

LINCOLN COUNTY
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Thursday, February 5, 2015, at 6:00 p.m.
Health and Human Services Building – Room 246

MINUTES

Members Present: James Alber, Paul Gilk, Greta Rusch, Jeff Hetfeld, Patricia Woller

Members Absent:

Visitors: Mike Nelson

1. **Meeting Called to Order** by Chair Alber at 6:00 p.m.
2. **Approve Minutes of January 8, 2015, Social Services Meeting** – Motion by Woller and second by Rusch to approve minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. **Public Comment** – None
4. **Sub-Care Report-** Director Nelson informed the Committee that there are currently two children placed in foster care, one in group home care and one youth placed in a 180-day alternative to corrections placement.
5. **Financial Report-** The financial report was reviewed and discussed. Placed on file.
6. **Review of Vouchers-** Vouchers were reviewed and discussed. Placed on file.
7. **Presentation of Poverty in Lincoln County by Dennis McCarthy** – Paul Gilk reported that he spoke with Art Lersch of UW-Extension and was informed by Art that he would be willing to help out with this presentation in any way needed. Paul is going to be making other contacts as well and he does feel that there is movement in the right direction in getting something put together.
8. **Citizen Review Panel-** Director Nelson reported that he is moving forward with developing a Citizen Review Panel in Lincoln County. He explained to the Committee the purpose of them and those individuals that sit on Review Panels. It was relayed to the Committee that Paula Brown from the Department of Children and Families, who is in charge of this program from the State, is coming to Lincoln County on March 17th for an initial meeting regarding Citizen Review Panels. Between now and then, Director Nelson reported that he will be making contacts with other individuals' to explain what Review Panels are and invite to them to this meeting. There was also discussion about the Committee meeting with Paula as a group as well. This will be discussed further at the next Social Service Committee Meeting.
9. **Update on Security System-** Director Nelson informed the Committee that doors will begin getting installed the week on February 9th, with total project completion being by the end of the month. It was reported to the Committee that the project was ahead of schedule and under budget.
10. **Birth-To-Three Program Update-** Director Nelson reported that the Birth-To-Three Coordinator for Lincoln County will be meeting with the Children's Unit social workers on February 18th. Director Nelson will also be setting in on the meeting. Any questions or concerns and the referral process will be discussed at that meeting. Director Nelson will report back to the Committee next month on results of the meeting.

11. **Child Support- Paycheck Withholdings-** Director Nelson went through with the Committee how Child Support withholdings operates with employers who have employees who are ordered to pay child support. Clarification was also made in respect to what is the Lincoln County Child Support role versus that of the State of Wisconsin Trust Fund employees. Mistakes that can and have been made by employers and those who chose to use coupons as a way to report withholdings from paychecks rather than doing it electronically was discussed. Time delays on behalf of the State were also explained.
12. **Directors Report-** Director Nelson informed the Committee that he was asked to sit on a Child Welfare Reform Committee. This committee consists of key personal from the Department of Children and Families as well as other Directors/Supervisors from County Human/Social Services Agencies. Extensive evaluation of the Child Welfare System will be analyzed and important changes and/or reform recommendations could come from this assembled committee. Brief discussion on Governor Walker's Budget Bill and its potential impact on Counties were discussed. Once more, this will be an agenda item for the Committee.
13. **Future Agenda Items** -Citizen Review Panel
 - Child Welfare Reform
 - Update on security doors
 - Birth-to-Three Program update
 - Discussion on poverty forum presentation
14. **Set Next Meeting Date(s)** – Thursday, March 5th, 2015, at 6:00 p.m., at Lincoln County Health and Human Services Building, Room 246.
15. **Adjourn** – Motion by Woller, second by Gilk to adjourn meeting at 6:34p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Mike Nelson, Director