

BENTON COUNTY HUMAN SERVICES BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 17, 2019

The Benton County Human Services Board met in regular session on September 17, 2019 in the Benton County Board Room in Foley, MN with Board members Jake Bauerly, Spencer Buerkle, Ed Popp and Warren Peschl present and Board member Steve Heinen absent (excused). Call to order by Chair Buerkle was at 9:47 AM.

Peschl/Popp unanimous to approve the agenda as written.

Popp/Bauerly unanimous to approve the Consent Agenda: 1) approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of September 3, 2019 as written; 2) approve 2020 Child and Teen Checkups Administrative Services Budget between the Department of Human Services and the Benton County Human Services Board, and authorize the Chair to sign; and 3) approve Health Partners Contract Amendment effective 08/01/2019, and authorize the Chair to sign.

Bethany Oberg, Benton County Mental Health Program Coordinator and current Chair of the Benton County Local Advisory Council, explained that MN statutes require the Local Advisory Council to provide the Board with a report of unmet mental health needs of adults residing in the county. Dale Anderson with *Catholic Charities/Hope Community Support Program* spoke of the wide array of services offered to foster independence for individuals living with serious mental illness. Several individuals provided a first-hand perspective of unmet needs or “wishes” with regard to mental health resources and programs; noted items included a desire for peer mentors, a need for more transportation providers and safety/cost concerns associated with transportation, housing (specifically mentioned was housing for felons), shortage of in-home health care, lack of continuity of care with counselors, employment needs, and lack of mental health services for individuals in shelters. Chair Buerkle noted the increased awareness of issues related to mental health and thanked the individuals for sharing their stories today.

Chair Buerkle adjourned the meeting at 10:07 AM.

Spencer C. Buerkle, Chair
Benton County Human Services Board

ATTEST:

Montgomery Headley
Benton County Administrator