

**Menominee County
Department of Human Services Board
2612 10th Street
Menominee, MI 49858**

BOARD MEMBERS

**JEFF NASER, CHAIR
GARY EICHHORN
DAVID C. PRESTIN**

DIRECTOR

RUSSELL K. SEXTON

Date: February 24, 2015

The regular meeting of the Menominee County Department of Human Services Board was called to order by Jeff Naser, Board Chair, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time. The meeting was held at the Menominee County Department of Human Services Board Room.

Present: Jeff Naser, Board Chair; David Prestin, Board Member; Gary Eichhorn, Board Member; and Russell Sexton, Board Secretary.

Others Present: None.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

A motion to approve the agenda was made by Mr. Eichhorn and supported by Mr. Prestin. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF DECEMBER 30, 2014 MINUTES:

Minutes of the December 30, 2014 Board Meeting were reviewed and discussed. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Mr. Eichhorn and supported by Mr. Prestin. Motion passed without opposition.

FINANCIAL REPORT:

The financial reports for December 2014 and January 2015 were reviewed. There were \$197.44 in expenditures in December for the DHS Board meeting; leaving a balance of \$6,317.68. There were \$197.44 in expenditures in January for members who showed for the two board meetings in which a quorum could not be met, leaving a balance of \$6,120.24.

There were no expenditures from the Child Care Fund leaving a balance of \$3,500.00.

A motion to approve the financial report was made by Mr. Prestin and supported by Mr. Eichhorn. Motion passed without opposition.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Sexton provided an update on the current staffing situation in Menominee County: There are 2 full time management staff including 1 children's services supervisor and 1 assistance payments supervisor. There is also 1 tri-county director and 1 general program

supervisor. There is also 1 tri-county community resource coordinator. There are 3 administrative support staff consisting of 2 general office assistants and 1 departmental technician. There are 3 children's protective services specialists and 2 foster care and/or foster home licensing specialists. There are 6 assistance payments specialists, 1 Indian outreach worker and 1 adult services specialist.

Statewide Director's Meeting Information:

Mr. Sexton notified the board members of the Governor's Executive Order that combines the Department of Human Services with the Department of Community Health into the Department of Health and Human Services. This will become official on April 10, 2015.

Community Health Director Nick Lyon, now also the interim director of DHS, was named the director for the new department - which will be the largest in terms of overall budget. We do not yet know the complete extent of the reorganization. Mr. Lyon hopes to have the operational structure for the new DHHS department in place by October 1, the start of the 2015-16 fiscal year.

Beyond combining the two departments into one, the order will also create a new Michigan Children's Services Agency within the new department. The order will also convert the current Offices of Services to the Aging to the Aging and Adult Services Agency, which will coordinate all the services now provided the state's adults and elderly. The relatively new Autism Council will be moved to the new department, as will the State Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Board. Also, the licensing operations now within the Office of Children and Adult Services will be moved to the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

Mr. Sexton informed the Board of new budget cuts that were coming due to another identified shortfall in the State Budget. Those cuts identified for the Department of Human Services included:

- Elimination of executive laptops
- Reduced funding for the Child Welfare Training Institute
- Reduced Recoupment positions
- Elimination of Non-FIS positions
- Maxey JJ Center reductions
- Reductions to In-Home Care Grants to rural counties
- Elimination of JJ 20/20 project funding
- Reduction to emergency services local office allocations by 10%
- Reduction in funding for Michigan Rehabilitation Services
- Recognized one-time projected lapse in redetermination adoption assistance program.
- Elimination of funding for Asset Test automation.
- Reduction in funding for redetermined adoption subsidy program.
- Reduction in DHS Call Center funding
- Reduction in Peer Coach positions
- Reduction in PATH Coordinator positions.

- Reduction in employee training related travel reimbursements.
- Consolidation of Disability Determination services.
- Expand the CDI Unit.
- Offset general fund with TANF.

Mr. Sexton explained these cuts and how they would affect the local office. Mr. Sexton related that there would be minimal impact to the local office based upon these cuts.

Collaborative Issues: No new information was provided.

Business Plan Update: Mr. Sexton provided the board with an update on current performance data including:

- FY 2015 Operating Funds: Menominee County allocation is: \$40,140.00. Year-to-date expenditures are: \$8,780.79, which constitutes 21.9% of the allocation expended with 33% of the year elapsed.
- FY 2015 Travel Funds: Menominee County allocation is: \$32,991.00. Year-to-date expenditures are: \$5,859.87, which constitutes 18% of the allocation expended with 33% of the year elapsed.

Assistance Payments:

Assistance Payments Standard of Promptness: 95.55%. Business Services Center 1 average is 92.17% and State average is 89.34%.

Family Independence Program Work Participation Rate: 75%. Goal is 50%.

Miscellaneous:

Mr. Sexton reviewed with the board customer information as follows:

Total cases, recipients and payments for FIP, FAP, SDA, CDC and SER benefits:

- Family Independence Program: 25 cases; 55 recipients; \$7,688.00 in benefits.
- Food Assistance Program: 1,500 cases; 2,865 recipients; \$317,135.00 in benefits.
- State Disability Assistance: 12 cases; 12 recipients; \$2,538.00 in benefits.
- Child Development and Care: 24 cases; 36 recipients; \$6,540.00 in benefits.
- State Emergency Relief: 15 cases; \$10,559.00 in benefits.
- Unduplicated total: 1,519 cases; 2,895 recipients; \$344,459.00 in benefits.

