

POLK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Agenda not necessarily presented in this order

8:00 a.m. Voucher Sub-Committee:

Mr. Casperson, Mr. Strobusch and Mr. Arcand

Refreshments:

Ms. Hartung

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

8:30 a.m., Lower Level Conference Room

Polk County Government Center

100 Polk County Plaza

Balsam Lake, WI 54810

Public Welcome to Attend

Department Mission Statement:

Our mission is to assist, empower, and build upon the strengths of the children, youth, and adults in Polk County to achieve positive outcomes.

1. Call to Order
2. Election of Board Chair and other Committee Officers
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Approval of June 28th, 2011 Meeting Minutes
5. Approval of Vouchers
6. Voucher Subcommittee
7. Public Participation and Planning Notice
8. Public Comment
9. Communications Work Group
10. Economic Support Consortium
11. Preliminary 2012 Budget Request
12. Quarterly Financials
13. Meth Grant
14. Position Updates
15. Monthly Statistics
16. Committee Observations
17. Next Meeting/Refreshments
18. Adjournment

Dr. David Markert, Vice- Chair
Dana Frey, County Administrator

This meeting is open to the public according to Wisconsin State Statute 19.83. Persons with disabilities wishing to attend and/or participate are asked to notify the County Clerk's office (715-485-9226) at least 24 hours in advance of the scheduled meeting time so all reasonable accommodations can be made. Requests are confidential.

***Polk County Human Services Department
Board Meeting Minutes
July, 26th, 2011***

Present: William Alleva John Gyllen
David Markert George Stroebel
Marvin Caspersen Tim Strohbusch
Russell Arcand Kris Hartung

Absent: Geri Christensen

Also: Dana Frey Kay Confer
Shelby Fader Pat Kirkwood
Jeff Fuge Rick Gates

Press: Gregg Westigard

Vice Chairperson Markert called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

Approval of Board Chair

Jeff Fuge reported to the board that state statutes stand silent in regards to whether the Board Chairperson would be required to be a member of the County Board. Jeff then stated that it falls upon home rule. His recommendation to the Board was that they not have a community member serve the role of the Human Services Board Chairperson. After discussion a motion to follow the recommendation of Mr. Fuge and move forward with the nomination of a County Board member to the position of Human Services Board Chair was made by Russ Arcand and seconded by Bill Alleva. All in favor. Motion carried.

A motion was then made by Bill Alleva to elect George Stroebel as the new Human Services Board Chairperson. The motion was seconded by Tim Strohbush. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda

Motion was made to approve the agenda with the addition of a report by Veteran's Services which would occur right after the public comment. There was no action needed by the board regarding the information being presented by Veteran's Services so the agenda could move forward. Motion was made by Kris Hartung , seconded by Dave Markert. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of June 28th, 2011 Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the June 28th, 2011 meeting minutes made by Dave Markert with the amendment of the minutes to reflect that Pat Kirkwood was present for the meeting, in addition to some small typing errors. The motion was seconded by Tim Strobusch. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Vouchers

Motion to approve the vouchers made by Tim Strobusch, seconded by Russ Arcand. All in favor. Motion carried.

Voucher Subcommittee

The Voucher Subcommittee for the next Human Services Board Meeting will be Chris Hartung and Dave Markert.

Mr. Frey reported that once the Organizational Committee is able to meet regarding Policy 10 there will no longer be a need for the Voucher Subcommittee to meet.

Public Participation and Planning Notice

The board was supplied with a copy of the notice that was sent out to the four area papers. Mr. Frey reported that the notice is a state requirement of the Human Services Department. Kris Hartung stated that she had seen the notice in the paper.

Public Comments

No public comments offered.

Veteran's Services Quarterly Update

Rick provided the Department Narrative along with his quarterly report to the group. Emphasized that much of the information mirrors his yearly report as well as previous quarter's reports. Rick stated that the group did not need to take action on anything today. Rick presented his preliminary budget stating that the new process required much more paperwork but that he was able to see the benefits of the process. In addition Rick reported that he was able to participate and view the Veteran's court model which is currently operating in La Crosse County. Rick stated that the goals of the model are to hold veterans accountable to the crimes that they have committed but also provides a more direct link to possible services that may benefit the veteran so they do not return to the court room. (E.g. AODA therapy, mentoring services etc.) Overall Rick was very impressed with the process and has shared the information he obtained with Judge Galewyrick. Most Veterans Courts have been developed with collaboration among surrounding counties. Rick stated that he has contacted the surrounding counties and at this point there does not seem to be interest in moving forward. Rick also stated that the Traveling Wall will be coming to the Veteran's Memorial Park in Spooner from July 28th through August 1, 2011.

Communications Work Groups

Dana reported to the group that this group is being developed as a result of the information that was obtained by staff during an employee survey. Overall staff felt that communication through out the agency needed to be improved. Dana reported that the committee appointments are about half way completed. When a committee chair has been chosen that person will come to a Human Services Board meeting to discuss what will be happening and ways to improve communication between the board and the agency.

Economic Support Consortium

Pat reported that the centralization of Economic Support continues to be on a tight time table at the state level. Continuing at this point to develop 10 regional consortiums, which will serve as a call center. There continues to be many unanswered questions in regards to the county's total allocation to the consortium but by September the Board will need to take action regarding which consortium Polk County has decided to join. At this point it appears that the Western region Consortium which would be located in Eau Claire would serve about 48,000 clients. The numbers regarding the cost are still uncertain with initial figures of a 20% overall loss in funds being discussed. Dana indicated that overall it looks like we will lose some positions. Both Pat and Dana hope to have more concrete information by the next board meeting. Further discussion next month.

Preliminary 2012 Budget Requests

Dana reported that there continues to be a lot of unknowns regarding the budget for the Human Services Department. With the potential changes in Economic Support as well as possible changes within MA funding no one knows for sure. Pat reported that we have seen a 10% reduction in 2012 funds in both Youth Aids and Block Grant funding. Overall Dana reported that at this time there are no salary increases in the budget and operating expenses have been frozen. Recognizing the savings in salaries from administration those positions will be included in the budget but will also continue to be addressed in regards to the restructure within the agency. The budget will be a primary agenda item for both August and September board meetings.

Quarterly Financials

Quarterly financials will continue to come from Administrative Services and in the future will be available with the packet of information that is mailed to board members. To date the department's spending is falling within its budget amount.

Meth Grant

Dana reported to the group that Kay and Pat had brought to his attention the fact that the Meth Grant application for the year 2011 had not been completed within the department. Due to this oversight by prior management the grant funds had been reallocated to other counties for the 2011 year. The total amount of the grant is \$60,000 dollars which has been used toward the salary of one of the AODA positions. The state has indicated that the county will be able to apply for the grant funds again in 2012.

Position Updates

Position updates were provided to board members in their packets. Dana reported that at this time there continues to be a shortage of candidates that meet the qualifications for the Director position. Overall comment of the board was to not just hire anyone but wait to find the right person.

Monthly Statistics

The monthly statistics report was distributed and briefly reviewed.

Committee Observations

Various members thanked George for his willingness to serve as the Board Chair and welcomed him to the committee. Again thanked Dana, Kay and members of the management team for the work that is being accomplished on a daily basis.

Next Meeting/Refreshments

The next meeting is scheduled for August 18th, 2011 at 8:30 a.m. Russ Arcand will provide refreshments for the August meeting. The September meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, September 15th, 2011 at 8:30am to accommodate the budget process.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:15 a.m. made by Tim Strobusch seconded by Dave Markert. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

William Alleva
Secretary