

**ONEIDA COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE  
MINUTES OF APRIL 26, 2022**

Members present: Mr. Bob Thome, Jr. (Chair), Mr. Jim Winkler, Ms. Linnaea Newman, Mr. Anthony Rio (Zoom)

Excused Absence: Mr. Ted Cushing

Staff: Ms. Mary Rideout, Ms. Tammy Javenkoski, Ms. Jeri Driscoll, Ms. Heidi Chavez, Ms. Beth Hoerchler

Other: Ms. Kelly Holm from the Lakeland Times attended the meeting

**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 Mr. Bob Thome, Jr., to approve the agenda as posted. All ayes; motion carried.

**2. Minutes of Social Services Committee – April 5, 2022:**

Motion made by Mr. Jim Winkler, seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman, to approve the Social Services Committee Minutes of April 5, 2022 minutes as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**3. Public Comment:**

No comments.

**4. Election of Vice Chair:**

Mr. Jim Winkler was nominated to be elected as Vice Chair. Motion by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr., seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to elect Mr. Jim Winkler as Vice Chair. All ayes; motion carried.

**5. Election of Secretary:**

Ms. Linnaea Newman was nominated to be Secretary. Newman declined and nominated Anthony Rio. Motion by Ms. Linnaea Newman, seconded by Mr. Bob Thome, Jr. to elect Mr. Anthony Rio as Secretary. All ayes; motion carried.

**Veterans Services:**

**1. County Veterans Service Officers Association Spring Conference debrief:**

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski gave an update on the CVSOA-WI Spring Conference. She felt that it was great training and probably the best in her sixteen years. The Fall Conference is scheduled for October. Informational only.

**2. 2022 Veterans Service Office budget showing money allocated for conferences and training:**

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski shared budget information with the committee. They are well within budget for this conference as well as the fall conference. Informational only.

**3. 2022 WDVA Grant Application:**

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski explained that she shared the 2022 WDVA Grant Application because at the last meeting, she was asked if her office could legally donate \$1,000 of the \$11,000 grant to the Northwoods Veterans Homestead (NVH). She talked to Mike Fugle, Corporation Counsel, and he said if it was in the grant application we were going to give money to NVH, it couldn't be a donation, it would have to be for a specific purpose. He also told her it would have had to have been in the grant application, which it wasn't. She will check with the committee prior to applying for the 2023 WDVA Grant and if they still want to do that, she'll put it in the application. If the WDVA approves it, then it's legal to give NVH that money. Informational only.

**4. Update on Lincoln County Veterans Service Office:**

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski reported Lincoln County has hired a retired Marine as their new Veterans Service Officer and he started last Monday at the conference. His first day in the office was yesterday. Pam Schotz, the retired Lincoln County Deputy Veterans Service Officer, will LTE for six weeks to help train him. Oneida County will continue to help Lincoln County as long as they need it. Informational only.

**5. New Volunteer in Veterans Service Office:**

Ms. Tammy Javenkoski shared that they have a Disabled Veteran who wanted to volunteer in the Veterans Office. She comes in almost every day and is working on scanning files. She is wonderful. There was concern regarding a volunteer working in an office that requires so much confidentiality. Ms. Javenkoski stated that they verbally did a confidentiality agreement but she will draft one volunteers will be required to sign. Ms. Mary Rideout will share what they use in Social Services with Ms. Tammy Javenkoski. Informational only.

**6. 2022 Financial & Statistical Reports, Vouchers, Audit of Payments and Line Item Transfers:**

The Statistical Report was presented. There was discussion on the two reports provided. They are both titled the same but the numbers do not match. The numbers should match or be titled differently. Also on colored report, the percentages are not correct. Ms. Tammy Javenkoski will correct for next month.

Vouchers were presented which was meals and mileage for the Spring Conference. There were no line item transfers. Motion by Mr. Jim Winkler,

seconded by Ms. Linnaea Newman to approve the Statistical Report, with corrections for next month, and the Vouchers. All ayes; motion carried.

**7. Public Comment:**

No public comment.