Total Eligible Medicaid Cases and Recipients:

- Family Medicaid: 584 cases; 1,219 recipients
- Other Children < Age 21: 96 cases; 104 recipients
- Pregnant Women & Children Under 19: 681 cases; 1,210 recipients
- Non-SSI Aged, Blind & Disabled: 695 cases; 731 recipients
- SSI Aged, Blind & Disabled: 534 cases; 534 recipients
- Medicaid Eligible Total: 2,371 cases; 3,788 recipients

Total Healthy Michigan Enrollments: 1039

Mr. Sexton stated that anyone could find DHS policy for all programs, as well as anything else one would want to know about DHS at the www.michigan.gov/dhs site.

Child Welfare Data:

CPS Commencement of Investigation: 71%, which is 15% below the BSC1 average and at the statewide average.

CPS Investigation face-to-face total: 96%, which is 10% above the BSC1 average and 28% above the statewide average.

Foster Care Initial Medical: 0% (one case), which is 66% below the BSC1 average and 48% below the statewide average.

Foster Care Initial Dental: 0% (two cases), which is 27% below the BSC1 average and 31% below the statewide average.

Foster Care Worker/Child Visits: 86%, which is 26% above the BSC1 average and 33% above the statewide average.

Board Member Input/Suggestions: None

UNIT REPORT: Andrew Laurin, Children's Protective Services and Children's Foster Care Supervisor. Mr. Laurin provided a comprehensive report to the board regarding the Children's Protective Services unit in Menominee County.

Mr. Laurin stated that Menominee County remains fully staffed at 5. 3 staff are Children's Protective Services, 2 of which are strictly investigators, 1 of which handles investigations and ongoing CPS cases. 2 staff are Foster Care Workers, 1 of which also manages Juvenile Justice, the other also manages licensing, adoption, Purchase Of Service monitoring. MISACWIS, the new operating system for child welfare is 9 months along. The system is cumbersome and difficult. Training was rolled out too early but we continue to make progress especially with the help of our Local Office Expert. User errors are identified as the biggest problem, something we continue to work on but there are also system errors. This causes issues with payments, something we have dealt with in Menominee County, specifically with Hannahville Tribal Foster Homes that transferred over from our former operating system.

January Stats

Commencement – 86%

FF timeliness – 96%

ISP timeliness – 95%

These stats were pulled from the new system prior to this presentation. They may not match the management report as stats tend to increase as reports are reviewed and missing information or errors in data input are identified.

Over the last 3 months, Menominee County has seen an increase in cases substantiated for Child Abuse and/or Neglect based on mental health and substance abuse. Menominee

County is limited in these services. Northpointe Behavioral Health Systems provides services to a limited number of our clients as many do not meet criteria for their services. We have no counselors in this county who are contracted with the State. Substance abuse services are lacking.

Mr. Laurin also provided explanations regarding changes made to Central Registry (CR). Currently CR is a lifetime registry for those who have been found to be responsible for abuse and/or neglect where the risk assessment scores as high or intensive. Beginning in March, the CR listing will remain for a lifetime for those found to be responsible for abuse and/or neglect where an egregious act occurred; i.e.; sexual abuse, severe physical injury, abandonment, prior termination of parental rights, etc. All others identified on the registry can be expunged after 10 years. Menominee County is currently reviewing 470+ records to determine appropriateness for expungement.

Board members asked questions regarding Foster Home licensing, specifically in regard to how recruitment is accomplished. Menominee County continues to struggle in this area. Mr. Sexton explained that when we can get Delta and Dickinson counties at full staffing levels he intends to provide assistance from licensing staff there to assist Menominee County in recruiting and licensing of homes. Menominee County does not have a worker dedicated to just licensing and the priority is often shifted away from licensing duties to the more urgent foster care case management duties. Menominee County will continue efforts to recruit homes in order to better serve children by keeping them in their communities, school district, and among their peers and extended families.

BOARD BUSINESS:

1. Approval of Vouchers:

Vouchers for December 2014 and January 2015 were reviewed and a motion to approve all vouchers was made by Mr. Eichhorn and supported by Mr. Prestin. Motion passed without opposition.

2. Board Reorganization:

A new Board Member, Mr. David C. Prestin, was appointed by the State to finish the term of the former state appointee. Mr. Prestin was introduced to the other board members and them to him.

As a result of the board member change, board reorganization was conducted.

A motion was made by Mr. Eichhorn to nominate Mr. Naser as the Board Chair and to close the nominations. Motion was supported by Mr. Prestin. Motion passed without opposition and Mr. Naser continues as the Board Chair.

NEW BUSINESS: One new contract was presented to the Board for their review:

COUN15-Variou (counties throughout the state). This is a statewide contract for counseling services that licensed counselors could use to contract with the state to provide counseling in specific geographical areas of the state. There is no dollar amount

connected to this contract as it simply allows DHS offices to utilize a counselor who has a contract with the state and the amount of money going toward this is dependent upon what funds an individual county DHS office has available, as well as on what referrals are made throughout the year. The rates for counseling are: \$63 per unit (50 minutes of counseling time) for clinical counseling; \$73 per unit for outreach counseling; and \$120 per unit for group counseling. The agreement is for April 1, 2015 through March 31, 2018, with 2 one year options to extend to March 31, 2020.

A motion to approve the review of the contract was made by Mr. Eichhorn and supported by Mr. Prestin. Motion passed without opposition.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

NEXT MEETING: March 31, 2015 at 9:00 a.m. in the Menominee County DHS Board Room.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn made by Mr. Eichhorn and supported by Mr. Prestin. Meeting adjourned at 10:13 a.m.



Russell K. Sexton
Board Secretary



Jeff Naser
Board Chairperson

Pc: DHS Board Members
Menominee County BOC