

POLK COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD MEETING AGENDA

Public Welcome to Attend

Thursday, November 7, 2013

1:00 p.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 October 8, 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 December
 - Policy revisions for County Board action, related resolutions or other items requiring committee action (as needed)*
6. Report and Discussion Items
 - A. Consideration of budget proposal for 2014 budget.
 - B. Standard Monthly Reports (may not be available due to early meeting)
7. Presentation—Income Maintenance/Affordable Care Act
8. Human Services Board Member Observations
9. Adjourn

George Stroebel, Chair

Gene Phillips, Director

Tentative Meeting Dates	December 17, 2013 (3 rd Tuesday)
Refreshments	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 7, 2013***

Present: Marvin Caspersen
Kris Hartung
Brian Masters
David Markert
William Alleva

Absent: John Gyllen
Russell Arcand
George Stroebel
Tim Strohubusch

Also: Gene Phillips
Pat Kirkwood
Felecia Kallevang
Nicole Imme

Chairperson Markert called the meeting to order at 1:04 p.m.

Consideration of Agenda

Motion to approve the November 7, 2013 agenda was made by Mr. Caspersen, seconded by Mr. Masters. All in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the October 8, 2013 meeting minutes was made by Mr. Masters, seconded by Mr. Caspersen. All in favor. Motion carried.

Public Comments

No comments offered.

Organizational Items

Establish Date & Time of Next Meeting

The next HSD Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 17th at 8:30 a.m. Mr. Caspersen will be bringing refreshments. Mr. Phillips asked the board what their thoughts on the schedule for the board meeting for next year. Mrs. Hartung stated that it was discussed to possibly move them prior to the County Board monthly meeting. It was decided that for now we will keep the meetings on the 4th Tuesday at 8:30 a.m. through March 2014. At that time, a new board may be appointed, so it will be discussed and decided then.

Review Committee Calendar

Mr. Caspersen stated he would like added to the monthly agenda what concerns that Mr. Phillips has for the department. Mr. Alleva asked when County Board changes next year, will HSD have the same board or will it also change for this board. Mr. Masters said that has not been established yet. There will still be citizen representation. Mr. Alleva read in the paper that the HSD board may combine with Public Health. Mrs. Hartung that HSD is mandated to have a defined board.

Report and Discussion Items

Human Services-Consideration of budget proposal for 2014 budget

Mr. Phillips gave a 6 page handout to the board members. All of the information was approved last month and it will be voted on at county board this month. Dr. Markert stated that this handout details the whole county. Mr. Alleva asked Mr. Phillips if there was anything that he thought might be a problem. Mr. Phillips answered no. Mr. Alleva asked the other board members if they saw any issues for any other committees. Mrs. Hartung said that the boards can not review everything in depth. It is just too much, so this is an overview. She stated that she can see we are up full time employees which should be for the Affordable Care Act(ACA), otherwise it seems to be constant, is that correct Mr. Phillips. Mr. Phillips responded that she was correct. Mr. Masters thought we were up more FTE since we added in CPS. Mrs. Kirkwood explained that we did add a CPS worker in 2013, so it would not show up as added for 2014. Mrs. Hartung asked about the professional services being up \$300,000. Mr. Phillips thought it was for operating costs. Mrs. Kirkwood agreed and explained it was the 1.5% wage increase, new position, retirement. Mrs. Hartung inquired on what professional services are. Mrs. Kirkwood answered it is contracted services. The board agreed that they proposed no changes to the 2014 budget.

Standard Monthly Reports

Monthly Statistics- Mr. Phillips stated that we did look into the CLTS statistic and that indeed it is current and correct. There were questions regarding that stat last month. Mrs. Hartung observed that the CPS stats were down in September and back up in October. Everyone agreed that with school in session we will see a rise in numbers. She

also asked if phone calls are up due to the ACA. Mr. Phillips responded that the department is not seeing as much as we expected. Mrs. Hartung said it is probably due to confusion. Mr. Casperson observed that the psychiatry and MH outpatient stats seem to be down a little this year compared to prior years. Mr. Phillips replied by explaining that the numbers can go down but the need for the clients that remain are greater. They need more intense services.

