

BENTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING  
June 3, 2008

The Benton County Human Services Board met in regular session on June 3, 2008 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Board members Duane Walter, Jim McMahon, Joe Wollak, Dick Soyka and Earl Bukowski present. Call to order by Chair McMahon was at 9:30 AM.

Bukowski/Wollak unanimous to approve the amended agenda (add introduction of new employee).

Board members welcomed Janel Sczublewski, new Financial Assistance Supervisor in Benton County Human Services.

Wollak/Bukowski unanimous to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of May 20, 2008 as written.

Employees of the Benton County Aging and Adult Services Unit (Candace Henry, Julie Hanley, Joan Theisen and Ruth Roufs) appeared before the Board to present information on the Aging and Adult Services/Long Term Care Programs in Benton County. Staff members reported that the Adult Services Unit provides adult protection, case management/care coordination for persons receiving services through the Alternative Care and Elderly Waiver Programs, persons receiving services under MSHO (MN Senior Health Options), MSC+ (MN Senior Care Plus) and the Health Plans (*Medica, Ucare and Blue Cross/Blue Shield*). Staff members noted that this Unit also provides long term care consultations/community based screenings designed to prevent premature institutionalization of adults/seniors in Benton County; services such as foster care/home care may be offered as alternatives.

Deb Rieland, Human Services Supervisor, explained that the MN Department of Human Services (DHS) has requested that 26 counties (including Benton) review health plan responses to the States Request for Proposal for Health Plan contracts for persons receiving Medical Assistance; DHS is offering this as an opportunity for county input in response to requests initiated by Human Services Directors/Counties. Rieland indicated that Benton County Human Services is able to offer recommendations to DHS and Health Plans in hopes of strengthening the response of Health Plans to our community/member needs. She distributed a handout containing recommendations as part of the Health Plan Procurement Process, which includes the recommendation that DHS continue to contract with the four health plans serving our area (*Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Medica, Ucare and Health Partners*). Soyka/Wollak unanimous to approve the recommendations as presented for submittal to the Department of Human Services as part of the DHS's request for response to the proposals being made by the Health Plans in our area.

Diana Graning, Public Health Nursing Supervisor, appeared before the Board with a proposal to discontinue the current community-based foot clinic for seniors at the *Good*

*Shepherd* complex due to staff shortages in the Benton County Public Health unit. She noted that this facility is the largest consumer of staff nurse time as far as foot clinics; *Good Shepherd* is researching other options for providing these types of services to meet those needs of their residents. No action required (informational only).

Wollak/Walter unanimous to pay the bills in the amount of \$48,150.31.

Wollak/Soyka unanimous to adjourn at 10:17 AM.

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

ATTEST:

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Montgomery Headley  
Benton County Administrator