

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

LOGAN COUNTY BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES

June 14, 2023

Logan County Commissioner Chairman Jerry A. Sonnenberg called the Board meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. at the Logan County Central Services building with Logan County Commissioner Mike Brownell, Logan County Human Services' Director David Long, and Logan County Human Services' Recording Secretary Peggy Kircher, present.

Minutes from the Logan County Board of Human Services meeting held on May 10, 2023 were presented. Commissioner Brownell moved to approve the Board meeting minutes as written. Chairman Sonnenberg seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Director Long presented the Board with the Expenditure Summary report dated May 31, 2023 and the April, 2023 Allocation Tracking report. Director Long said that the process to purchase \$300,000.00 in TANF dollars from El Paso County has been completed. The State has changed the process in finalizing the TANF purchases and this will not be completed until the end of the fiscal year. Chairman Sonnenberg inquired about clarification on the .313% revenues collected reflected on the county budget year report. He would like Karen Milner, finance/accounting manager, to respond via email to his question when she is able.

Commissioner McBride joined the meeting by telephone at 9:19 a.m.

Director Long gave the Board detailed information regarding TANF funds and the nonprofit TANF contracts. He asked if the Board would like TANF contracts to be in place earlier in the fiscal year to help with efficiency of the programs. The Board agreed that they would like to review the TANF contracts in the July Board meeting so they can be in place earlier in the fiscal year for better efficiency of the programs.

Director Long gave the Commissioners the briefing highlights and staffing updates. Gwendolyn Buss, caseworker in the ongoing unit, resigned due to personal issues. Ashley Hermes was hired to fill the vacant caseworker position. She is coming from Tennessee with previous experience in human services and will start in the position in July. Interviews are being conducted to fill the vacant child support position.

Director Long gave the Commissioners information regarding the regional homeless grant in the amount of \$75,000.00.

He said that with discussion with the State, HCPF said that people are not wanting to work from the office due to being used to being able to work from home. They are losing employees due to this.

Chairman Sonnenberg said that HR and the Personnel Board is discussing ways to help with employee retention in Logan County. The pay scale is similar if not better than most other counties the same size. The working from home option has been a challenge but it can be an option if the county does not go to 100%. There are no answers yet but they will continue discussing the subject. He said that there has been discussion about merit pay.

Chairman Sonnenberg asked Director Long if he anticipates growth in staffing in the next 3 to 5 to 10 years and if more space in the Central Services building will be needed for more employees. He said that the county is building a new event center at the fairgrounds and there has been some discussion to move the Extension Office employees to the new facility which would open up more offices in the Central Services building. Director Long said that he does not expect the local population to increase nor the need to expand in employee numbers. He said that he could foresee that housing mental health or similar services in the building would be helpful and the ability to generate revenue by outsourcing some of the space in the building for a one stop for clients.

The Board voiced their concerns about behavioral health and early childhood changes within the State.

The next Logan County Board of Human Services meeting will be held on July 12, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. at the Logan County Central Services building.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

Jerry A. Sonnenberg, Chairman
Logan County Commissioner

David E. Long, Director

Joseph A. McBride, Logan County Commissioner

Mike Brownell, Logan County Commissioner