

MORTON COUNTY SOCIAL SERVICE BOARD MINUTES

DATE: September 30, 2014

TIME: 10:04 a.m.

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

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Rose Mary Lawson

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Bartholomew, Patsi Seerup, and Wendy Bent

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Del Wetsch. A motion was made by Andy Zachmeier to approve the July and August 2014 Board Meeting Minutes. Ron Leingang seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion approved. A motion was made by Ernie Fitterer to approve the July and August 2014 Agendas. Andy Zachmeier seconded the motion. Andy Zachmeier requested that Office Space be added to the September 29, 2014 Agenda. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS:

2015 BUDGET

Shannen Cullen, Eligibility Supervisor, shared with the Board Members her concerns regarding the denial of an Eligibility Worker I position in the 2015 Budget and the proposed employee salary increases effective January 1, 2015. Wendy Bent, Human Resource Director, explained the proposed annual employee salary adjustments are based the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and inflation rate. Discussion followed.

QSP RENEWAL

Mike distributed a letter from Birch Burdick, Cass County States Attorney, and a Memorandum from Dawn Mock, DHS Medical Services, regarding the agency QSP Renewal. Discussion followed.

OFFICE SPACE

Discussion was held regarding office space due to an increase in staff effective January 2015. A motion was made by Ernie Fitterer to recommend to the County Commission to move the Custer Health Tobacco Cessation employee from the old Avitus space to allow Social Services to occupy the area. Andy Zachmeier seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

BUDGET REVIEW

Mike distributed to the Board Members the Expenditure Guideline for the period January 1, 2014 through August 31, 2014.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

1. Mike distributed Child Welfare Case Managers Caseloads for July through September 2014; Child Protection Assessments/Caseloads for June through August 2014; and the Parent Aid Caseload for July through September 2014.
2. Adult Protective Services Action Steps was distributed to the Board Members. Discussion followed.
3. Morton County Social Service Board Members list and terms were distributed.
4. A synopsis of Client Satisfaction Surveys sent to recipients by DHS was distributed to and reviewed with the Board Members.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT cont.

5. Sheriff Shipman will be installing 3 panic buttons in Social Services. One will be located at the front desk and one each in the hallways near eligibility staff offices.
6. Mike informed the Board Members that the Bismarck Tribune is no longer accessible online without a subscription. Social Services staff uses information from the Tribune to conduct business. Dawn Rhone, County Auditor, has been informed of this.

COMMUNITY SERVICE REPORT

1. Bonita distributed to the Board Members the Current Case Count through September 30, 2014.
2. Bonita informed the Board Members she has been learning to do the Foster Care Licensing.
3. Bonita went to the ND Conference of Social Welfare in Bismarck and discussed the drug workshop she attended.

IMU REPORT

1. Shannen distributed to the Board Members the summary of SNAP statistics for August 2014.
2. The Summary of Case Activity from August 21, 2014 through September 25, 2014 was distributed to the Board Members.
3. The Unduplicated Economic Assistance Caseload Report as of September 1, 2014 was distributed to the Board Members.
4. Shannen distributed the Child Care Assistance Grants Report for August 2014 to the Board Members.
5. Temporary Assistance for Needy Families – TANF program statistics for August 2014 were distributed to the Board Members.
6. Four Medicaid Eligibility Workers, Paulette Leingang, MaryLouise Hunke, Joy Landeis, and Amanda Maskey, explained the coverage and processes of the Affordable Care Act applications.

SEPTEMBER BILLS

Ron Leingang made a motion to pay the September bills. Andy Zachmeier seconded the motion. All voted in favor. Motion carried.

The next Board Meeting is Tuesday, October 28, 2014, at 10:00 a.m.

Meeting adjourned at 12:30 p.m.

Del Wetsch
Chairperson

Patsi Seerup
Recorder