

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

BOARD MEMBERS

**MARY BRADLEY
MICHAEL KAUFMAN
PEGGY BASTIEN**

ACTING DIRECTOR

RICHARD F. MIKETINAC

Date: October 30, 2007

The regular meeting of the Menominee County Department of Human Services Board was called to order by Michael Kaufman, Board Chair, at the Menominee County DHS, at 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, October 30, 2007.

Present: Michael Kaufman, Menominee County DHS Board Chair, Peggy Bastien, DHS Board Member; Mary Bradley, DHS Board Member, Bernie Lange, Menominee County Board of Commissioners, and Richard Miketinac, Acting DHS Director/Board Secretary.

Approval of Agenda – Bastien/Bradley

Approval of September 25, 2007 Minutes – Bradley/Bastien

Financial Report

As of the end of September, 2007, the Board Fund balance was \$50.13 and the Child Care Fund Sub-Account balance was \$3,500.00. Although no expenditures were made during FY 2007 from the Child Care Fund the same amount was requested for FY 2008 so that the fund is available in the event of a need for emergency voluntary foster care. September vouchers were reviewed and approved by the board members.

Approval of the Financial Report: Bastien/Bradley

Director's Report – Richard Miketinac

Staffing Information

Menominee DHS currently continues to have two vacant positions. The Foster Care/Juvenile Justice position remains vacant in the services unit and the Assistance Payment Worker position remains vacant as the result of Jennifer Savage having been hired to fill the Foster Care position that had been vacant in the services unit. Both vacancies have been listed on the DHS website but no one eligible to transfer to Menominee County has indicated an interest in transferring to Menominee County from other any other counties. Once a new DHS budget is in place it is expected that the current hiring restrictions in place will be loosened and hiring can take place in those counties that have vacancies.

Exception requests to fill both of these vacancies were filed but it is not expected that we will receive approval to fill either position until after a new budget is in place.

MCSSA Information

Due to the lack of funds available to support board attendance none of the board members were able to travel to Marquette for the October MCSSA meeting. Mr. Miketinac reported that there was discussion at the MCSSA meeting about the proposed reorganization of DHS which would include combining Regions 1 & 2 into a new Northern Area with Tom Schwarz as the new Northern Area Manager. This reorganization would result in the loss of the Region 1 Manager position. There is some concern that this will result in a loss of advocacy on U.P. issues within the Department. District 1 MCSSA members recommended that Mr. Schwarz be invited to participate in all District 1 MCSSA meetings so that U.P. concerns could be directly conveyed to him. DHS Director, Ishmael Ahmed will also be invited to attend a District 1 meeting.

Regional Directors and Statewide Directors Meetings

The Board was updated with information from the most recent Region 1 Directors' conference call. Information included updates on the facilities plans for Menominee County. At this time the plan calls for Menominee DHS to downsize within their own building with the possibility of the Secretary of State staff moving into space that DHS vacates. The Board was advised that there is still a possibility that the issue of Menominee staff being relocated to the Delta County office could be revisited in the future. The board was also updated regarding the current State budget information, the fallout from the temporary shutdown of October 1st, and the DHS reorganization plan. The board was advised that in addition to the loss of the Region 1 Manager's position, the Region 1 Administrative Assistant Position would be eliminated as would the Region 1 Adoption Supervisor's position after the current supervisor retires which is expected to occur in the next 3-4 months. It was also reported that there is a proposal to move the remaining Region 1 Office staff into the Delta County DHS building. The reorganization will likely occur once a new State budget is in place and the new staffing package is released to the field. The board was also advised that once the 2008 budget and staffing package are in place that Russ Sexton would resume his duties as director for Menominee County DHS and that this could occur as soon as the next two to three months.

Collaborative Issues/Information –

The Board was advised that Mr. Miketinac was unable to attend the October collaborative board meeting. Mrs. Bradley reported that she was able to attend that meeting and further reported that the Menominee Medical Care Access Coalition lost one of their employees and also that the Coalition will be moving their operation into the Superior State Building.

Business Plan Update

The Board was advised that the final 2007 business plan report is due by November 30th and that Mr. Sexton would be completing the business plan report for Menominee County. The Board was further advised that this report might be available for review at the November board meeting.

Mr. Miketinac updated the Board regarding DHS Director Ahmed's priorities for the new fiscal year which include FAP accuracy, Child Welfare improvements, obtaining a 50% work participation rate for FIP clients, and reducing the number of client complaints resulting from negative interactions with staff.

Miscellaneous Issues

Mr. Miketinac advised that the State and the labor unions have a tentative agreement for a new 3 year contract that would call for no pay increase in October, 2008 and increased co-pays on insurance premiums and health care expenses. The tentative agreement would grant a 1% pay increase on October 1, 2009 and a 3% increase on October 1, 2010.

Mr. Miketinac extended a thank you to Mrs. Bradley for her efforts in providing the staff recognition/appreciation breakfast earlier this date and also thanked all of the Board members for their ongoing support of the Menominee County DHS staff.

Board Member Input/Suggestions

None.

Approval of the Director’s Report – Bradley/Bastien

Board Business

Approval of vouchers – Bradley/Bastien.

New Business

The Board approved an amendment reducing the amount of the Family Preservation Services contract.

Public Comment

None

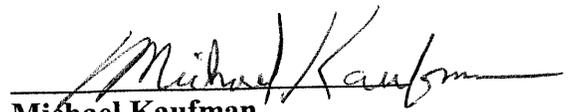
Next Meeting –

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 27, 2007, at 9:00 a.m. Central Time, in the Menominee County DHS conference room. The Board also discussed rescheduling of the December Board meeting due to the fact that the fourth Tuesday of December is Christmas Day. A motion was made by Mrs. Bastien to reschedule the December meeting to Tuesday, December 18th. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bradley. With all in favor the motion passed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 a.m. – Bradley/Bastien.


Richard F. Miketinac
Acting Board Secretary


Michael Kaufman
Chairperson

Pc: DHS Board Members
DHS Zone Office
Menominee County BOC