

BENTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING
December 2, 2008

The Benton County Human Services Board met in regular session on December 2, 2008 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Board members Duane Walter, Jim McMahan, Joe Wollak, Dick Soyka and Earl Bukowski present. Call to order by Chair McMahan was at 9:30 AM.

Bukowski/Wollak unanimous to approve the agenda as written.

Consent Agenda item #4 was “pulled” for further discussion. Soyka/Wollak unanimous to approve the remaining Consent Agenda items: 1) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of November 18, 2008 as written; 2) approve 2009 contract with *Kyler Meers* for family-based counseling services and authorize the Chair to sign; 3) approve 2009 contract with *Community and Family-Based Services, LLC* for family-based counseling services and authorize the Chair to sign; 5) approve Grant Agreement related to childhood immunizations and authorize the Chair to sign; and 6) approve Local Public Health Act Funding 2009 Assurances and Agreements, and authorize the Chair to sign.

Wollak/Bukowski unanimous to approve a new Waivered Services Contract for *Speedy Van, LLC* (a vendor providing specialized/extended transportation services), effective December 2, 2008, and authorize the Chair to sign.

Walter/Soyka unanimous to approve the Restated Delegation Addendum between *UCARE* and Benton County for the provision of care coordination services for seniors through the *Minnesota Senior Health Options* program and the *Minnesota Senior Care Plus* program, and authorize the Chair to sign.

Deb Rieland, Human Services Supervisor, explained that county human service agencies receive funding from the State for long term care consultations, which are community based service screenings for individuals designed to prevent premature long term care/nursing home placements; these funds are channeled through the nursing homes and are based on the number of nursing home beds each facility has and the medical assistance dollars paid to these providers. Rieland pointed out that, for 2009, the State added an additional expectation to the long term care consultation services provided by counties called transitional consultation services; this service is to include potential screenings for any persons who wish to go into assisted living facilities, again in an effort to keep individuals in their own homes for longer periods of time and, ultimately, save money. Rieland noted that this responsibility for initial screening and referral is to be shared between county human service agencies and the Area Agencies on Aging. No action was required at this time.

Discussion ensued on Consent Agenda item #4 (proposed 2009 contract with *Ronnette Trulson* for family-based counseling services). Bruce DeGrote, Human Services Supervisor, explained that Ronnette’s rates for English-speaking families are identical to

other in-home providers that the county contracts with, while her rates for Spanish-speaking families are slightly higher; this is due to the fact that Ronnette provides a service that the other in-home providers do not and it is more advantageous to build this charge into her rates rather than hire an interpreter. Bukowski/Wollak to approve the 2009 contract with *Ronnette Trulson* for family-based counseling services, and authorize the Chair to sign. Motion carried with Bukowski, Wollak and McMahon voting aye and Soyka and Walter voting nay.

Wollak/Bukowski unanimous to authorize staff to apply for a Benton Telecommunications Foundation Grant (application will focus on serving youth placed in Benton County foster care with activities that may help the youth with personal growth).

Bukowski/Walter unanimous to pay the bills in the amount of \$11,913.84.

Soyka/Walter unanimous to adjourn at 9:52 AM.

James J. McMahon, Sr., Chair
Benton County Human Services Board

ATTEST:

Montgomery Headley
Benton County Administrator