Presentation-Income Maintenance/Affordable Care Act

Mr. Phillips wanted to give the board an idea of how the ACA affects the Human Services Department. It seems to be so confusing and there are so many questions. Starting October 1st, we had to get involved. On November 18th we will be more involved. He introduced Nicole Imme, our fiscal intake worker who could also be a certified application counselor (CAC) for our department. The state of Wisconsin has 11 people they call navigators. We also have people called mobilizers who just point people in the right direction. A CAC has specific training to help people through the application process. Mrs. Imme has taken a 7-8 hour online course that will help with her current intake position. Any person that we have working on the AFA will be 100% funded plus a little extra through the consortium. There are a few different scenarios that we are dealing with regarding the AFA. We have people who will be un-enrolled from Badger care and we are not sure what will specifically happen to them. We have people who do not have insurance currently and are being seen in our MH clinic. We plan to give them information and have them schedule with IM to see what they qualify for. We have people who will qualify for the marketplace that we will help them through the process. We also have people who are currently enrolled in either Badger care or commercial insurance that will not see changes. Mr. Phillips stated that Public Health has one full time employee helping clients through the application process. Amery Regional Medical Center has 7 CACs. Mr. Masters stated that they are doing that because they want to get paid. Mr. Phillips said that he put out a memo to the department that effective January 1, 2014 we will no longer offer the Ability to Pay (ATP). He stated we may not be able to do that due to some exceptions. It is to our advantage to get our clients on an insurance plan in hopes we will collect more revenue. Mr. Phillips briefed the board on how our clients will qualify for Badgercare or have to shop in the marketplace. Anyone who is at 100% or under the federal poverty level (FPL) will stay on or qualify for badgercare. Anyone over the 100% will have to apply for insurance through the marketplace. After applying a decision will be made and clients will be notified. Some may qualify for badgercare even though we didn't think they would. Letters have been sent out to our clients, but we know they do not all read their mail. Public Health is doing paper application at this point, due to the online services not running efficiently. Mrs. Imme explained that she went out to the marketplace and did a test run using her own personal information. She was not able to get through the whole application as the system bogged down on her. All paper applications are being sent to London, Kentucky. If clients applied through the marketplace and it has been decided that they do qualify for badgercare, those clients will be referred back to the county consortium to start the process on November 18th. If a client falls within the 100%-200% FPL and they apply now through December 15th, they will not have to verify their income locally at the

county level. They will just send in their proof to the marketplace and it will be accepted. Mr. Masters asked how often that is reviewed. Mr. Phillips stated it is reviewed annually. Veteran's benefits, workman's compensation, and also child support will no longer be considered as income to the clients. There is a meeting December 3rd for the local farmers, as they may qualify now for badgercare. Mrs. Hartung said she thinks that January 1, 2014 will be crunch time since that is when people will realize they are no longer covered as they were prior. Mr. Phillips shared that there are some good things that are coming out of this. There is no longer pre-existing conditions or lifetime caps on insurance plans. Some issues that he sees are if our CSP clients need medications and don't have coverage, we would not want to deny them those. That would lead to a bigger cost for the county. The hospitals do not have to deny people if they don't want to see them, as they can always refer them to us at the county. The state has also mentioned that the counties may still have to offer the ATP to our clients who have high deductible plans. Mr. Phillips said he is optimistic to at least break even. A big concern is that with badgercare coverage going from 200% FPL to 100% FPL, there is the potential of transferring the cost from the state and now will have to be paid by the county. Mrs. Imme stated that there is also a new HMO for our county and we are not sure how many providers will accept that HMO. Mrs. Kirkwood said that the highest deductible for a family could be as much as \$12,900 annually. Dr. Markert thinks we will see a rise in numbers in our department. Mr. Phillips said that the private sector might expand. If our client who now will have coverage, they could decide to go elsewhere for their services. Mr. Master said we need a crystal ball to see how this will all play out. Mr. Phillips stated that our plan is to start walking people through the process and see what happens. Mr. Alleva asked how long it is taking for the paper applications to process. Mrs. Imme replied that she was at a meeting last week and that the average was taking 2 hours to complete. Mr. Phillips said we might have to make appointment for this, as that is what Public Health is doing. Mr. Caspersen asked how income is verified. Mr. Phillips explained it is verified by paystubs, bank statements, and taxes. Mr. Alleva asked how many clients Mrs. Imme have worked with. Mrs. Imme replied zero. She is just trying to figure out how it works. Mr. Phillips said that the department might hire a temp, which would be 100% funded also since Mrs. Imme already has a full time position, so with this added on her, she can not carry that load. Mr. Caspersen asked how we verify income if it is zero. Mrs. Kirkwood explained we have a process that we use in our department. We have them bring in a notarized letter from the person they are living with that says they are providing for the client. Mr. Alleva agreed and said that the school systems run into the same situation often. The board wished Mrs. Imme good luck on this process.

Human Services Board Member Observations

Mr. Caspersen stated that today's discussion was exactly what he was looking for on the agenda. He just wants to discuss what is currently going on with the department. Mrs. Hartung said that Thursday afternoons are not a good meeting time. Dr. Markert shared that the new Long Term Care organization is quite impressive. They seem to have quite a bit more experience than the Northern Bridges staff. Polk County will have one representative on the board.

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:20 p.m. was made by Mr. Caspersen, seconded by Mr. Masters. All in favor. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Bill Alleva,
Secretary