

POLK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING
AGENDA
Public Welcome to Attend

Tuesday November 27, 2012
8:30 a.m., Lower Level Conference Room
Polk County Government Center
100 Polk County Plaza
Balsam Lake, WI 54810

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/Note Attendance
2. Consideration of Agenda
3. Consideration of October 23, 2012 Meeting Minutes
4. Public Comment
5. Organizational items
 - a. Establish Date/Time/Refreshments of Next Meeting (see below)
 - b. Review Committee Calendar
 - Committee Calendar for October
 - Final action on budget revisions (as needed)
 - Policy revisions for County Board action, related resolutions or other items requiring committee action (as needed)
6. Reports
 - Human Services
 - i. Standard Monthly Reports
 - ii. General Updates
 - iii. Human Services Board Meeting Review/Planning for 2013
7. Human Services Board Member Observations
8. Adjourn

George Stroebel, Chair
Gene Phillips, Director

Tentative Meeting Dates

November 27, 2012
December 18, 2012

Refreshments

November Brian
December Marvin

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
Date: November 27, 2012***

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

Absent: Brian Masters

Also: Gene Phillips
Kay Confer
Pat Kirkwood
Felecia Kallevang

Press: None Present

Chairperson Stroebel called the meeting to order at 8:32a.m.

Consideration of Agenda

Motion to approve the November 27, 2012 agenda was made by Mr. Caspersen, seconded by Dr. Markert. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the October 23, 2012 Meeting Minutes made by Dr. Markert , seconded by Mrs. Hartung. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments

No public comments offered.

Organizational Items

Establish Date & Time of Next Meeting

The next HS Board Meeting will be held December 18, 2012 at 8:30 a.m.

Review Committee Calendar

Mr. Phillips stated that the budget was approved by County Board. There was one consideration and it was to do with the new computer system. The board approved to set aside an additional \$60,000 along with the original \$240,000. We are still unsure on what the price of the new system will be.

The board then discussed when we need to go over their responsibilities and duties. Everyone agreed that the board has done this recently, but not exactly sure when. Mr. Phillips will check to see when it needs to be reviewed again.

Reports

Human Services

Kay Confer spoke on behalf of the monthly statistics. She stated there is not a big change in numbers, but more in the quality. There is a big drug and alcohol problem in Polk County which makes cases very intense. Meth is back with a vengeance. Crisis services are up. All of this combined with financial situations makes it very complex. The K2 and bath salt drugs are also really big and we can not test for them. The CPS and JJ units are also working on the new evidence based practice. The MH clinic staff is working on trauma focused CBT. Mrs. Confer stated that staff is trying to reduce placement costs by trying to provide more pointed intervention.

Mr. Alleva asked how staffing was? Mrs. Confer stated we are down across the board in Human Services. We are recruiting for positions.

Dr. Markert said that Polk County is vulnerable to a bad drug situation due to being so accessible to the twin cities area. Mrs. Confer stated that according to the tribe that we have a Mexican mafia in the area. She also stated that Polk County has not been hit with heroin as much as St. Croix Co, but Polk is seeing some. Mrs. Confer said she is even seeing middle school age children using drugs. She stated that there are some suicide prevention classes being done and that they have gotten a good response from the 7th graders. Sexting is still a big issue amongst school age children. Mrs. Confer said that she does see a spike in crisis due to the holiday season. She then stated that there are good things happening in Polk County, this is just a select group that we work with.

Mr. Phillips then spoke about the Income Maintenance/Economic Support Consortium. Right now it is set through July 2013. He stated that all of the consortiums are struggling. When the state set this up, there was not a financial analysis done, they just cut the budget by 20% and the counties said they can do it. Polk County's statistics are down along with the rest of the state. Mrs. Kirkwood said she had a meeting with the

IM/ES staff and they are trying to come up with ideas to worker smarter because they are already working hard. The state sets standards without real knowledge and now we are trying to keep up with those standards. Mr. Phillips said that originally HP was going to take it over but it wasn't going well so it came back to the counties. The counties have a 90% standard right now, and our IM/ES department is running at 80%. The state will be raising that to 95% soon. The employees are the ones feeling the pressure. Mrs. Kirkwood said that the caseload in Polk County has increased from 6,000 to 7,000, and some other counties are actually decreasing. Polk County is also doing document processing in house since the state is not up to date on it, which is taking more time from our staff. Mr. Arcand asked if there is a penalty if we do not meet the state requirements. Mrs. Kirkwood stated not yet, but there could be in the future. Mr. Phillips said that some counties are putting county money to fill in the ES/IM gaps. Mrs. Kirkwood stated that Polk County has a high caseload compared to other counties. Mr. Phillips said that it would be nice if all the counties in the consortium shared the caseloads, but it isn't set up that way. Mr. Alleva asked if the new computer system would help this situation. Mrs. Kirkwood explained it will not help at all since all of the IM/ES work is done on state systems. She said they are working on teamwork and that it is a learning experience for everyone across the state. We were behind when the consortium started, and we are still playing catch up. The employees are actually doing great with all the changes. The state just says we need to do more.

