on their current support collections from May through September due to reasons related to the Covid-19 pandemic, however, they have increased in October and November for that measure. Their arrears collection performance rate for November also increased compared to the prior FFY.

#### REVIEW AND POSSIBLE APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED CHILD SUPPORT FUNDING, TO BE FORWARDED TO FULL COUNTY BOARD

Shannon presented the Committee with a copy of the proposed resolution. She explained that the Wisconsin Child Support Enforcement Association (WCSEA) was encouraging agencies to have their County Board approve a resolution to request the state to provide an additional \$4M per year in General Purpose Revenue (GPR) in FY 2021-2023 state budget which would generate an additional \$7.7M per year in federal funding due to the 66% match. Shannon explained there will be no fiscal burden on the County by adopting this resolution. State funding for CSA services has failed to keep up with the costs which is increasing due to caseloads, inflation and new federal regulations. Every \$1 the State invests in the County CSA program, \$2 is generated in matching funds. The additional funds will help with some of the financial burden for CSAs. Shannon explained that due to guidance issued in June 2019, by the Office of Child Support Enforcement (OCSE), agencies are no longer receiving federal matching funds which took effect

on 7/1/20. Due to this interpretation change, CSAs will lose approximately \$4.2M per year in federal funding. Therefore, funding is needed to maintain the same level of funding as previously earned. Shannon explained that the state is providing funding to CSAs to offset the anticipated loss of federal match on county-retained birth cost collections. The state provided additional funding for July through December 2020 and will provide funding for CY 2021. Motion by Anderson to approve the Resolution to be forwarded to the full County Board, seconded by Black. All present voting AYE. Motion carried.

Shannon provided members with a copy of a letter that she sent to Governor Evers on December 16, 2020, which she requested that the 2021-23 state budget include a \$4M per year GPR increase to child support funding.

#### ANY OTHER BUSINESS PERMITTED BY LAW

None

#### POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

The next regular Child Support Committee meeting will be scheduled for March 18, 2021 at 4:30 p.m. A tentative meeting is also scheduled for January 21, 2020 at 4:30 p.m. which is dependent on whether or not there are any additional changes made to the agreement between Florence and Forest County to provide Covid-19 emergency mutual aid for child support services. If the County Board Room is not available due to anticipated reconstruction, the Committee may meet in the front of the County Board Chair's office.

#### ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Black to adjourn, seconded by Anderson. All present voting AYE. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

*\*These minutes were approved by the Child Support Committee on 3/25/2021.*