

POLK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Public Welcome to Attend

Tuesday January 28, 2014

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 (Agenda not necessarily presented in this order)
3. Consideration of December 17, 2013 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 February
 - Policy revisions for County Board action, related resolutions or other items requiring committee action (as needed)
6. Report and Discussion Items
 - A. Community Care of Central Wisconsin, the organization that replaced Northern Bridges.
Enclosed for informational purposes are newsletters from CCCW, and the Memorandum of Understanding that they are proposing for the County.
 - B. Standard Monthly Reports
7. Action Item

Motion to Approve submission to the County Board a Resolution to enter into the Western Region Recovery and Wellness Consortium.
This approves a 66.0301 agreement with 8 other counties for the purpose of coordinating and sharing Mental Health services. Specific services to be shared will be defined under appropriate addenda, each addendum voluntarily entered by the Department.
8. Human Services Board Member Observations
9. Adjourn

George Stroebel, Chair
Gene Phillips, Director

Tentative Meeting Dates

Refreshments

February 25, 2014
March 25, 2014

February Dave
March Kris

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: January 28, 2014***

Present: George Stroebel
Tim Strohbusch
Marvin Caspersen
Kris Hartung
Brian Masters
David Markert
William Alleva
Russ Arcand

Absent: John Gyllen

Also: Gene Phillips
Kay Confer
Pat Kirkwood
Felecia Kallevang

Chairperson Markert called the meeting to order at 8:34 a.m.

Consideration of Agenda

Motion to approve the January 28, 2014 agenda was made by Mr. Caspersen, seconded by Mr. Masters. All in favor. Motion carried.

Chairperson Stroebel entered the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the December 17, 2013 meeting minutes was made by Mr. Masters, seconded by Mr. Strohbusch. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments

No comments offered.

Organizational Items

Establish Date & Time of Next Meeting

Mr. Stroebel asked if the board felt that they needed to meet in February. As of now, the meeting is scheduled for February 25th at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Masters and Mrs. Hartung are both unavailable. Mr. Stroebel announced that the February meeting is canceled. He will call a meeting if it is needed. The next scheduled meeting is March 25th, 2014 at 8:30 a.m.

Report and Discussion Items

Human Services- Newsletters and MOU from Community Care of Central Wisconsin

Mr. Phillips wanted to have a discussion on consortium movement. Community Care of Central Wisconsin (CCCW) has taken over for Northern Bridges. They provide Long Term Care Services in our area. The state started consortiums because they were supposed to be more economical, provide more services with less money being used, and also a movement to privatization. Eau Claire County opted out of the LTC consortium. The state was not happy with Northern Bridges so the services went up for bids, and the state awarded it to CCCW. Dr. Markert knows how HMO's work. He doesn't understand how the state thought these services would be better, or that they would be able to save money providing the same services. Dr. Markert stated that CCCW is a good organization and that the clients will continue to get good services. Mr. Stroehbusch asked how the employees from Northern Bridges in Polk County are affected by the change. Dr. Markert said that they were offered an opportunity with CCCW. Mr. Stroehbusch asked if they are a private contractor. Mr. Phillips responded CCCW is a public entity. Mr. Stroehbusch commented that it seems that we are seeing more privatization, especially for the Human Services Department. Mr. Phillips stated that when Long Term Care services were given to Northern Bridges it didn't save the county any money. The state aids were cut but they left behind some of the services. Examples of these are Adult Protection Services and also Emergency Detention Services. Mr. Phillips mentioned another consortium model is the Medical Assistance transportation program. It used to be processed at the county and it was run well. Logisticare took it over and that didn't even last for a year. Now Medical Transportation Management (MTM) has taken it over effective August 2013. This is just another example of HSD programs being given to private providers, and then the state having to give more funding than the county was given to them to make it work. One more example is the Economic Support Consortium which is called the Great Rivers Consortium. The state has set up a W-2 (Wisconsin Works) Consortium and also an Economic Support Consortium, but each consortium has a different group of counties involved. The services are separated, where the county used to handle both of these. With the Great Rivers Consortium, Eau Claire County holds the contract with the state and they sub-contract with the counties. Our employees at Polk County are considered Polk County employees, not Great Rivers Consortium employees.

