

**LINCOLN COUNTY
SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Wednesday, March 2, 2016, at 6:00 p.m.
Lincoln County Service Center – Room 248**

MINUTES

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

Members Absent: Corey Nowak

Visitors: Renee Krueger, Becky Beyer, Ann Jelinek, Heidi Jarvis, Bernice Duehae, Janelle Hintz, Kathy Tobin, Sheriff Jaeger

1. **Meeting Called to Order** by Alber at 6:01 p.m.
2. **Approve Minutes of February 3, 2016, Social Services Meeting** – Motion by Woller, second by Rausch to approve minutes. All ayes. Motion carried.
3. **Financial Report-** The financial report was reviewed and discussed. Placed on file.
4. **Director's Report** – No report for this month.
5. **Open Discussion Regarding Senate Bill 326/Assembly Bill 429** – This issue was requested to be placed on the agenda to allow for an open conversation with law enforcement, Social Services, Oversight Committee and any other vested persons in regards to the proposed Senate Bill 326/ Assembly Bill 429. The Director provided a brief overview to the process in which reports are received, screened, and when they are forwarded to the appropriate law enforcement jurisdiction. The impact of the bill would increase referrals to law enforcement significantly. Lincoln County Sheriff Jaeger was present. Both the Sheriff and Director expressed concerns about the impact on both departments and that the current relationship between the departments as well as the current process is good. The Director indicated that she received informal information that the bill was currently stalled. The Director received a response that Representative Czaja intended to participate. Phone contact was subsequently made with Ms. Czaja who indicated that she ended up with a conflict and would be unable to attend but did confirm that this bill would not be heard this session.
6. **Discussion and Update Regarding Lincoln County Trauma Informed Care Group** – The Director provided an update in regards to continued efforts in the community around Trauma Informed Care. Chair Alber informed the attendees that there have been on-going discussions with the Social Services Oversight Committee including a brief training provided by the Director. The Director indicated that there have been two meetings convened with representation from community partners who work with consumers with trauma exposure. Some of these partnerships include the UW-Extension, Center of Well-Being, CESA-9, the Northern Achievement Center, HAVEN, North Central Health Care, Children's Hospital of Wisconsin, Department of Corrections, Public Health Department, CAP, etc.

Additional agencies have expressed interest and/or support but have not yet been able to engage. This adhoc group is proposing formalizing the group and has selected *Lincoln County Trauma Informed Practices Group* such that it clearly depicts the purpose of the group as well as reflective of our community as Lincoln County. The group is working on holding a seminar to be held on May 18th, 2016 to provide information on Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE interface) as well as what is trauma informed practices and what it looks like in professional settings. The goals include providing this free of charge, to have 100+ attendees of community service providers, to provide continuing education credits for attendance, to provide lunch to attendees such that small group conversations can be facilitated, and to have an end-of-session evaluation with a 6-month follow up in regards to community impact and implementation. We anticipate costs to be approximately \$2000 and are hoping for 4-sponsors, two of which have provided informal commitments. The Director recommended to the Committee that facilitation of this group be recognized as a function within the role of Department of Social Services due the nature of the group and the potential influence on community services which potential directly services provided by social services. Secondly, in order to facilitate the funding of the seminar that Social Services Director works with the County Finance Director to accept and process the donations.

Alber made a motion to support the collaboration of Social Services and the Lincoln County Trauma Informed Practices Group, acknowledging Social Services as the fiscal agent to funding for the seminar recognizing the receipt of donation for the sole purpose of the seminar; furthermore, to be reviewed by the Oversight Committee in six months. Second by Woller. Discussion included that should costs exceed the donations, the Director may come back to the Committee to discuss additional funding. All ayes. Motion Carried

