

***Polk County Human Services Department
Board Meeting Minutes
April 19, 2007***

Present: Bryan Beseler
Robert Blake
Julie Hildebrand
Larry Jepsen

David Markert
Kenneth Olson
Keith Rediske

Absent: John Gyllen

Also: Phyl Brown
Kay Confer
Rick Gates
Sherry Gjønnes
Rich Kammerud

Pat Kirkwood
Malia Malone
Jan Place
Cal Schladweiler

Press: None

Chairman Keith Rediske called the meeting to order at 8:04 a.m.

Verification of Meeting Notice

As requested, Ms. Brown reported the meeting was noticed appropriately.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to approve the agenda made by Dr. Markert, seconded by Mr. Blake. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the March 15, 2007 Meeting Minutes made by Mr. Blake, seconded by Mr. Olson. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments

None.

Approval of Vouchers

Motion to approve the vouchers made by Ms. Hildebrand, seconded by Mr. Jepsen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Appointment of Voucher Subcommittee for May 17, 2007

The Voucher Subcommittee for May 17, 2007 will be Mr. Blake, Mr. Gyllen, and Dr. Markert.

Veterans Service Report

Mr. Gates distributed and reviewed the monthly Veterans Service Report and the 2006 Annual Report for the Veterans Service Office to be reviewed by the Human Services Board Members. Feedback is to be directed to Mr. Gates. The Annual Report will be presented at the May County Board of Supervisors Meeting.

Motion to accept the 2006 Annual Report for the Veterans Service Office and to forward the report on to the County Board of Supervisors made by Mr. Jepsen, seconded by Mr. Blake. All in favor. Motion carried.

Supervision of the Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Unit

Mr. Kammerud distributed and reviewed information outlining the requirements of supervision of the Mental Health and Chemical Dependency unit. Discussion ensued regarding the importance and priority level of restoring the funding for this position. Mr. Kammerud expressed his concern about future funding of the position.

At this point in the meeting, Dr. Markert raised his concern about the Hiring Process (agenda item number 14). Mr. Kammerud assured Dr. Markert that other staff participate in the interviewing process of prospective employees. It was suggested that if staff so choose, they may invite Human Services Board Members to sit in on interviews.

Mr. Kammerud was requested to provide the number of hours dedicated to supervision of the Mental Health and Chemical Dependency unit at the next Human Services Board Meeting.

Promoting the Human Services Department

In addition to the series of radio spots on WXCE, information on Child Protective Services has been provided to local press.

Fraud Pilot Project

Ms. Place is exploring the concept of providing fraud services to several surrounding counties. Ms. Place summarized her proposal for the pilot project. One position would have to be hired for the pilot project if the plan comes to fruition, at no cost to Polk County. Mr. Jepsen offered to discuss this with other counties, if supplied with further information.

Motion to support Ms. Place in pursuing the possibility of a multi-county effort and to develop a proposal to be reviewed by this Board made by Dr. Markert, seconded by Mr. Jepsen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Self Care Options for Providers

A brief discussion included examples of activities to help employees in this area. Ms. Hildebrand offered to facilitate educational sessions on relaxation techniques and meditation. These sessions would be open to all staff. Mr. Blake requested the Human Services Board be kept apprised of ways the Board Members can assist in this area.

Benefit Analysis of the Long Term Care Reform Options

As requested, Mr. Kammerud distributed and reviewed a benefit analysis. It was noted that the state does not have the start-up funds for the Long Term Care Reform options. The Long Term Care Reform will affect more departments than just Human Services, i.e., Aging and Public Health.

Family Care Resolution

A draft of a resolution was mailed to the Human Services Board Members. However, a final resolution was presented for signature.

Motion approving the resolution for signature and to forward the resolution to the County Board of Supervisors made by Dr. Markert, seconded by Mr. Beseler. All in favor. Motion unanimously carried.

Hiring Policy/Procedure

Discussed earlier in this meeting.

Position Updates

Mr. Kammerud provided a report on vacant positions and interns.

No action required.

Monthly Statistics

The Monthly Statistical Report was distributed and reviewed.

No action required.

Child Protective Services Statistics

Ms. Confer reviewed the Child Protective Services statistical information that had been mailed to the Human Services Board Members. Ms. Confer was requested to provide examples of cases, and the time spent, at upcoming Human Services Board Meetings.

Ms. Confer reported this is the last year of the grant funding for the Access position, and expressed her concern of losing this important position and the need for funding after 2007.

No action required.

Director's Report

No action required.

Board and Staff Comments

Comments were offered.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Human Services Board will be on May 17, 2007 at 8:00 a.m. in the Lower Level Conference Room of the Government Center.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:05 p.m. made by Mr. Jepsen, seconded by Mr. Beseler. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bryan Beseler
Secretary