

**ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
MINUTES OF DECEMBER 19, 2022**

Members present: Mr. Bob Thome, Jr., Mr. Ted Cushing, Mr. Jim Winkler, Ms. Linnaea Newman

Members via Zoom: Mr. Anthony Rio

Approved absence: None

Staff: Ms. Mary Rideout, Mr. Joel Gottsacker, Ms. Jeri Driscoll

Others: Ms. Tamara Feest

1. Call to Order. Approval of Agenda:

The regular meeting of the Oneida County Social Services Committee was brought to order at 9:00 a.m. by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr., Chairperson. The Chairperson noted that the meeting had been properly posted and mailed in accordance with the Wisconsin Open Meeting Laws. Motion by Mr. Jim Winkler, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to approve the agenda as posted. All ayes; motion carried.

2. Minutes of Social Services Committee – November 28, 2022:

Motion made by Mr. Ted Cushing, seconded by Mr. Jim Winkler to approve the Minutes of November 28, 2022 as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

3. Public Comment:

No comments.

Veterans Services:

1. Northwoods Veterans Homestead Update:

- We have a semi-retired contractor who wants to be on the Board of Directors. He will be an asset as he is a wealth of information.
- The Pig Roast which was the first fundraiser went well and netted approximately \$18,000. When we do more fundraisers the venue needs to be bigger.
- We potentially found a piece of property with a building on it. We will need to do a lot more fundraising.

2. Governor Evers Blue Ribbon Commission:

Governor Evers \$10 million investment announced today makes investments in key areas of the commission's recommendation to support veteran housing, increase mental health supports, and expand access to skills and job training including:

- \$4.5 million to support veterans mental health initiatives, including supporting community-based programs, increasing access to emergency services, and investing in peer support programs.

- \$2 million to create a rental assistance program for homeless veterans. This was also a recommendation from the Interagency Council on Homelessness' "Welcoming Wisconsin Home" report.
- An additional \$1.5 million for VORP, which provides case management and support to veterans and connects veterans to community services, including substance use treatment, housing, education, and mental healthcare. This investment is intended to fund seven additional positions to serve veterans across the state.
- An additional \$1.5 million for CVSOs and TVSOs, which help veterans connect to benefits, preventative programming, and family engagement activities. The funding will increase allocations to CVSOs and TVSOs by 100 percent, ensure TVSO payments are not being prorated, and increase payments to part-time CVSOs.
- An additional \$500,000 for DWD's Hire Heroes Program, which provides services to veterans with high barriers to employment and reimburses employers for certain costs when hiring veteran employees.

3. PACT Act Update:

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski summarized the PACT Act for an article for Veterans Day. There is a huge amount of change and the information needs to get out to people. Getting this information out to people will be the focus after the New Year as this affects 500 million people nationwide as it goes back as far as Vietnam.

4. Multi-County Veterans Benefits Expo:

The Multi-County Veterans Benefit Expo will be held on Friday, April 28, 2023 at the Hodag Dome. We will be inviting Veterans Service Organizations as well as Veteran owned business to sell their products. We will charge a small fee for Veterans Service Organizations to cover the cost of the dome.

5. Combined Agenda item number 5 and 6: Agency Update, 2022 Financial and Statistical Report, Vouchers, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:

- There were no line item transfers.
- The Statistical Report is pretty normal for this time of the year.
- There were vouchers for gas cards and Hotel room for the fall conference.
- Motion by Mr. Jim Winker, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to approve the vouchers and statistical report.

6. Public Comment: None

7. Agenda Items for Future Meetings:

- Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs Grant Application
- Wreaths Across America
- Northwoods Veterans Homestead

- Multi-County Veterans Benefits Expo (Monthly until the event occurs)

Social Services:

1. Long Range Plan Update - 2022:

The committee received copies of the Long Range Plan. Ms. Mary Rideout explained the Long Range Plan is a three year plan. There is a committee of both staff and managers that meet quarterly to review/update the plan which are improvement areas within the agency that will be worked on over the next three years. Informational only, no action needed.

2. Agreement to Perform Child Protective Services – Forest County Update:

Ms. Mary Rideout explained that the contract to assist Forest County ended at the end of November and will not be extended. During the time that Oneida County assisted Forest County there were eighteen Access calls which resulted in five investigations. The cost that was billed to Forest County was \$20,339.72 for October and November. Forest County has hired a few staff and Oneida County will continue to offer training for the new Forest County staff. Informational only, no action needed.