Monthly Statistics- Mrs. Hartung asked about the AODA statistic as it had changed dramatically from the prior month. Ms. Kallevang explained that the employee who was

supplying that statistic realized that her count has been inaccurate and feels that the updated stat is a more efficient count. Mr. Phillips explained that the new system will help with this. He explained that we are taking our time and moving slowly with the implementation. The reasoning for this is that the contractor found out that Wisconsin is a tough state to interface with and report to. It is much more complex than expected. We will continue to move forward. Mr. Stroebel asked if the plan was still to implement in late spring or early summer. Mr. Phillips stated they are now looking at getting parts of the system up and running as soon as possible, and some things will be after that. Mr. Stroebel asked if it was just timing and not the barn burning down. Mr. Phillips stated yes.

Mr. Phillips then discussed the cold weather and the impacts on our clients and Energy Assistance program. There is a propane shortage and it has become a big issue. Burnett County has opened a shelter. Ms. Kirkwood stated that there are no space heaters for sale in Polk County, as they are all sold out. Mr. Phillips said that we now have a list of crisis calls to follow up on, when normally we schedule appointments to meet with people. These are tough times, as the cost is beyond peoples incomes.

Action Item

Motion to approve submission to the County Board a resolution to enter into the Western Region Recovery & Wellness Consortium. This approves a 66.0301 agreement with 8 other counties for the purpose of coordinating and sharing Mental Health Services. Specific services to be shared will be defined under appropriate addenda, each addendum voluntarily entered by the department.

Mr. Phillips brought this information to the board for evaluation. Mr. Phillips explained that there are 10 counties that could be part of this consortium. The state has a proposal to look at 30 elements of Mental Health services. Some examples of this are crisis services and outpatient counseling. The state will give funding to the counties who will become part of this consortium. This is the 66.0301 agreement that everyone should have a copy of. Mr. Phillips would be part of the governing board. Eau Claire and St. Croix County have opted out of the consortium and now are joining together to do their own services. The agreement does not establish what exactly the governing committee will do. Comprehensive Community Services(CCS) is a version of the CSP program. Right now we are collecting 60% of the expenses. With the new consortium we would be able to collect 120% of the expenses. The consortium is scheduled to start in July. Mr. Phillips stated he has added zero into the budget at this time, but the potential is there. The department has already entered into the CCS agreement. The counties have to sign the 66.0301 agreement to be part of the consortium. By signing this agreement there is no financial commitment to the consortium. Mr. Stroebusch asked what we are working towards on this. Mr. Phillips answered organization implement. Mr. Stroebel stated if he understands correctly the 66.0301 doesn't do anything yet. Mr. Phillips stated that is correct, and that an addendum will be written on the side. The 66.0301 is an overall agreement. An example of the consortium is that maybe the counties will share outpatient adolescent services. 2 counties might do one thing, and 3 counties might do

another. Mr. Stroebel asked if the addendums would come through the board. Mrs. Hartung stated that this agreement give Mr. Phillips the authority to sign future addendums. She also asked who drafted the agreement. Mr. Phillips answered Chippewa County and then it was sent through Jeff Fuge. Mr. Alleva asked how this will affect our Polk County staff. Mr. Phillips explained that first they will start with the CCS program. Our staff is already providing the services, but now we will get 120% of the funding for those services. Mr. Alleva was concerned that if we are already seeing as many clients as possible, would the department have to hire more staff for this. Mr. Phillips said this is like a 3rd party, sort of like Medical Assistance. We will collect more money for services that are already provided. If we are generating more money, there is a possibility to hire more staff, but for now we are just hoping to break even. If this works we will collect more than we are currently, and if it doesn't we will still continue to collect what we are already collecting. Mr. Arcand asked what if this is not approved by the County Board. There is room for a lot of questions and concerns. Mr. Phillips stated he was unsure. The other members of the consortium have not answered yes or no yet. The worst that can happen is if we don't agree to the consortium, they could possibly tell us we can't be part of the CCS program. Mr. Stroebusch explained he is not opposed to the consortium. He feels that the resolution was not a clear vision of what they are trying to do. It seems to be a "think tank" resolution. Mr. Stroebel said to please refer to lines 18 and 19 in the resolution. It shows that the state will award \$600,000 to the counties that agree for a "think tank". One lines 37 and 41, it states that if this is approved that it authorized Mr. Frey and Mr. Phillips to work with the consortium. Mr. Stroebusch stated that it doesn't seem like there is services offered. It is more figuring out how to provide services. Mr. Phillips explained that is exactly what it is. The consortium needs 3 counties to sign in to move forward. A single county can not provide CCS services. But with the consortium, they can get certified and provide those services. It is a good thing to do financially. Mr. Stohbusch asked what if down the road things change from what this resolution reads. Mr. Phillips said that addendums are needed to do anything else. Mrs. Hartung said so we are voting to join other counties to study options for Mental Health Services.

