

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY BOARD
COMMITTEE MINUTES

JUSTICE & SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE

Monday, December 3, 2007

**Brookens Administrative Center, Lyle Shields Meeting Room
1776 E. Washington St., Urbana**

7:00 p.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Anderson (Chair), Carter, Gladney, Hogue, Hunt, James, Putman, Sapp, Tapley

MEMBERS ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Kat Bork (Administrative Secretary), Deb Busey (County Administrator of Finance & HR Management), Kathleen Liffick (Head Start Director), Peter Tracy (Executive Director of Mental Health), C. Pius Weibel (County Board Chair), Jonte Rollins (C-U Area Project)

CALL TO ORDER

Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

ROLL CALL

The Recording Secretary called the roll. Anderson, Gladney, Hogue, Hunt, James, Putman, Sapp, and Tapley were present at the time of the roll call. Anderson declared a quorum and proceeded with the meeting.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/ADDENDUM

MOTION by Carter to approve the agenda; seconded by James.

Weibel reported that the committee would be considering a management consulting contract for the Nursing Home at the January meeting.

Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Putman to approve the Joint Meeting of the Justice & Social Services Committee and Policy, Personnel, & Appointments Committee September 11, 2007 minutes and Justice & Social Services Committee November 5, 2007 minutes; seconded by Carter.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

There was no public participation.

MONTHLY REPORTS

MOTION by Hunt to receive and place on file the Court Services September 2007 report and the Public Defender October 2007 report; seconded by Putman. **Motion carried.**

NURSING HOME

Monthly Report

Anderson spoke with Buffenbarger because he could not attend the meeting due to a family matter. Any committee members are welcome to contact him if they have questions. Anderson remarked that Buffenbarger is very accessible. Weibel asked for more detailed information on the notice from the Illinois Department of Public Aid that the State has assigned a new Medicaid rate that is \$16 per day less for each Medicaid resident than the previous quarter. The quarterly impact on the Nursing Home is a loss of \$178,560. The Nursing Home is reviewing the rate calculation and plans to appeal. Anderson said Buffenbarger is trying to be in touch with Springfield. Buffenbarger feels the County has grounds for an appeal, but the appeal success rate is not very good. Gladney inquired about the immediate jeopardy citations. Anderson said that Buffenbarger explained the citations were made in other counties, but the overall number of citations is increasing. Buffenbarger would be happy to discuss this matter with County Board members one-on-one. Putman said the \$16 per day decrease for each Medicaid resident is serious. Champaign County cannot be the only nursing home in the state that is affected by this. Putman suggested the committee members write to their state representatives next month. Busey confirmed the new rate has negatively affected many nursing homes in the state. This is the decision of the Department of Public Aid and the County has no control over it. Putman commented on the good news that the chronic employee absenteeism at the Nursing Home may be reducing. She is pleased Buffenbarger is looking into this. She disliked the State employee making a flippant reply about asking a consultant in response to Buffenbarger's question about determining the threshold for psychological harm in immediate jeopardy cases. Anderson remarked on the Nursing Home's holidays activities. Tapley asked if the Medicaid review process has occurred. Busey answered the Nursing Home is in the appeals process to try and change the reduction. Tapley pointed out that kind of a reduction in reimbursement would bankrupt most nursing homes. Busey said Buffenbarger wanted to direct the County Board's attention to the recent, positive *News-Gazette* articles about the Nursing Home's Adult Day Care Center.

MOTION by James to receive and place on file the Nursing Home November 2007 report; seconded by Hunt. **Motion carried.**

JUVENILE DELINQUENCY GRANTS

Status Report from Peter Tracy

Tracy began by commenting on the mess the State of Illinois is in about Medicaid. The mental health system is on the verge of collapse and the switch to the fee for service system has resulted in a totally inadequate rate for services. This will mean a lot of community agencies will be in serious trouble.

Tracy wanted to run a situation by the committee for their consideration. The Mental Health staff has finally heard that the SAMHSA Grant application will be due on February 1, 2008. This timing would overlap and conflict with the FY2009 Juvenile Delinquency Grants application process, so Tracy requested all the current grant contracts be extended for one more year. All the Mental Health Board grant contracts that are attached to the federal application are being extended in order for staff to focus their time and energy on the SAMHSA Grant application that could potentially bring in over \$9 million over a period of several years. Extending the Juvenile Delinquency Grants contract is covered by the memorandum of understanding between the County Board and the Mental Health Board, but Tracy wanted this committee to be aware that there would not be an application process for the next year's grants. He asked if anyone had a serious

objection to this plan. He was willing to answer any questions and remarked that he was amazed at the timing of the SAMHSA Grant.

