



**SOUTHWEST HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
HUMAN SERVICES BOARD**

**MINUTES**

Date: March 16, 2016  
Place: Lyon County Government Center  
Public Health Conference Rooms 1 & 2  
Marshall, Minnesota

Opened: 9:00 am  
Adjourned: 9:50 am

The monthly meeting of the Human Services Board for Southwest Health and Human Services was held on Wednesday March 16, 2016 in Public Health Conference Rooms 1 & 2 of the Lyon County Government Center at 607 West Main Street, Suite 200 in Marshall, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Magnus. The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Members present: Jeane Anderson  
Rick Anderson  
Ron Boyenga  
Carol Ann Flahaven  
Joan Jagt  
Gerald Magnus  
Bob Moline  
Les Nath  
Jim Salfer  
Charles Sanow  
Lois Schmidt  
Steve Schulze  
Sherri Thompson  
Mic VanDeVere  
Pam VanOverbeke  
Dan Wildermuth

Members absent: Priscilla Klabunde

Guest Present: Angela Larson  
Melissa Kidrowski  
Samira Sheikh  
Shelly Rykhus

Staff present: Ann Abraham  
Jennifer Beek  
Michelle Buysse  
Karri Harvey  
Stacy Jorgensen  
Krista Kopperud  
Kristin Malin  
Cindy Nelson  
Ann Orren  
Tiffany Bailey  
Carol Biren  
Karla Drown  
Ardis Henriksen  
Jason Kloss  
Stacey Longtin  
Marie Meyers  
Vanessa Netro-Moua (intern)  
Chris Sorensen

C. **Consent Agenda –**

Chairperson Magnus asked if there were any additions to the meeting agenda. There were none. He 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 February 17, 2016 meeting. Motion by Moline and second by Sanow: To approve the consent agenda has presented. The motion carried unanimously.

D. **Financial –**

Chairperson Magnus asked Karla Drown, Fiscal Supervisor, to come forward to present the financial report. Karla reviewed the Summary of Financial Accounts Report, pointing out that one of the \$245,000 bonds had been called. In working with E.J. Moberg, Fiscal Agent for the agency, Director Sorensen and Governing Board Chairperson Anderson, it was decided to purchase a six (6) month CD at a rate of .6%. They had been advised to wait until after the general election to make a final decision about investments. They were also told that they should expect our other bonds to be called. The insurance fund was at \$45,838 as of the beginning of the business day. The Health Services Fund is even for revenues and 1% below budget for expenses and the Human Services Fund is 6% below budget in revenues and 2% below budget expenses. Motion by Boyenga and second by Nath: To move the financial report forward to the Governing Board for approval. The motion carried unanimously.

E. **Caseload –**

Chairperson Magnus asked if there were any comments about the caseload. There were none.

F. **Decision Items –**

No items on the agenda.

G. **Discussion/Information –**

1. Director Sorensen commented on the increase in the number of placements and spending for Child Protection Services (CPS). He stated that there are many times precursor as to why children are put into out-of-home placement and those placements are not due to the job staff are doing. The agency has been spending the funding from the state as directed but we are now seeing an increase in activity. He pointed out that if a CPS worker doesn't have a controllable caseload things could get missed. Cindy Nelson, Social Services Division Director, shared some graphs giving a snapshot of CPS program activity for three (3) previous years and so far in 2016. These graphs show that there has been a pretty dramatic increase. The reasons children are removed from their homes is caused by a variety of different factors and CPS workers must work through every report they receive. Some of the CPS workers are carrying more than the caseload target. There is a need for improved training opportunities for CPS workers. Director Sorensen talked about how the state had expended the 20% of the funding that they held back, to be paid to agencies based on how the various performance management areas were met. Anderson asked if agency Directors had ever collaborated with the attorney organization in an effort to improve the service. Director Sorensen stated that as far as he was aware, they had not but it could be a consideration after what is learned during upcoming state meetings. It was asked if it would be advisable to invite Dr. Connie Gores, SMSU President, to meet with the Board to discuss additional and/or deeper training for CPS workers.

2. Director Sorensen stated that he represents the agency on the Southwest Regional Development Commission (SRDC) board. SRDC has been looking into how the lack of sufficient daycare providers has impacted the regional workforce. He stated that if the SRDC decided to take on this issue the agency will work with them. Director Sorensen said that he had asked agency staff to pull together data to share with the SRDC. One of the big issues is the need of placement spots for infants. Because the profit margin is very small it is difficult for daycare providers to continue to provide the services. There might be a need to consider different ways to help providers and parents subsidize the cost.

Chairperson Magnus asked if there was anything further to bring to the Board. Hearing nothing he adjourned the meeting at 9:50 am.

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Date

Authorized \_\_\_\_\_  
Chairperson, Human Services Board

\_\_\_\_\_  
Recording Secretary, Human Services Board

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director