

**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: November 27, 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, November 27, 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 October 30, 2007 Minutes – Bradley/Bastien

Financial Report

As of the end of October, 2007, the Board Fund balance was \$7,800 and the Child Care Fund Sub-Account balance was \$3,500.00. October Board vouchers were reviewed and approved by the board members.

Approval of the Financial Report: Bastien/Bradley

Director's Report – Richard Miketinac

Staffing Information

Mr. Miketinac reported that Menominee DHS continues to have two vacant positions. The Foster Care/Juvenile Justice position remains vacant in the services unit and there continues to be a vacancy in the Assistance Payments Unit for an Eligibility Specialist. Once the FY 2008 staffing package is received it is expected that the current hiring restrictions in place will be loosened and hiring can take place in those counties that have vacancies. At this time it appears that the Eligibility Specialist position will likely be filled after Delta County fills their vacant positions. Once Delta County hires an Eligibility Specialist it is likely that one of the previously displaced Menominee workers would be returned to Menominee County. That person is Christina St. Laurent. The services vacancy may also end up being filled by a transfer from Delta County. There is a possibility that the Regional Office may lose one adoption worker position. If that occurs the least senior adoption worker from the Regional Office would move to the Delta office and the least senior worker in the Delta office would likely be reassigned to the Menominee office. In the event no adoption positions are affected in the 2008 staffing allocation the Menominee services vacancy would be filled through the normal hiring process.

MCSSA Information

There was no new information to report.

Regional Directors and Statewide Directors Meetings

Mr. Miketinac updated the Board members with information from the most recent Region 1 Directors' conference call. The following items were reported:

- The proposed plan to combine Regions 1 & 2 is now being revisited and it is possible that Region 1 may remain as a stand alone Region. If that occurs the position of Regional Manager would have to be filled via the hiring process. In this event Mr. Miketinac's assignment as the Interim Director in Menominee County would likely be extended for an additional 1-2 months.
- The Department of Management and Budget is negotiating with landlords of DHS rented buildings to reduce rent costs by downsizing within existing buildings. No further word has been received regarding the status of the proposed internal downsizing in the Menominee DHS building.
- Part of State Director Ishmael Ahmed's plan to improve customer service to clients may include the use of "mystery shoppers" appearing at DHS offices. These individuals might go through the application process and then would assess how they were treated by staff.

No statewide directors' meetings have taken place in 2007.

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 reported that Rick Sanville of the local Michigan Works Agency provided a presentation on all of the services available to job seekers through the MWA office in Menominee County.

Business Plan Update

The Board was advised that the final 2007 business plan report is complete and available. The Board members were provided with a verbal summary of results in MA and FAP accuracy and were also provided with a written summary of the results from the various child welfare objectives. Mr. Miketinac advised the Board that given the staffing situation over the past year that the Menominee County staff have performed remarkably well.

Miscellaneous Issues

The Board was provided with updates on the JET and Bridges initiatives. Board members were advised that implementation of the Bridges project has now officially been delayed. The delay will likely push the rollout of the Bridges system in the U.P. to November, 2008.

Board Member Input/Suggestions

None.

Approval of the Director's Report – Bradley/Bastien

Board Business

Approval of vouchers – Bradley/Bastien.

New Business

None

Public Comment

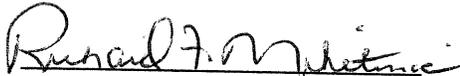
None

Next Meeting –

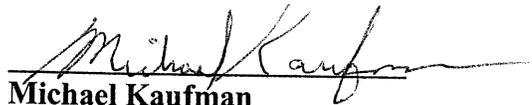
The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 18, 2007, at 8:00 a.m. Central Time, in the Menominee County DHS conference room. Mr. Kaufman requested that the start time of the December meeting be moved up to 8:00 a.m. due to a scheduling conflict. A motion was made by Mrs. Bradley to change the start time of the December meeting to 8:00 a.m. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Bastien. With all in favor the motion passed.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 a.m. – Bradley/Bastien.



Richard F. Miketinac
Acting Board Secretary



Michael Kaufman
Chairperson

Pc: DHS Board Members
DHS Zone Office
Menominee County BOC