

**Kewaunee County Human Services Committee
County Board Room
810 Lincoln Street
January 20, 2022
Meeting Minutes**

Present for the meeting were Human Services Committee Chairperson Virginia Haske. Committee members, Linda Teske, Julie Janicsek, Doak Baker, Joanne Lazansky, Mary Ann Szydel, Milt Swagel, Tim Kinnard, Mark Buchanan, and Rose Quinlan.

Absent/Excused – Paul Ravet

This meeting was called to order by Chairperson Virginia Haske at 8:00 a.m.

A motion to approve the January agenda as submitted was made by Tim Kinnard and seconded by Doak Baker. Motion carried.

A motion to approve the November minutes as submitted was made by Doak Baker and seconded by Joanne Lazansky. Motion carried.

Public comments –None

Contract Reviews – Before seeking contract approval, Director Wisnicky noted that he wished to recognize Dan Vincent for his efforts in getting out all of the contracts for the new year despite some 11th hour state rate changes, and vendor name changes. There was a committee member question and discussion regarding the approval of contracts and the procedure for budgeting contracts.

A motion to approve 2022 contracts was made by Tim Kinnard and seconded by Milt Swagel. Motion Carried.

Unit Report – Children’s and Families/Child Welfare-Youth Justice Unit Manager Corrine Konkol

Corrine introduced Case Manager Lori Nellis, who went on to give a brief presentation on the Youth Justice Program and how it works. Lori reviewed procedures, referral process, children’s rights, and court proceedings/results for child welfare cases. Lori noted that during 2021, they had 70 new referrals to juvenile intake. She noted that the majority of those cases had been disorderly conducts but also cases of trancies, battery, possession of child pornography, underage sexual activity, graffiti, criminal damage to property, possession of THC, possession of tobacco products, fourth degree sexual assault, and also a juvenile that was charged with terrorist threats.

Corrinne and Lori both went on to discuss the new screening tool they are training on called the Youth Assessment Screening Instrument, or YASI. Once training is completed, this screening tool will be utilized for all incoming youth justice referrals. Corrinne explained the screening process and how it is intended to aide in determining which cases to focus on. It is intended to help tell the difference between a generally law abiding child who made a bad choice but will probably grow up to be a law abiding adult, as opposed to a child who will likely be a repeat juvenile offender and continue with more serious crimes as an adult.

It was also noted that the Child Welfare Unit works well with the area schools, and also has a good working relationship with law enforcement.

Committee queries were addressed.

Human Services Financial Unit Update – Financial Manager Brian Johnson provided printouts and reviewed the monthly reports for general finance, billing, contract status, state aid, and vendor reports and also provided clarification to committee member queries when requested.

Human Services Director Update –

- * We continue to recruit for the open CPS position as there have been only 2 applications received to date.
- * There was a resignation in the CCS unit which was one of the positions recently changed from contract to county position.
- * Two currently contracted employees will have their changeover to county positions moved up from the middle of the year to March.
- * We will be posting for the open CCS position left by the previously mentioned resignation hopefully by June.
- * Economic Support workers who had been working remotely pretty much since the beginning from the pandemic, will continue to do so which will open up office space for newly hired employees. There will still be space available for times when an Economic Support worker needs to be in the building.
- * It was shared that the personnel recently moved to county from contract have voiced their appreciation.
- * Mr. Wisnicky reported that he is overall very happy with the progress made in the area of increasing/capturing billable service hours.
- * Notice was received that the county is not required to pay back \$117,000 as a result of the CCS audit from a few years ago.
- * There was an issue with our CLTS third party billing system in which we were not notified of a software update made which resulted in having a few months' worth of claims not being paid. We are currently working on upgrading our system hoping to be up and running shortly. We will still be able to claim and receive payment for those claims.
- * We continue to apply for available grants.
- * Committee member query followed by discussion of what will happen with any end of year surplus.
- * Discussion regarding how far we have come regarding the budget, and how we hope to continue going forward.

Other Items as Authorized by Law – None

The next meeting is scheduled for February 17th at 8:00 a.m.

A motion to adjourn was made by Doak Baker and seconded by Milt Swagel. Motion carried.
Meeting adjourned at 9:12 a.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Lynn Clark
Program Assistant