

MORTON COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICE BOARD MINUTES

DATE: September 24, 2019

TIME: 10:09 am

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Jackie Buckley, Ron Leingang, Edgar Oliveira, Del Wetsch 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, Rose Mary Lawson, to approve the September 24, 2019 agenda. Board Member, Ron Leingang, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

Board Member, Edgar Oliveira, moved to approve the August 27, 2019 board Meeting Minutes. Board Member, Jackie Buckley, seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion Carried.

Board Member, Ron Leingang, moved to approve payment of all September 2019 bills. Board Member, Edgar Oliveira, seconded the motion. All voted in favor.

BUDGET REVIEW

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, distributed the Expenditure Guideline for August 2019 to the Board Members. Discussion followed. Total August 2019 Social Service Expenditures were \$346,445.76.

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 August 2019. Bonita Moch, Supervisor of HCBS and Child Care Provider Licensure, provided the board with updates regarding Senate Bill 2124 within the HCBS unit. Also discussed was the collaboration between the Morton County and Dakota Central Offices. Morton County is currently processing Dakota Centrals Children's Special Health and Foster Care Licensing while Dakota Central will be assisting Morton County with Child Care Licensing and possibly other duties as needed.

INCOME MAINTENANCE UNIT REPORT

Brenda Peterson, Eligibility Supervisor, distributed the Summary of Economic Assistance Program Activity report from August 1, 2019 through August 31, 2019; Summary of SNAP statistics for July 2019 and August 2019; Unduplicated Economic Assistance Caseload Report from September 1, 2018 through September 1, 2019; History of Morton County LIHEAP Benefits from 2013 through August 20, 2019; and History of Morton County SNAP Issuances from January 2013 through August 2019. Effective September 10, 2019 Lynelle Bird was hired to fill the vacant Eligibility Worker position. Brenda Peterson, Eligibility Supervisor, is still looking to hire for an Emergency Temp Eligibility Worker. It has been agreed upon that Sioux County will take Morton Counties TANF cases and Morton County will take Sioux Counties LIHEAP and Child Care Assistance cases.

FOSTER CARE/IN-HOME REPORT

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, distributed the Foster Care/In-Home Caseload Total Report from January 2018 through August 2019. Social Worker Case Management and Parent Aide Case Totals from January 2019 through August 2019 and the Foster Home Report in which includes total number of licensed homes, homes in process of licensure and inquiries.

CHILD PROTECTION SERVICES REPORT

Jenny Wetsch, CPS Supervisor, distributed the Monthly Child Protection Assessments from January 2017 through August 2019 and Morton County Child Protection Reports from August 1, 2019 through August 31, 2019. Also discussed, was the resignation of a CPS Social Worker. Jenny Wetsch, CPS Supervisor, is currently working on the rehiring process to fill the upcoming vacancy for a Social Worker III.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Zone Agreement and Review of Steering Committee Activities

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, shared that the Steering Committee has agreed to change the name of the zone from Tri-County Human Service Zone to Three Rivers Human Service Zone. Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, also shared the most recent changes made within the Zone Agreement in which is still in draft form.

The next Steering Committee Meeting will be on October 21, 2019.

Emergency Temp. Position Updates

Dennis Meier, MCSS Director, will continue to provide the board with monthly updates regarding expenditures utilized to fund the emergency temp positions.

Total number of MCSS cases all programs combined for August 2019 is as follows: Current cases = 2884, opened cases = 193 and closed cases = 165.

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

The next Board Meeting is Tuesday October 22, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:01 pm.

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