

COMMITTEE: SOCIAL SERVICES  
DATE: TUESDAY JULY 13, 2021  
TIME: 5:30 PM  
PLACE: COUNTY BOARD ROOM

#### CALL TO ORDER

Tina Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:30pm.

#### ROLL CALL

Present: Anderson, Campbell, Goode, Karl

Absent: Collins, Gretzinger

Others Present: Jody Jensen, Social Services; and Tamara Feest, Human Service Center

#### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion by Karl to approve the agenda as presented, second by Goode. All present voting AYE.  
Motion carried.

#### APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SOCIAL SERVICES MEETING HELD ON JUNE 8, 2021

Motion by Campbell to approve the June 8, 2021 minutes, second by Karl. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS

No public comments

#### HUMAN SERVICE UPDATES

Feest updated Committee that HSC is continuing to work on software upgrades for their accounting and health records. HSC has had additional vacancies so they are working on filling those positions. Feest updated the Committee on the grant that they worked with the Social Services agencies of Forest, Oneida and Vilas to apply for. Feest updated the Committee that Oneida County DSS has submitted the grant recently. In the grant application, there is a request for funding of one-year salary and fringe benefits to have a part-time worker from HSC to work in the Forest County community. There is also a request for trainings of current staff that could be offered. Feest and Jensen discussed the concern with the crisis calls. Trainings will be offered for Law Enforcement and Dispatch on crisis. Plan is also to reach out to staff at the schools when school is back in session to offer trainings as there has been a turnover in staff. Forest County DSS staff will also have training.

#### DEPARTMENT UPDATES

- CPS and JUVENILE DELINQUENCY-Jensen presented committee with the number of open Child Welfare, Child Abuse and Neglect Investigation and Juvenile Delinquency cases.
- FOSTER CARE and KINSHIP- Committee informed that Jensen does not have the exact amounts spent on the recent month for foster care or kinship, however this will be requested for future months. Jensen updated the Committee that they did receive a graph of how much has been spent on out-of-home care costs over the past few years.

- CHILD CARE-Committee updated that approximately a year ago there was a request made to have the contract for Child Care go to the Northwest Connection Family Resource Center. Jensen updated the Committee that they were not able to take on the contract last year due to COVID and staffing issues however now they are willing to take on Forest County. Jensen updated that then their agency would complete the certifications and trainings for individuals wishing to be certified as daycare providers. Currently Forest County DSS has no open certified daycares. There are daycare centers that are licensed through the state in Forest County.
- ECONOMIC SUPPORT-No changes to report for ESS. Updated the Committee that the Energy Assistance contract has been through ESI and they have done well for the County over the past several years. Committee informed that the State of WI is now willing to contract directly with ESI rather than contracting with the county and then subcontracting to ESI.
- APS-Committee updated that the department did receive additional grant money of a little over \$5,000 for Elder Abuse and there were three categories that the money could be used for. One of the areas that the money could be used was for technology so Jensen is going to be checking into purchasing a new laptop for the department to use for APS.

#### FISCAL/CLA UPDATES

Discussion will be held when Collins and Gretzinger are able to share what took place during the visit from Bridget of CLA.

#### DISCUSSION AND POSSIBLE ACTION ON FAMILY FIRST/FAMILY SUPPORT SPECIALIST

Committee updated on the changes taking place in Wisconsin for Family First. Explained that there will be a need to contract with an agency to provide evidenced based services to ensure that the children can safely remain at home. Explained that there are limited options for these contracted services therefore Social Service agencies nearby are looking at creating positions to cover the services that are needed. Discussed having a worker going into the home to provide supervision and ensure safety. Jensen has taken a look at what other counties are proposing and would like to request a new position for this. Committee updated that Jensen did discuss this with Gretzinger earlier today and she was in support of this. Motion by Goode to have Jensen develop a job description for the position and bring it back to the committee to look at, seconded by Karl. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried. If approved, the job description would then would need to be taken to Personnel for approval of the new position.

#### POSSIBLE FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Department updates

Fiscal/CLA Updates

Family First Job Description

Discussion of location during Courthouse renovations

#### NEXT MEETING:

Next meeting will be held on August 10, 2021 at 5:30pm.

## ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, motion by Campbell, seconded by Karl to adjourn. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned.

These minutes are not official and are subject to change. They will be officially approved at the next scheduled Social Services meeting.

DRAFT