3. 2023 Blank Purchase Orders:

Ms. Mary Rideout discussed the 2023 Purchase Orders. This would authorize Social Services to pay expenses. These are things that were approved in the budget but would allow us to pay them without coming to the committee every time. Motion by Jim Winkler, seconded by Mr. Ted Cushing to approve the 2023 Blank Purchase Orders. All ayes; motion carried.

4. Children Community Option Program – Risk Reserve Balance and Uses:

Ms. Mary Rideout and Ms. Tamara Feest explained that Oneida, Forest and the Human Service Center put money into a Risk Reserve when Family Care was put into place which is overseen by the Human Service Center. When money designated for Oneida County needs to be used the Social Services Director approves the use of the money. The committee was provided with a handout of the account information. The balance as of December 2022 is \$55,202.32. The State put a limit on how much money can be in the Risk Reserve Account which is \$16,473.00 and anything over that amount will be returned to the State. Ms. Tamara Feest will get with the Social Services Directors to see if there are any allowable costs that can be used from this account before the money is returned to the State.

5. Department Supervision Changes:

Ms. Mary Rideout explained that effective January 1, 2023 there will be Supervision Changes within Social Services and the ADR. The On-Going Supervisor will be getting the new Social Work Position that was approved in the 2023 budget. The Social Worker to Supervisor ratio is already too high in this unit.

To help resolve some of this issue the two APS Workers will be moving to the ADRC and supervised by the ADRC Manager/Assistant Director. This move will have all of the Adult Workers under the same roof at the ADRC. This then frees up the Child Protection Services Supervisor to take on the supervision of the two Children Services Support Workers from the On-Going Supervisor. Informational only, no action needed.

6. 2023 Meeting Dates/Times:

We will continue to meet the fourth Monday of each month at 9:00 a.m. with the exception of the December 2023 meeting. The December meeting will be held on December 18, 2023.

7. Joint County Human Services Agreement Update:

Ms. Mary Rideout will get the date in February 2023 and will report at next month's meeting.

8. Agency Update: Staffing, Caregiver Grant, Treatment Alternative and Diversion Grant, Remodel Update, Thanksgiving Donations:

Staffing/Vacancies:

- An ad will be going out for the new Social Work position. We will run the ad through January 9, 2023.

Caregiver Grant:

- We applied for and received a grant to provide additional assistance and services to relative caregivers in our out of home care program. We will have funds to assist caregivers in providing "normalcy" activities for children in their care. We requested \$30,000 and received \$10,000.

Building Project Update:

- Below is the current schedule for our remodeling project:
 - Start demolition January 3
 - Demolition January 3 – January 6.
 - Steel Stud Install January 9 - January 13.
 - Drywall installation and mechanical rough in's January 16 - January 27.
 - Ready for cabinets the 1st week of February
 - Cabinet installation early February (if received)
- We had a walk-through with Buildings and Grounds and the contractor. We are still on schedule to start on January 3, 2023. We have begun moving equipment and staff to clear this area.

Thanksgiving Donation

- We had a very successful Thanksgiving Program this year. Staff volunteered to put baskets together and to do the delivery. We were able to provide 36 families with Thanksgiving Baskets.

9. 2022 Financial & Statistical Reports, Vouchers, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:

The committee reviewed the Financial/Statistical Reports, Vouchers, and Audit of Payment. The projected 2022 deficit for the Department of Social Services is approximately \$391,391.

- Motion by Mr. Jim Winkler, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman, to approve Financial and Statistical Reports, and Audit of Payments as presented. There were not any Vouchers or line item transfers. All ayes; motion carried.

7. Public Comment:
No Public Comment.

8. Agenda Items for future Meetings:
-CCOP
-Human Service Center Agreement
-Usual Agenda Items

Next Meetings: January 23, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at the ADRC.

9. Adjourn:

There being no further business to be brought before the Committee, it was moved by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr. to adjourn the meeting at 9:55 a.m. The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be Monday, January 23, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at the ADRC.

Tony Rio

Signer ID: 180YZVNH67
Mr. Anthony Rio, Secretary

Bob Thome

Signer ID: 01P0VKITL7...
Mr. Bob Thome, Chair

Date: December 19, 2022

Signature Certificate



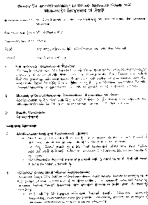
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Social Services

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Bob Thome

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Name: Tony Rio
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