7. **Discussion Regarding *Our Sister's House* – Ann Jelinek** – Ann Jelinek provided an overview of the history and current operation of “Our Sister’s House” in Tomahawk. They have been open since October 5th, 2015 and can house up to 14 persons at a time. Eligibility criteria includes meeting the federal poverty line and must not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol at any time. They have three part-time employees and are mostly operated by volunteers. They work with consumers not only while residing at “Our Sister’s House” but also as they transition into their own residence and provide general care coordination. They are funded through grants and donations at this time. They are reaching out to community members and service providers throughout Lincoln County, not just within Tomahawk. Volunteer handouts provided. Staff are interested in learning more about how they can help connect consumers to services through Social Services. The Director provided information regarding the Northern Income Maintenance website and Call Center. She further explained how FSET (Food Share Employment Training) Program works. She will also follow up with a handout that provides an overview of services offered by all the agencies at the Human Services Building.
8. **North Central Health Care Services – Janelle Hintz** – Janelle Hintz represented North Central Health Care. Ms. Hintz provided an overview for those who were not familiar in regards to services offered to the tri-counties including Lincoln, Langlade,

and Marathon. She did inform that Marathon County is pursuing severing their relationship with NCHC and that the Marathon County Board will be voting on this in September. Ms. Hintz indicated that NCHC continues their focus on collaborating with each County to identify needs and providing quality services. Discussion from the Committee included recognizing that Ms. Rusch also sits on the tri-county NCHC Board. There are two supervisors representing Langlade County, two supervisors representing Lincoln County and Marathon County comprising the majority of the NCHC Board. Chair Alber expressed concerns about the significant impact on services to Lincoln County should the separation occur. The Committee allowed for public comment and it was questioned as to what efforts are being done to plan for Lincoln County services should that occur. It was clarified that the current agreement includes a provision of notice of discontinuation of services. Ms. Hintz indicated that the earliest that services could end would be January of 2018. The Director discussed the value of having the tri-county arrangement given how fluid families are in moving through Marathon, Langlade, and Lincoln County which allows consistency of care providers in those transitions. Supervisor Gilk informed the continued involvement of Lincoln County Administrator and Corporation Counsel in attending meetings and discussions regarding this issue.

9. **Request to Fill 2 Staff Aid Positions for Lincoln Industries as a Result of Vacancies** – Social Services is requesting to fill two staff aide vacancies at Lincoln Industries. One staff aide was offered and expected the position of Job Developer, resulting in a staff aide vacancy. Another staff aide has submitted a resignation effective 3/16/16, resulting in a second staff aide vacancy. Motion by Woller to fill two vacancies. Second by Rusch. All ayes. Motion Carried
10. **Request to Change Status of Lincoln Industries LTE to Full Time** – Social Services is requesting to increase a current limited term employee to a regular part-time position. This is a staff-aide position with Lincoln Industries. The current employee has been a limited term employee since 03/30/15. The position has been reviewed and this is an on-going needed position. There will not be any fiscal impact to the County Levy. This will require full County Board approval. Motion by Albers to increase limited term employee at Lincoln Industries to a regular part-time employee and forward to County Board with Resolution. Woller second. All ayes. Motion carried.
11. **Request to Add Staff Aide Position for Lincoln Industries** – Social Services is requesting to add new position of staff aide at Lincoln Industries to meet one-to-one client supervision needs. There would be no financial impact on County Levy by adding this position. Motion by Alber to add a staff aide position and forward to full County Board for Approval. Second by Rusch. All Ayes. Motion Carried.
12. **Discussion Regarding Copper Lake/Lincoln Hills School** – The Director requested the Committee to move agenda item up to allow an attending community member who needed to leave but was in part attending to hear the discussion regarding Copper Lake/Lincoln Hills School. No objections, Alber approved. The Director explained the request of the Committee to add an update regarding Copper Lake/Lincoln Hills on the agenda. The Director provided various Department of

Corrections memos, an overview of juvenile corrections and responded to concerns about the impact of the current investigation on the Department and the community.

13. **Review and Approve Social Worker Flex Schedule** - All new workers and change to current workers' flex schedules are to be reviewed and approved by the Oversight Committee. The new social worker worked with the Director to develop his flex schedule. The proposed schedule benefits the department. Alber motioned to approve the schedule as proposed. Gilk second. All ayes. Motion carried.
14. **Future Agenda Items** – Sub-care; facility review for Lincoln Industries in both facilities for building quality and safety; poverty forum.
15. **Set Next Meeting Date(s)** – Wednesday, April 6, 2016, at the Lincoln County Service Center, Room 258.
16. **Adjourn** – Motion by Gilk and second by Woller . Adjourn meeting at 7:40 p.m. All ayes. Motion carried.

Minutes prepared by Renee Krueger, Director