Motion to approve submission to the County Board a resolution to enter into the Western Region Recovery & Wellness Consortium was made by Mr. Alleva, seconded by Mrs. Hartung.

Mr. Masters asked is this approval for CCS services or all of Mental Health services. Mr. Phillips replied it is for everything. Mrs. Hartung commented that she was glad the state is having counties get together to discuss this instead of just telling the department what to do. Mr. Master stated that he thought Eau Claire and St. Croix County are dropping out, but Eau Claire County is still listed in the resolution. Ms. Kirkwood stated that Eau Claire County has dropped out. Mr. Arcand stated that line 7 needs to be fixed also. It is the consensus of the committee to make these changes.

Motion to approve the changes in the resolution was made by Dr. Markert, seconded by Ms. Hartung. All in favor. Motion carried.

Dr Markert stated he agrees to the study. Mr. Phillips explained that if this is approved there will be lots of contractual agreements that would go from Mr. Phillips to Mr. Frey, and not through the HSD Board. Mr. Arcand asked if we already have the \$600,000. Mr. Phillips answered no. Mr. Stroebel asked why St. Croix County and Eau Claire County are not doing it. Are we committing to something to go a direction that we don't know anything about? Mr. Strobusch stated that the Director and County Administrator are paid to make good decisions on behalf of our county. They will keep the board updated. Mr. Phillips said the counties will be studying it together and there is no commitment to future decisions. Mr. Casperson asked if this is a 3 year contract, and that it is effective January 1, 2014. Mr. Phillips answered yes. Mr. Stroebel asked the board to read lines 3 and 4. The state is giving \$600,000 to do a study? Mr. Phillips explained the state is very serious. They will spend this money to move in this direction. Mr. Alleva asked who gets the \$600,000. Mr. Arcand stated that it reads that Chippewa County will get it. Mr. Stroebel took it to a vote.

Motion carried with only Mr. Masters opposing.

Mr. Arcand said he only voted yes to bring it to County Board, but the presentation wasn't very clear. Mr. Phillips asked what part is not being understood. Mr. Arcand stated they would want to know how 1/2 million dollars is going to be spent. Also, that it is a big concern that St. Croix and Eau Claire County don't want to be part of it. Mr. Stroebel said the state believes that consortiums will save the taxpayers money eventually. No matter if we vote yes or no, the state will spend the money. Mr. Strobusch commented that he thinks Mr. Phillips should explain more clearly to the County Board what the resolution is about. Don't speak on potential or future. He also thought that St. Croix and Eau Claire counties should be contacted to see why they are not participating. Mrs. Hartung agreed to speak to the County Board about the resolution, not the future. Ms. Kirkwood stated that they hired a director, part time fiscal, and part time contract person. A large portion of the \$600,000 will be spent on their 3 year salaries.

Human Services Board Member Observations

Mr. Arcand commented that he thinks Mr. Phillips should keep the presentation simple to the County Board.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:56 a.m. was made by Mr. Masters, seconded by Mr. Strobusch. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Alleva,
Secretary