

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE MINUTES

COMMITTEE: HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
DATE: MAY 8, 2025
TIME: 10:00 AM
PLACE: FOREST COUNTY BOARDROOM

CALL TO ORDER

Gretzinger called the meeting to order at 10:00 AM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Anderson, Augustin, Brugger, Gretzinger, Karl, Pfeifer, Rosa, L. Skallerud

Absent: Goode

Others Present: Tracy Ferraro, Melissa Grogg, Jamie Zarda, Melissa Ison, Danielle McLaughlin

APPROVE AGENDA

Motion by Anderson, second by Pfeifer to approve the agenda. All present voting, (AYE).

Motion carried.

APPROVE HUMAN SERVICES MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 11th MEETING

Motion by Pfeifer, second by Brugger to approve the minutes from the April 11th Human Services Meeting. All present voting, (AYE). Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Another county from NIMC has filed for Forest County to be removed from the consortium. The director has reached out to DHS. If things cannot be worked out there is a possibility of going independent, or joining the consortium that Langlade is part of.

Oneida County has been providing courtesy services for a juvenile due to a conflict of interest for Forest County. They are now trying to bill \$90.54 per hour to case manage. The director says that the state requires all counties to sign an agreement to step in and provide services for other counties when needed, so this seems to be in violation of that agreement. The board agrees this should be referred to Paul Payant to advise.

The Board Chair, C. Gretzinger signed the MOU for Alicia's Place.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE DIRECTOR'S WORK FROM HOME AFTER HOURS

The Previous Social Services Board had approved the director to work from home. She needs approval from the new Human Services Board to continue after hours work from home so that the hours can be broken down and allocated to the proper funding sources. Motion by Augustin, Second by L. Skallerud to approve the director working from home after hours. All present voting (AYE). Motion carried.

UPDATE ON THE OUTCOME OF THE EASTER EGG HUNT

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There was a big turn out to this event. Workers estimated that there were 50-60 kids who came to the Easter Egg Hunt. There were several officers from Crandon PD and Forest County Sheriff's Office that came to participate. C. Gretzinger recommended sending a Thank You card to both departments for coming.

DISCUSSION/APPROVAL OF USING CWMHA FOR AODA/COUNSELING

CWMHA is serving the Northwoods area. Using them for services would be a shorter wait time; 5-6 weeks wait vs. months through Oneida County. They can also provide regular mental health services. The director will try to get them to present at a future meeting in person or via Zoom before the board makes a decision.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON ANOTHER CONTRACT WITH P. CORK

P. Cork is very well versed with DHS questions and would be vital to the department in navigating the addition of more services. Motion by Anderson, second by L. Skallerud to enter into a contract with P. Cork through the end of December, 2025 with determination of funding to be made by the County Clerk and the County Board Chair. All present voting, (AYE). Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF A CONTRACT WITH ASPIRUS AS AN ADDITIONAL MENTAL HEALTH INPATIENT PROVIDER

Rhinelanders Aspirus offered to do an MOU with the county, so if they have a bed available, the county would get priority service. Motion by Karl, second by Augustin to approve the MOU. All present voting, (AYE). Motion Carried.

DISCUSSION/ACTION ON THE PLAN FOR HSD EXTENSION OF SERVICES FOR 2026

The director recommended to cut any non-mandatory services excluding CCS which helps to prevent costly hospital admissions. The department could cut CSP, CRS, and possibly TCM. The department can contract out services for AODA, Mental Health Therapy, and Psychiatric Services, and there is a worker in the department already trained in OWI. Motion by Augustin, second by Karl to approve the recommendations to move forward with extensions of services for 2026-2027 and have a backup plan. All present voting, (AYE). Motion Carried.

ADDITIONAL TRAINING REQUESTS

The Family Services Supervisor has 2 trainings coming up, both in Appleton. One is Ending the Game Support Training to learn effective team building in times of change, and another training mandated by the state on sex trafficking. The supervisor and APS Worker/Foster Care Coordinator have an upcoming Kinship Summit, M. Fisher has a Child Abuse and Neglect training with a medical provider to learn more about signs and symptoms to look for. There is a ½ day Crisis Adhoc Summit with presentations on running a crisis program that the director would like to attend and K. McMillion had a Dementia Care Conference that she recently attended. Motion by Karl, second by Augustin to approve the requested trainings. All present voting, (AYE). Motion carried.

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UPDATE ON CASE LOAD NUMBERS

- A. Mental Health Cases-18
- B. CPS Cases- 10
- C. Juvenile Cases- 5
- D. Protective Plans- 1
- E. Child Welfare Cases- 9
- F. Open Initial Assessments- 3

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

- CWMHA to present
- Training with P. Cork
- Program Training for the Board

ADJOURNMENT

Motion by L. Skallerud, Second by Augustin to adjourn the meeting. All present voting, (AYE).
Motion carried. Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 a.m.