

**Kewaunee County Human Services Committee
County Board Room
810 Lincoln Street
August 20, 2020
Meeting Minutes**

Present for the meeting were Human Services Committee Chairperson Virginia Haske. Committee members, Tim Kinnard, Linda Teske, Doak Baker, Joanne Lazansky, Matthew Piesler, Mary Ann Szydel, Julie Janicsek, Mark Buchanan, and Rose Quinlan via telephone. Kewaunee County Administrator Scott Feldt. Department Managers Sue Norton, Corrine Konkol, and Brian Johnson. Corporation Counsel Jeff Wisnicky. Community Support Manager Laura Borkovetz. Program Assistant Lynn Clark.

Absent/Excused – Paul Ravet

This meeting was called to order by Chairperson Virginia Haske at 8:15 a.m.

A motion was made by Tim Kinnard and seconded by Joanne Lazansky to approve the current agenda. Motion carried. A motion was made by Doak Baker and seconded by Joanne Lazansky to approve the July meeting minutes noting one correction to be made (add Mark Buchanan as present for July meeting). Motion carried.

Public Comments – None.

Family and Community Unit Update – It was noted that Department Manager Melissa Annoye would not be present at this committee meeting but that her unit updates had been provided in a report sent to committee members.

Behavioral Health Unit Update - Department Manager Sue Norton began by asking this committee if they had any questions regarding the statistics she had provided which reviewed program numbers. No questions were asked. Sue noted that the only real change in her department was that the two previously open contracted positions had been filled. Both are contracted through Helping Hands. She stated that otherwise it has been business as usual with a slight increase in face to face contacts. They also continue to do services via telephone, video conferencing, and telehealth services when requested or required. They continue to use appropriate precautions and screening procedures due to Covid. Sue went on to ask this committee if there were specific things that they would like to have her address for upcoming meetings. There was a committee member suggestion that she present her program reports in graph form. There was also a request for clarification on her units pre-screening process and safety precautions in place.

Child Protection and Juvenile Justice Unit Update - Department Manager Corrine Konkol reviewed contact and caseload statistics noting that face to face contacts are increased and number of referrals is going up. There is currently no waitlist for her unit. Corrine believes that juvenile referrals will likely pick up once schools are back in session. Corrine shared that they are currently working on an extension of the grant they had previously received in partnership with the Algoma School District. She should be notified of the status of the grant application by the end of this month. They also have recently participated in a mid-year review of the existing grant and Corrine shared that the State has been happy with what they have accomplished so far. Paperwork has been filed to remove one more child from out of home care. Corrine went on to report that her staff continues to work hard and are still at 100% for their contacts, and timely on their initial assessments. Also noted was the addition of a new intern who started today. There was a question by a committee member concerning her update of moving a child from out of home placement and Corrine was asked to provide additional information on what options are explored in that process. Corrine responded with a brief discussion of possible options including adoption, reunification with family member, long term guardianship, or subsidized guardianship.

Human Services Financial Unit Update – Financial Manager Brian Johnson provided printouts, and reviewed the general finance report, billing report, contract report and state aid reports.

There were a number of committee requests for clarification of report data which Brian and Scott went on to address.

Contract Approvals – None

In service/Presentation – Mr. Feld introduced Laura Borkovetz to this committee. Laura is the Manager of the Community Support Program (CSP). Scott noted that Laura has been a long time employee and has done an excellent job with her program over the years.

Laura noted that the CSP program is a Medicaid program providing services for the chronically mentally ill population and is currently serving 11 consumers. These consumers are generally high need and on the program long term. Without services, many of these clients would end up in crisis and in costly mental health facilities. This is a certified program through the State with a lot of mandates which need to be followed to remain compliant. Laura went on to give a brief overview of clients served, services provided, program statutes, etc. The goal of this program is to keep consumers active in the community with supports and out of hospitals.

Human Services Director Update – Director Feldt invited Corp Council Jeff Wisnicky to give this committee an update on the court case involving the Office of Inspector General at the Department of Health Services who had requested repayment of some funds citing that there were issues with documentation problems within the Comprehensive Community Services (CCS) Department files after an audit.

Mr. Wisnicky reviewed and discussed the status of the court case.

This was followed by Mr. Feldt continuing with his updates.

The Income Maintenance Department is in the process of hiring a new employee to fill the open position.

The hiring process for the Human Services Director is currently on hold.

Other Items as Authorized by Law – None

The next meeting is scheduled for September 17, 2020 at 8:00 a.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Doak Baker and seconded by Joanne Lazansky. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned 9:28 at a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Clark
Program Assistant