Mr. Phillips stated that the Long Term Support Consortium model from Eau Claire-CHP told the state that they no longer want to be part of the consortium.

Mr. Phillips spoke about the MA Transportation that was turned over to a Georgia company, Logisticare. As of February 2013 they are not renewing their contract. The state says it is not coming back to the counties.

General Updates

Mr. Phillips talked about the open positions within Human Services. We are currently recruiting in house for a Fiscal Specialist. We are also recruiting outside for a CSP worker, hopefully at the master level to excel on revenue, and also a Children/Family Social Worker. We soon will be recruiting for an AODA counselor and also the BH Manager.

Human Services Board Review/Planning for 2013

Mr. Phillips asked the board what they thought about the board meeting agendas and if it needed any changes. The board agreed that they are happy with the agenda layout.

Mr. Stroebel said that Mr. Phillips had introduced the presentations and asked if the board likes them. Dr. Markert said it is nice to know what is going on internally at that level. Mr. Phillips said he had a presentation from each unit and some specialized programs from employees. An example was a CPS worker came in and walked through the internal process of screening in/out an access call. Mr. Phillips stated that we could bring

it to the next level and bring in an investigator to go over what happens next. Mr. Arcand said that as a citizen board member nice to know the department but as a county board member he wants to see the meeting stay more as business meetings. The presentations are helpful, but nothing that sticks in his memory. Mrs. Hartung stated that the goal for the board is to go over issues that affect budget and to set policy. Mr. Phillips said he is trying to keep the meeting at 1-2 hours in time. He stated that usually the presentations are limited to 10 minutes of presentation and 10 minutes of discussion. He tells the employees to have 2 important pieces for board members to walk with some knowledge insight for the unit/program. Mr. Alleva likes the presentation but already has a grasp on what is going on internally in the department. He agrees that policy and finance are the job of the board. Mr. Alleva would like to see presentation on anything unusual or different than normal practice. He said the board is willing to make recommendations, write letters to the county board, etc. Mr. Alleva said the board can't make the changes and that it is up to the management team. Mr. Stroebel agreed that it is the responsibility of the board to set policy. He thinks it would be dangerous for any county board supervisor to set policy without understanding what happens within the department on a day to day basis. HSD is extremely complex. Mr. Stroebel said he wants to understand enough to change or write new policy. Mr. Caspersen stated that he thinks the problem at the state level is that they are they are making decisions without knowing what actually goes on at this level. He doesn't want to make that same mistake, so thinks it is good to have some presentations to know what goes on, understanding issues, and how they are dealt with. Mrs. Hartung suggested having a manual for new board members or some type of orientation so that they know a general overview of the department. Mr. Phillips stated that anything unusual would always be presented to the board. Mr. Gyllen said that he would like to see a flow chart with the person highlighted when they present so they know where that person fits into the department. He would also like to see an overview on paper of the presentation.

Mr. Phillips stated that we do not have to do the consideration of the agenda and minutes, and that we don't have to vote on it.

Mrs. Hartung said she wants to be sure that the board is receiving quarterly budget report to be sure we are staying on track. Mr. Phillips stated that yes, he would supply that information. He is considering bringing a monthly report that he will refer to as a "director's report".

Mr. Phillips then asked about the committee calendar, and if the board would like that to continue. The board agreed to keep it. A tentative schedule of board meeting dates for 2013 was handed out. Mrs. Hartung stated that the HSD Board is actually meeting after County Board and if a resolution is needed, it doesn't happen until the next month. Mr. Strobusch stated that the HSD Board has attempted to change the timing of the meeting, and that there is always a conflict. Mr. Arcand stated that he feels the board should be discussing December today, not November. The Board agreed.

Mr. Phillips handed out a refreshment sign up sheet for 2013.

Human Services Board Member Observations

Mr. Arcand said that he feels that the meeting today didn't have any action, and he wants to push to have a business meeting. He stated the county board wants information. Mrs. Hartung said she agrees with Mr. Arcand and that if there isn't any action needed maybe the board wouldn't have to meet every month. She said the board should at least meet quarterly to look at financials.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 10:02am made by Mr. Strohbusch, seconded by Mrs. Hartung. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Alleva,
Secretary