

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

LOGAN COUNTY BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES

February 10, 2021

Logan County Commissioner Chairman Byron Pelton called the Board meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. at the Logan County Central Services building with Logan County Commissioner Joseph McBride, Logan County Commissioner Jane Bauder, Logan County Human Services' Director David Long, and Logan County Human Services' Recording Secretary Peggy Kircher, present.

Minutes from the Board of Human Services meeting held on January 13, 2021 were presented. Commissioner Bauder moved to approve the Board meeting minutes as written. Commissioner McBride seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Director Long presented the Commissioners with the Expenditure Summaries report dated January 31, 2021, the December, 2020 Allocation Tracking report, and the December, 2020 TANF Reserve Balances report. Director Long said that he has requested to purchase TANF dollars from other counties. He informed the Board that the allocation report looks better now than it has since he started working at LCDHS.

Director Long gave the Commissioners the briefing highlights.

Director Long gave the Board the staffing updates. The department is fully staffed to meet the current needs. There are vacancies on the organization chart but these positions do not need to be filled at this time. Anthony Avalos, child welfare caseworker, has completed his child welfare training and is now shadowing co-workers to learn the job.

Director Long gave the Commissioners COVID updates. Due to the status of the risk rating moved to yellow, the child welfare visitations will be opened up more. There will be two in-person visitations available for court ordered visits per week. Clients coming in for visits will need to meet the safety requirements.

Director Long said that there was a computer refresh this week for the employees who use the Colorado Benefits Management system. The computers were replaced with laptops with dual monitors. These laptops will also be available to use for employees that are required to work from home. The replacement of computers did not go easily. The needed elements were not included with the refresh and the computers are not working correctly. The transfer of information/software from the old computers to the new did not flow smoothly. LCDHS IT department and Istonish are frustrated with this computer refresh.

Director Long informed the Board that the county DHS child support supervisors will be required to go through extensive certification training every two years and this was previously every three years. Directors in small counties will be required to complete this extensive training and be certified to approve what the child support staff completes. This is due to small counties having very limited staff to complete the jobs.

Director Long said that the childcare collaborative is moving ahead. El Pomar gave the collaborative \$60,000.00 and a grant application was submitted to Buell Foundation in the estimated amount of \$220,000.00. The childcare group had a conference call with Buell Foundation on February 9th. They let the childcare collaborative group know what they need to do to tie up loose ends and get the property moved over from Small World to the Collaborative and/or Rural Solutions. Director Long said that there is a match that is needed for the Buell Foundation grant. He inquired if the County would be able to obligate \$10,000.00 of TANF child care funds for quality to the child care collaborative. Commissioner McBride moved to allocate \$10,000.00 of TANF money to child care quality enhancement. Commissioner Bauder seconded the motion. The motion was approved.

Director Long said that he is one of fifteen people on the Families First Transition committee. This committee was created to help recommend to the State where 7.2 million federal dollars should go to help in the transition of counties in the State from where they presently are to when Families First is implemented. He said that 38% of this money is already spent for State purposes. He is somewhat disillusioned with the committee and he would like to resign from his position on the committee. Director Long would like to write a grant on behalf of all of the counties in the northeast region. He said that if counties are going to be successful in keeping kids out of congregate care, they will need therapeutic foster homes. None of the counties in the NE region have this available and it is a critical need. Director Long would like to get a grant to be able to recruit and train people for therapeutic foster homes. He said that ethically and legally being on this committee and applying for this grant is a conflict of interest. The Board agreed that Director Long should resign from his position on the committee.

The next Logan County Board of Human Services meeting will be held on March 10, 2021 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 9:25 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved by:

Byron H. Pelton, Chairman
Logan County Commissioner

David E. Long, Director

Joseph A. McBride, Logan County Commissioner

Jane E. Bauder, Logan County Commissioner