

SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday September 11, 2023 at 3:30 p.m.

Meeting Location: Room 248 Services Center 801 N. Sales St., Merrill, WI 54452

MEMBERS PRESENT: Laurie Thiel, Greta Rusch, Jim Meunier, Elizabeth McCrank

MEMBERS EXCUSED: Marty Lemke

DEPARTMENT HEADS PRESENT: Jessi Rumsey

VISITORS IN PERON: Kristine Shorey

VIRTUAL ATTENDANCE: none

Attendance Policy: All public participants' phones, microphones and chat dialog boxes must be muted or disabled during the meeting.

MINUTES

1. **Call Meeting to Order** - Meeting called to order at 4:08 pm
2. **Approval of August 14, 2023 Minutes** - M/S McCrank/Rusch to approve minutes - carried
3. **Service Recognitions** - Kristine Shorey was present and gave the committee a brief explanation of her duties as a Child Welfare Family Support Specialist and provided an opportunity for questions. The committee commends and thanks both Susan and Kristine for their service.
 - a. Susan Locke - 10 years
 - b. Kristine Shorey - 10 years
4. **Financial Report**
 - a. **2023 YTD** - Rumsey noted no significant changes to report at this time with regard to the financial report as presented tonight. However, it was reported that the Child Welfare unit is seeing a significant increase in workload and therefore some overtime is likely and will be monitored by management. Report placed on file.
5. **Quarterly Data Report** - various pieces of data were discussed as well as opportunities to modify and improve data presented regarding out of home placements. Report placed on file.
6. **Director's Report** - Report placed on file.
7. **Update on Status of Lift Van** - Rumsey noted that recall work has been completed and van will be placed for auction upon determining what the minimum bid will be. An update will be provided again next month.
8. **Discussion Regarding Solicitation of Donations and/or Donation Drives for foster children/foster homes/relative caregivers** - Rumsey provided an update that no significant discussion is needed at this time with regard to this topic. It was determined that other departments have an interest in clarifying the policy and requirements and streamlining the process, so the ordinance and statutes are being reviewed by Corporation Counsel.
9. **Motion to go into closed session** - M/S McCrank/Rusch to go into closed session to include Interim Director, Jessi Rumsey, for both items. Roll call vote. All ayes. Move to closed session.
10. **Convene into Closed Session:**
 - a. Pursuant to sec. 19.85(1)(f), Wis. Stats., to consider financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a

- substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations to wit:
- i. request by Elizabeth McCrank to go into closed session for a point of information request on a confidential matter that has come to her attention*
 - b. Pursuant to sec. 19.85(1)(c), Wis. Stats., to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility; and (f) considering financial, medical, social or personal histories or disciplinary data of specific persons, preliminary consideration of specific personnel problems or the investigation of charges against specific persons except where par. (b) applies which, if discussed in public, would be likely to have a substantial adverse effect upon the reputation of any person referred to in such histories or data, or involved in such problems or investigations to wit:
 - i. Update regarding social worker temporary reduction of hours*
11. **Reconvene into open session** – M/S Rusch/Meunier to go into open session. Roll call vote. All ayes. Move to open session.
 12. **Take any necessary action on the closed session items** – No action taken.
 13. **Approve Director Timesheets for 7/24/23-9/3/23 & Expense Report** - M/S Rusch/Meunier to approve - carried.
 14. **Policy & Resolutions** - none
 15. **Future Agenda Items** - Presentation from social worker on National DEC conference will likely be set for November meeting. Update on the status of the lift van.
 16. **Next Meeting Date(s)- October 9, 2023 - 4:00 p.m. Service Center Room 248**
 17. **Adjourn** - Meeting adjourned at 5:07 pm

Minutes Prepared by Jessi Rumsey