



SOUTHWEST HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

MINUTES

Date: December 21, 2022
Place: Lyon County Government Center
Commissioners Room
Marshall, Minnesota

Opened: 9:00 a.m.
Adjourned: 9:51 a.m.

The monthly meeting of the Human Services Board for Southwest Health and Human Services was held on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 in the Commissioners Room of the Lyon County Government Center in Marshall, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Welgraven. The Pledge of the Allegiance was said.

Members present:

- Jeane Anderson
- Rick Anderson
- Les Nath
- Lois Schmidt
- David Thiner
- Dennis Welgraven
- Rick Wakefield
- Charles Sanow
- Corey Sik
- Steve Hauswedell

Members absent:

- Joan Jagt
- Steve Schulze
- Sherri Thompson
- Maydra Maas
- Jim Salfer
- Greg Burger
- Dan Wildermuth

Staff present:

Carol Biren	Beth Wilms	Ann Orren
Chris Cauwels	Nicole Slegers	Christine Versaevel
Lisa DeBoer	Nancy Walker	Cindy Nelson
Michelle Buysse	Mariah Cleppe	Megan Boerboom
Heather Bruse	Elaine Herrick	Tiffany Bailey
Destinee Miranowski	Doug Nagel	

C. Consent Agenda-

Chairperson Welgraven asked if there were any additions or changes to the agenda. Welgraven asked if anyone had a conflict of interest to identify. None were identified. He asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the November 16, 2022 meeting. There were none. Motion by C. Sanow second by D. Thiner to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion carried unanimously.

D. Introduction of New Staff:

Director Beth Wilms came forward to introduce new staff.

- Deborah Graves, Eligibility Worker, Redwood Falls
- Samantha DeWit, Social Worker- CPS, Redwood Falls
- Destinee Miranowski, Social Worker- CPS, Marshall

E. Employee Recognition:

Director Wilms indicated that staff are present to receive recognition.

- Susan Lingen, 30 years, Social Worker (LTC), Pipestone

F. Financial-

Lisa DeBoer, Director of Business Management, came forward to present the November 2022 financials. The month of November started out with a beginning balance in checking of \$2,894,367 and ended at \$3,895,575. We ended November with an overall cash and investment balance of \$10,477,101. When excluding the designated funds, the ending balance for the month was \$9,543,373; which is up \$2,923,412 from last year at this time. The self-insurance fund was at \$662,284 as of the end of the month. For a current picture, that fund balance is \$643,689 as of today. Fund Balances: Fund 01 (PH) \$4,015,469 Fund 05 (HS) \$5,527,904. Looking at the numbers from a budget perspective for month end: Public Health was 15 percent OVER budget for revenues and 10 percent UNDER budget for expenditures. Overall, revenues exceeded expenditures by \$953,770. Human Services was 8 percent UNDER budget for revenues and 7 percent UNDER budget for expenditures. Overall, expenditures exceeded revenues by \$170,113. Agency wide revenues exceeded expenditures by \$783,657.

Motion by R. Anderson second by L. Nath to forward the Financials to the Governing Board. The motion carried unanimously.

G. Caseload-

Director Wilms asked if there were any comments or concerns about the caseload. No questions were stated.

H. Discussion/Information

1. FGDM Facilitator/Grant Update – Michelle Buysse, Heather Bruse

Michelle talked about the grant update. On August 1, 2022, Heather Bruse started position By September 9th, was her first family conference. The program specifically works with the out of home placement children. The program is helping the families make decisions that will benefit their families. H. Bruse stated that currently everyone she has had contact with about her program has 100% acceptance rate. H. Bruse thanked the board for approving this program. The program works solely with child protection and keeping families together. They try to solve family problems. H. Bruse stated that she works closely with child protection teams to solve problems with the families for which they were referred to the child protection unit. H. Bruse stated she reaches out to the family and asks them to participate with this group session. H. Bruse stated that each family conference session takes her 30 hours of preparation. H. Bruse stated that she works closely with school social workers, physiatrists, family therapists, and the child protection unit. She usually has 1-2 family groups per week. H. Bruse travels to all six counties. H. Bruse stated that to date she has 15 family groups currently with a total of 47 groups she has helped to date. H. Bruse gave the current statistics for each county. Lincoln County has zero, Lyon County has four with two pending, Redwood County has three with one pending, Murray County has five, Pipestone County has three, and Rock County has two. H. Bruse stated that a plan is given to the social worker and then it is approved from there if it meets the requirements from the Child Protection Unit. H. Bruse stated that she currently has to prioritize family groups, as she does not have enough time to help all the families being referred. M. Buysse state that we have to have the full support of the county attorneys and that has happened in all six counties. R. Anderson asked what happens when you are placing with another family member and how do we keep the family from interfering with the best interests of the children. H. Bruse stated that the social workers are involved and their number one priority is keeping the children safe. The family comes up with a plan but the child protection workers still monitor to make sure the plan is being followed and the children are safe. This does not work for every family. M. Buysse stated that this was a very competitive grant and only seven counties received the grant. It is a 2-year grant but were told if the results were good it could extend the existing grant for 3 years for the counties already receiving the funding. D. Welgraven asked how much this would cost without a grant. The grant is \$123,000/year for 2 years. They are keeping statistics and numbers for a variety of areas of research. B. Wilms stated that we could not always put a dollar value to some of these programs. Preventative measures for Out of Home Placement is a very good plan.

2. LAC Update (Local Advisory Council) – Elaine Herrick

The 6-County Local Advisory Council on Adult Mental Health gave a 2022 annual report. The LAC believes in promoting independence and safety of people with mental illness. The meetings have presenters who discuss mental health illness. In 2022 there were gaps identified within our communities. The gaps were transportation, housing, individuals having to wait for assessments for case management, individuals having misconceptions about services, staffing shortages, and long wait times to be placed in a behavioral health hospital.

I. Decision Items

1. SS Policy 26 Fees for 24-Hour Out-Of-Home Care – Cindy Nelson

C. Nelson talked about the changes with the policy. The fee review committee consists of Cindy Nelson, Tiffany Bailey, Gabryelle Wieme, JoAnne Brisk, and the social worker for the family.

Motion by R. Anderson second by L. Nath to approve the changes to SS Policy 26 for 24-Hour Out-of-Home Care. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Welgraven asked if there was anything further to bring to the Board. Hearing nothing, he adjourned the meeting at 9:51 a.m.

Approved Date 12-21-2022

Authorized 
Chairperson, Human Services Board


Recording Secretary, Human Services Board

Attest: 
Director