

Ward County Human Service Zone Board

Minutes

June 21st, 2022 – 7:30 a.m.

Second Floor-Ward County Commissioner's Chambers

PRESENT:

Kristi Frederick, Zone Director
Rich Berg
Hiedi Folstad-Miller
John Pietsch
Shelly Weppler

ABSENT:

Mac McLeod
Matthew Ruby

Also present was Karen Schultz, Zone Board Secretary designee and Amy Boyle, Account Budget Specialist.

MOTION:

It was moved by Rich Berg, seconded by Hiedi Folstad-Miller and unanimously carried by the Board that the Agenda for June 21st, 2022 be approved as presented.

MOTION:

It was moved by Shelly Weppler, seconded by Rich Berg and unanimously carried by the Board that the minutes for the regular board meeting of May 17th, 2022 be approved.

MOTION:

It was moved by Shelly Weppler, seconded by John Pietsch and unanimously carried by the Board to receive and file the May 2022 Expenditures, bills for June 7th and June 21st, 2022, Budget Recap and Budget Revenue for May 2022 and the FC R & R Report.

Amy Boyle explained the Amended Budget column on the financial attachments.

Misty Shearer and Erin Gange, both HSPA IVs- CPS Supervisors, made a presentation to the Board regarding the workings of the CPS unit which consists of themselves and 10 case managers. Currently each case manager is assigned -10 new cases per month. Information presented included the State Redesign and the purpose of it; the central CPS intake unit for filing reports as well as assignment of cases and defining the various categories of abuse/neglect and response time. The different types of assessments were also discussed, the pregnant woman assessment being one of them which was presented and discussed. The presenters took questions from the Board which included changes they would like to see to better assist families. The consensus was that the need is greater than the services available. It was noted that many agencies which includes State and private services, have a long waiting list or turn away clients due to their initial assessment of them not meeting criteria and the agency ultimately wanting to respond to the most severe cases in regards to personal functioning.

An update of personnel updates indicated the following: an HSPA IV – CPS position will be vacated 06/30/22; one CPS-FSS position will be vacated 06/24/22; one Eligibility Technician to be vacated 07/07/22 and 4 FSS-In Home case management positions are currently open with interviews taking place this week. The Direct Care Associate III position has closed and should be filled this month.

This prompted discussion about the possibility of remote work for employees in the future. Director Frederick stated that she would consider all parameters and what that may look like so that all needs could be met.

Karen Schultz explained the process of the probation evaluation for Zone Director, Kristi Frederick. Anticipating that the initial evaluation information is received prior to the next Board Meeting, the Board will then discuss and evaluate Director Frederick's performance at the meeting on July 19th so that it can be finalized and presented back to the State prior to the end of July.

Mtg adjourned at 8:32.

Kristi Frederick, Ward CHSZ Director

Date

Hiedi Folstad-Miller, Secretary