**8. Agenda items for future meetings:**

- New Volunteer
- Northwoods Veterans Homestead
- Usual Agenda Items

**Social Services:**

**1. Financial Elder Abuse Presentation: Presenter Amanda Thome:**

Ms. Amanda Thome from Morgan Stanley did a Financial Elder Abuse Presentation. This presentation explained What is Elder Financial Abuse, Who Does Elder Financial Abuse Affect, Red Flags Indicating Financial Exploitation, Warning Signs of Financial Abuse, What can Seniors do to Protect Themselves. After Ms. Thome's presentation, Ms. Beth Hoerchler went over the 2021 Financial Exploitation for Oneida County statistics. Informational only.

**2. 2021 Social Services/ADRC Annual Report:**

Ms. Heidi Chavez went over the Annual Report. This is a draft so if anyone has any changes or corrections please let us know. This will need to be presented to the County Board. Informational only.

**3. Child Welfare Workload Study:**

Ms. Mary Rideout reviewed the Workload Study. We have been waiting two years for this study. The Department of Children and Families hired a consulting firm to determine a baseline manageable caseload for Child Protective Services (CPS). Nineteen agencies participated in a time study, representing agencies across all regions and of all sizes. 33% of all statewide staff participated in the time study, including 589 child welfare professionals across all practice areas and 65 supervisors. These standards were used to create the staffing tool, which can assist local agencies in calculating local caseloads and to compare these results to the caseload standards derived from this study. The department is reviewing data, and will be reviewing the data monthly. We are able to use the worksheet as one measure in determining if our staff have manageable caseloads. This will assist us in determining if we need to add staff/positions for the 2023 budget. More information will be provided to the committee.

**4. Final 2021 Financial Report:**

Ms. Mary Rideout presented the Final 2021 Financial Report. This still needs to be audited but we should be returning \$337,793 to the General Fund. With the ADRC we will be returning over \$400,000 to the General Fund. Informational Only.

**5. Agency Update: Staffing, Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center Expansion, Foster Parent Training/Support Group, Child Support Outstanding Achievement Award, Child Abuse Prevention Month:**

- Staffing/Vacancies:
  - We made an offer for the APS Social Worker position; the offer was declined. We have since re-advertised and received one application. We have made an offer awaiting response.
  - Danielle Przybylski started as our Dementia Care Specialist on April 11.
- Mendota Juvenile Treatment Center Expansion:
  - The Department of Health Services broke ground earlier this month to start construction and renovation. The construction project involves about 102,000 square feet of new and renovated space. It is expected to be operational by early 2025.
- Foster Parent Training/Support Group:
  - Syndeo Oneida County provides support and services to foster, kinship and guardianship parents in Oneida County. The group meets once per month at the Grace Foursquare church. The intent of the meeting is to connect with other foster parents, learn more about fostering, and to provide support.
- Child Support Outstanding Achievement Award:
  - For the second year in a row, our Child Support unit was awarded a Certificate of Outstanding Achievement Award by the Department of children and Families, Bureau of Child Support. We were one of 17 child support agencies honored this year.
- Child Abuse Prevention Month: April is Child Abuse Prevention Month. Activities planned by the TIC Committee and other stakeholders:
  - The courthouse dome is lit blue for April.
  - Shirts for staff and other stakeholders to purchase
  - Facebook posts
  - Blue ribbons on trees in downtown Rhinelander, Oneida County School Districts, Courthouse and other local partners.
  - Family Fun Night at the Hodag Dome on April 29<sup>th</sup> from 6-8pm.

**6. 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 \$351,665.

- Motion by Ms. Linnaea Newman, seconded by Mr. Jim Winkler to approve Financial and Statistical Reports, Vouchers and Line Item Transfers as presented. All ayes; motion carried.

**9. Public Comment:**

No comments.

**10. Agenda Items for future Meetings:**

- Workload study
- Usual Agenda Items

**11. 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 10:46 a.m. The next meeting of the Social Services Committee will be Tuesday, May 24, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. in the County Board Room.

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Mr. Anthony Rio, Secretary

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Mr. Bob Thome Jr., Chair

Date: April 26, 2022