

## MORTON COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICE BOARD MINUTES

**DATE:** April 24, 2018

**TIME:** 10:09 a.m.

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Del Wetsch, Ron Leingang, Ernie Fitterer and Andy Zachmeier

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:** Rose Mary Lawson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, Brittany Slack, Office Assistant III

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Del Wetsch. A motion was made by Board member, Andy Zachmeier, to approve the April 24th, 2018 Agenda and the March 27th, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes. Board member, Ron Leingang, seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Board Member, Ernie Fitterer, made a motion to pay the April 2018 bills. Board member, Andy Zachmeier, seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

### BUDGET REVIEW

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, distributed the Expenditure Guideline for March 2018 to the Board Members. Discussion followed. Total March 2018 Social Service Expenditures were \$338,983.97.

### ADULT SERVICES REPORT

Bonita Moch, Supervisor of HCBS and Child Care Provider Licensure, distributed Current Case Count for Adult Services, Foster Homes, CSHS, and Child Care Providers for March 2018.

### INCOME MAINTENANCE UNIT REPORT

Brenda Peterson, Eligibility Supervisor, distributed the Summary of SNAP statistics for March 2018; Summary of Economic Assistance Program Activity report from March 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018 and Unduplicated Economic Assistance Caseload Report from April 1, 2017 through April 1, 2018. Also discussed was the recent resignation of 2 Eligibility Workers. Brenda Peterson, Eligibility Supervisor, has recently filled 2 vacant Eligibility Worker I positions and is currently working to fill an additional 2.

### FOSTER CARE/IN-HOME REPORT

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, distributed the Foster Care/In-Home Caseload Total Report from October 2017 through March 2018. Social Worker Case Management and Parent Aide Case Totals from October 2017 through March 2018 were also distributed.

### CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES REPORT

Jenny Wetsch, CPS Supervisor, distributed the Monthly Child Protection Assessments from January 2016 through March 2018 and Morton County Child Protection Reports from March 1, 2018 through March 31, 2018.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Emergency Temp Positions for Foster Care Licensing and Child Protection Services**

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, distributed a written request approved by Dawn Rhone, Morton County Auditor, for the approval of 2 half-time emergency temp employees within MCSS. Discussion followed.

Board Member, Andy Zachmeier, moved to approve the Emergency Temp Positions for Foster Care Licensing and Child Protection Services beginning May 1, 2018 through December 31, 2018. The 2 half-time emergency temp positions are not to exceed \$36,000.00 for the 2018 year. Board Member, Ron Leingang, seconded the motioned. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, was requested to provide this board with monthly updates regarding expenditures utilized to fund both emergency temp positions.

### **Emergency Temp Position for Income Maintenance Unit**

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, discussed the need for hiring an Emergency Temp Position for the Income Maintenance Unit. Discussion followed.

Board Member, Andy Zachmeier, moved to approve the Emergency Temp Position for the Income Maintenance Unit beginning May 1, 2018. This is to be reviewed monthly at the MCSS Board Meetings until no longer needed. Board Member, Ernie Fitterer, seconded the motioned. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

### **Calendar Year 2019 Projected Budget**

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, explained MCSS will see an increase of approximately \$98,000.00 for the 2019 MCSS budget allocation through Senate Bill 2206. Discussion followed.

### **Expert Witness Fees for Court Proceedings**

Gabrielle Goter, Morton County Assistant State's Attorney, presented Expert Witness' and the financial demands that can stem from their courtroom testimony. Discussion followed.

Total number of MCSS cases all programs combined for March 2018 is as follows: Current cases = 3729, opened cases = 256 and closed cases = 190.

Board member, Andy Zachmeier, motioned to adjourn the meeting. Board member, Ron Leingang, seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, May 22, 2018 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 a.m.

Documents provided to the Morton County Social Services Board on this date will be made available to the public upon request.

Del Wetsch  
Chairperson

Brittany Slack  
Recorder