

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

LOGAN COUNTY BOARD OF HUMAN SERVICES

September 8, 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 Commissioner Joseph McBride, Commissioner Jane Bauder, Logan County Human Services' Director David Long, and Logan County Human Services' recording secretary Charla Peterson, present.

Minutes from the Board of Human Services meeting held on August 11, 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 Summary dated August 31, 2021. The fund balance has grown a little bit. He also presented the July, 2021 Allocation Tracking report. This is an erroneous report since it did not account for closeout at the time the report was printed but close out has now happened. No county only dollars were needed. Also, since TANF is a rolling amount, it is not accurate on the July report.

Child welfare allocation may be changing. Looking predictively at the future, it is difficult to guess. Dave is worried that with Robin Smart no longer on the allocation committee; things may change since she was very good at looking at predictive allocating. Byron agrees that things will be changing due to lack of support with the new allocation formulas. He doesn't think the changes from the Big 11 to the balance of state will continue but we will see. Families First is being turned on October 1, 2021; Dave thinks we will do fine but it is hard to project since it is a rolling allocation.

We have a new placement that we have been having a difficult time placing and we are hopeful that this twelve year old girl will fit into a placement that Douglas County is keeping open. The State has been helpful in telling the facility that they are obligated to work with the child until we can find a suitable placement. Dave said that we have fewer cases but they are more expensive. He thinks we will be covered even though we do have some expensive placements. Core may look high but it rolls over into child welfare so he thinks we will be okay.

TANF balance is over the reserve cap on this report but after close out we should be real close after we received money from the balance of state.

Director Long informed the Commissioners about staffing updates. No applications have been received for child welfare caseworkers. Current staff is doing well but we could definitely use some applicants for our two openings. Commissioner Bauder stated that across the board that is an issue.

Dave will be bringing some high school kids in for a one day shadowing for them to ask supervisors questions regarding the educational requirements and job duties. At this point, he has three.

Dave advised there will be hospital opioid money available. Commissioner Pelton and Dave attended a meeting with Kim Bimestefer, director of HCCPF and one of her staff. Byron is part of this group and is expecting a response from some of his questions this month. Dave is also putting together some questions. This money is available for local hospitals in the six county area. Dave said that Banner in Phoenix is involved but not in Sterling. A class action lawsuit has named Colorado and Dave asked if the Commissioners would be behind him using one of our cases as an "example" (without names). The Commissioners all agreed this would be a good thing to do. Dave will follow up with the child welfare administrative team to get names. He will also be following up with Kim Bimestefer. Children are not getting taken care of and we need to take action to help solve this. Substance abuse is the number two most serious issue in northeastern Colorado according to Commissioner Pelton.

Commissioner Bauder suggested we use recovery money to get a facility for detox since there would be the six counties to join in. The commissioners all agreed that it might be easier to go

through one of the smaller, independent hospitals in Yuma, Wray or Holyoke, than to use Banner. This will be an ongoing discussion.

Dave approached the Commissioners regarding a local issue of a grandmother raising her five grandchildren. Her car isn't working and he thought maybe we could somehow rotate out our 2008 Impala. The commissioners saw several issues with this but would like to be able to help her. They encouraged Dave to talk to Alan Samber since there is no County auction planned in the near future and that is where we rotate cars into when we are done with them.

The next Logan County Board of Human Services meeting will be held on October 13, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. at the Logan County Central Services building in the Logan conference room. Commissioner McBride advised that he will not be in attendance.

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:38 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

David E. Long, Director

Approved by:

Byron H. Pelton, Chairman
Logan County Commissioner

Jane Bauder, Logan County Commissioner

Joseph A. McBride, Logan County Commissioner