

## **MORTON COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICE BOARD MINUTES**

**DATE:** December 17, 2019

**TIME:** 10:09 am

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:** Jackie Buckley, Edgar Oliveira, Del Wetsch, Ron Leingang and Rose Mary Lawson

**BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT:**

**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, Edgar Oliveira, to approve the December 17, 2019 agenda. Board Member, Ron Leingang, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Board Member, Rose Mary Lawson, moved to approve the November 26, 2019 board Meeting Minutes. Board Member, Jackie Buckley, seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Board Member, Jackie Buckley, moved to approve payment of all December 2019 bills. Board Member, Edgar Oliveira, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

### **BUDGET REVIEW**

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, distributed the Expenditure Guideline for November 2019 to the Board Members. Discussion followed. Total November 2019 Social Service Expenditures were \$243,157.35.

### **ADULT SERVICES REPORT**

Bonita Moch, Supervisor of HCBS and Child Care Provider Licensure, distributed Current Case Count for Adult Services, Adult Foster Homes, CSHS, and Child Care Providers for November 2019. Bonita Moch, Supervisor of HCBS and Child Care Provider Licensure, also shared that the HCBS unit met on December 13, 2019 to learn more about the upcoming changes regarding their transition to state employment. Discussion followed.

### **INCOME MAINTENANCE UNIT REPORT**

Brenda Peterson, Eligibility Supervisor, distributed the Summary of Economic Assistance Program Activity report from November 1, 2019 through November 30, 2019; Unduplicated Economic Assistance Caseload Report from December 1, 2018 through December 1, 2019; History of Morton County LIHEAP Benefits from 2014 through November 26, 2019; History of Morton County SNAP Issuances from January 2013 through November 2019 and Summary of SNAP statistics for November 2019; Brenda Peterson, Eligibility Supervisor, is still currently working on the rehiring process to fill two EW I vacancies.

### **FOSTER CARE/IN-HOME REPORT**

Natalie Anderson, Foster Care Supervisor, distributed the Foster Care/In-Home Caseload Total Report from January 2018 through November 2019. Social Worker Case Management and Parent Aide Case Totals from May 2019 through November 2019 and the Foster Home Report in which includes total number of licensed homes, homes in process of licensure and inquiries. Natalie Anderson, Foster Care Supervisor, has hired to fill the vacant Foster Care Case Manager position. The new employee will begin her employment with MCSS beginning December 30, 2019. Natalie Anderson, Foster Care Supervisor, Foster Care unit is currently still down three workers from November.

## **CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES REPORT**

Jenny Wetsch, CPS Supervisor, distributed the Monthly Child Protection Assessments from January 2017 through November 2019 and Morton County Child Protection Reports from November 1, 2019 through November 30, 2019.

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

### **Zone Agreement and Review**

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, shared that the Zone Agreement and Letter of Support is currently being reviewed by the department. The plan for the Zone is due June of 2020.

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, distributed the Social Service Redesign weekly newsletter 12/12/2019. Discussion followed.

### **Emergency Temp. Position Updates**

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, provided the board with a monthly update regarding expenditures utilized to fund the emergency temp positions. The Emergency Temp Positions are set to end December 31, 2019.

### **Emergency Temp. Position Request**

Board Member, Jackie Buckley, moved to request an Emergency Temp Position for the Eligibility Unit into the year 2020 and to be forward to the Zone Board for review. Board Member, Edgar Oliveira, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

### **Additional Office Space**

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, provided an update regarding the current construction process. The projected total for the additional office space estimate is \$9,990.00. Prior approval was given for Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, to utilize up to \$20,000.00 for the completion of two additional offices.

### **2020 Zone Budget Approval**

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, distributed a draft version of the 2020 Budget. Discussion followed.

Total number of MCSS cases all programs combined for November 2019 is as follows: Current cases = 3325, opened cases = 274 and closed cases = 215.

Board Member, Ron Leingang, motioned to adjourn the meeting. Board Member, Rose Mary Lawson, seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

This is the last Morton County Social Service Board Meeting. The Three Rivers Human Service Zone Board Meeting will be scheduled in January 2020.

Meeting adjourned at 11:58 am.

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  
Office Assistant III