

**Marathon County Social Services Board Minutes**  
**Wednesday, July 15, 2020, 4:00 p.m.**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Julie Bollmann	X	
William Harris	X	
Christy Keele		X
Romey Wagner	X	
Yee Leng Xiong	X	

Board member Harris attended the meeting virtually via Webex.

**Also Present:** Vicki Tylka, Greg Jehn, and Coleen Krasowski

1. Meeting called to Order by Vice Chair Yee Leng Xiong at 4:03 p.m.
2. Vice Chair Yee Leng Xiong announced that the public comment portion of the agenda has been temporarily suspended.
3. Approve minutes from June 17, 2020, meeting

Action: Minutes approved

**WAGNER MOVED, BOLLMANN SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF JUNE 17, 2020. VOICE VOTE REVEALED ALL IN FAVOR AND NONE OPPOSED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

4. Educational Presentations
  - A. Youth Justice Diversion Programs: Scope and Outcomes – Greg Jehn, youth justice social worker, presented information to the board about youth justice diversion programs (Sexting, THC, and disorderly conduct) and the successful results of these programs in diverting youth from entering the youth justice system. The program outcomes are positive, ranging in successful completion from 71%-93%. The programs are staffed by the Intake social worker, with no additional budgetary requirement.
  - B. DSS Budget Overview: review of program revenues, matching sources, and expenses – Coleen Krasowski, financial services supervisor, presented a detailed comparison of 2019 budget against 2020 budget including program revenues, matching sources, and expenses for each program in the Department of Social Services. Coleen answered the board members' questions and noted that Vicki will provide a detailed update on the Family First Prevention Services Act (FFPSA) likely at the August 2020 board meeting.
  - C. Director's Work Plan – 6 month progress report – Vicki Tylka presented a progress report on her 2020 work plan. All areas have seen some progress, with several being slower due to challenges with COVID-19 pressures.
  - D. COVID-19 updates relating to DSS service provision – Some of these were touched on earlier in the meeting. Vicki discussed with the board that we will need to be fully staffed in the social work section when we get back to the new "normal" after COVID-19, especially when schools reopen and children are back in school. At that point we anticipate an increase in maltreatment reports.

Vicki also shared the following comparisons of the first six months of 2019 against 2020 for incoming applications to the Economic Support unit:

	<u>2019 (Jan. – Jun.)</u>	<u>2020 (Jan. – Jun.)</u>	<u>% Increase</u>
FoodShare applications	5,120	6,273	22.5%
Health care applications	6,041	6,417	6.2%

5. Policy Issues for Discussion and Action

A. Methods to educate the community about the work of DSS – The board engaged in a discussion with staff about ways we may better educate the community about the work of DSS. The following points emerged:

- Marathon County is in the process of updating the county web site. This may offer more opportunities to showcase some of the good work and positive community impact of DSS.
- Child Support ELEVATE grant – detailed progress report will be presented to the board in Fall 2020 and is a recommended topic to share with the community.
- Highlight the joint collaboration with NCHC on youth crisis stabilization facility
- Highlight the success of youth justice diversion programs.
- Public service announcement on local media for foster care recruitment
- When local media asks to put together story such as they have on foster care and child protective services in the past year, recommend linking the news story to DSS webpage.
- Press releases, including to online outlets such as City Pages and Wausau Pilot and Review

6. Announcements and possible items for next agenda

A. 2021 budget will be presented in August or September.

7. Adjournment

There being no further items to be discussed **BOLLMANN MOVED, WAGNER SECONDED, TO ADJOURN MEETING. VOICE VOTE REVEALED ALL IN FAVOR AND NONE OPPOSED. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.