

**Marathon County Social Services Board Minutes  
Tuesday, January 14, 2020, 3:30 pm**

<b>Attendance:</b>	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent</b>
Amy Arlen	X	
Christy Keele	X	
Romey Wagner		X
Loren White	X	
Yee Xiong	X	

**Also Present:** Vicki Tylka

1. Meeting called to Order by Amy Arlen at 3:30 p.m.
2. **Invitation for Public Comments** (15 Minute Limit) – There was no public comment.
3. **Approve Minutes from November 14, 2019 meeting**

Action: Minutes Approved

**YEE XIONG MOVED, LOREN WHITE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF NOVEMBER 14, 2019. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

**4. Policy Issues for Discussion and Possible Action:**

A. Children’s Long Term Support (CLTS) – New 2.0 FTE Positions

Background information about the CLTS program was provided. The program is well-funded through state and federal dollars, and we put no county levy into this program. The need is great, and we continue to have a waitlist for this program. We are looking to increase staff by two positions for CLTS. This is similar to what we have done in the past. Asking to fill one position immediately and the second position later in the year. The financial breakdown of the positions was reviewed. The request has been discussed with county administration, and they are supportive of this request. Loren White asked about children aging out of the program; ADRC helps with transition planning into adulthood.

**LOREN WHITE MOVED, CHRISTY KEELE SECONDED, TO APPROVE THE 2.0 FTE ADDITIONAL POSITIONS FOR CLTS. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

B. Comprehensive Community Services – Creation of 1.0 FTE New Support Position – Community Support Specialist

This program provides case management and services for children with mental health needs. DSS serves children with complex needs. We contract with a number of service providers to provide hands-on care for children. Providers in the community don’t have capacity to take on as many children as we need help with. They are also not able to respond to the children with the highest needs of the children we are responsible for. If approved, this position would be at a lower salary than a social worker. Employee Resources would develop a new classification for this new position.

**YEE LENG XIONG MOVED, CHRISTY KEELE SECONDED, TO APPROVE CREATION OF 1.0 FTE COMMUNITY SUPPORT SPECIALIST. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

## C. Presentation of the DSS 2019 Work Plan and Discussion of Priorities for 2020

Vicki reviewed progress on 2019 work plan and foreshadowed direction for 2020.

- The child welfare focus for 2020 will be more on in home services and prevention.
- DCF has commissioned a firm out of Florida to do an extensive workload/time study of CPS. Marathon County has been chosen to participate in this time study.
- Board members would be supportive of a resolution or statement to evaluate the funding allocation connected to child welfare services.
- Trauma-Informed Care: We are working with Wausau School District to implement Handle With Care. We hope to expand this program to other school districts in Marathon County.
- Culture survey results were very strong.
- Child Welfare Focus – Group home is at capacity.
- Judicial Engagement Team (JET) – Judges will see families in court every three months instead of six months to provide them with additional support and oversight.
- Youth Justice – Diversion programs are used to help keep children out of the system.
- Child Support – We made good process improvement working with corporation counsel to improve our local system. Focus in 2020 will be on the ELEVATE grant.
- Administrative Support – Remodel complete in break room, waiting room and administrative support offices. Focus moving to pilot a work from home program.

## 5. Announcements and Possible Items for Next agenda

- Christy Keele announced an upcoming trauma-informed leadership presentation at NTC on February 3.
- Vicki announced opportunity to apply for youth crisis stabilization facility through DHS. County administration asked if we would recommend for North Central Health Care to apply for this grant. Our response was a resounding yes. We will be evaluating and working with NCHC on writing this grant.
- Future agenda items:
  - Vote on resolution or statement to evaluate the funding allocation connected to child welfare services
  - Youth Justice Presentation

## 6. Adjournment

There being no further items to be discussed **YEE XIONG MOVED, LOREN WHITE SECONDED, TO ADJOURN MEETING. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

Meeting adjourned at 4:20 p.m.