Weibel asked if the only downside would be the fact that no new agencies could apply for grant funding in the next year. Tracy said that was correct. The Mental Health Board would not issue a notice of availability of funds. James asked how many agencies applied the last time who were not selected for funding. Tracy thought the number was 3. James agreed with Tracy's approach since there were few other applicants in the previous cycle. Anderson recalled that one for those applicants asked for more money than the County had in total to award for grants and the application was much too general to be realistically considered. Putman asked how often the SAMHSA applications were accepted. Tracy reported the grant period is 6 years. A grant is awarded to a winning applicant and the grant money becomes available when the grantee's period has ended. Tracy stated the Mental Health Board has unsuccessfully applied for the SAMHSA grant before, so this will be the last time they will try. Tracy has been sending people to every opportunity to learn more about how to make their application successful and the federal site team is aware of Champaign County because of this. He looked at the possibility of not extending the current Juvenile Delinquency Grants for full year, but that would result in 2 application processes in 1 year.

Putman asked about Talks Mentoring. Tracy said Talks Mentoring did not meet the post detention eligibility requirements, but the Mental Health Board funds the program with its money. Putman asked if the committee could have the numbers of unduplicated youth under the Juvenile Detention Center assignment meetings. Rollins answered those numbers could be obtained and noted there are a number of youth who come into the JDC frequently and are provided with services every time. Rollins will include that information in next month's report. Putman asked if the recidivism rates on Page 23 referred to FY2007, instead of FY2008. Rollins explained FY2008 is correct because that is the current fiscal year. Putman said she would like to see the recidivism rates analyzed. Tracy said they presented a full account of the previous year's recidivism numbers at the last meeting. The intent is to have a rolling analysis of the recidivism rates. Tracy also noted that nearly all the juveniles at the JDC are eligible for the Mental Health JJ Program or the Juvenile Delinquency Grant programs funded by the Quarter Cent Sales Tax money. Between these two programs, the Mental Health Board is able to cover nearly every juvenile with access to services at the JDC. The committee concurred with extending the current Juvenile Delinquency Grants contracts for a year.

MOTION by Hogue to receive and place on file the status report from Peter Tracy; seconded by Tapley. **Motion carried.**

HEAD START **Monthly Report**

MOTION by James to receive and place on file the Head Start November 2007 report; seconded by Tapley. **Motion carried.**

Preparation for the Federal Review

Liffick thanked the committee for their time. In the agenda packet, the County Board was provided with the questions the federal reviewers will ask. Liffick distributed more materials for the federal review. The reviewers might examine the monthly reports that Liffick has provided to the committee, so she encouraged the committee to make note of any statistical information and the end of school year summaries that were included in them. The reviewers are required to give a 30-day notice and Liffick expects it to occur anytime following February 14, 2008. She provided the shared governance plan between the Head Start Policy Council and the County Board, under which the County Board retains certain responsibilities. Liffick encouraged the committee members to bring these handouts, any minutes, or notes to the review. There is nothing wrong with being prepared. Liffick went through the review questions with the committee and showed them where to find the information to answer the questions. She also clarified the differences

between how the Justice & Social Services Committee governs Head Start and how the Regional Planning Commission governs Head Start. Liffick thanked the committee for their time.

Hunt exited the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

CHAIR'S REPORT

Anderson thanked Tapley for his service on the committee and wished him well in the future. Tapley said he has enjoyed it and noted that he had requested to remain on the Justice & Social Services Committee the entire time he was on the County Board. The committee members wished Tapley all the best.

Anderson and Weibel spoke about attending the Children's Advocacy Center's open house. They reported the staff seemed content in the new space and it is a good facility. Anderson said she would appreciate it if committee members would contact either her or Kat Bork in advance if they will not be able to attend a meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Putman thanked James for serving as the County Board liaison on the County Board of Health. She stated that she would appreciate him giving a verbal report to this committee every couple of months. Bork pointed out that the Board of Health action report and minutes are available on the Board of Health section of the County's website.

APPROVAL OF CLOSED SESSION MINUTES

MOTION by James to approve the Justice & Social Services Committee closed session minutes of October 1, 2007; seconded by Hogue. **Motion carried.**

DESIGNATION OF ITEMS TO BE PLACED ON COUNTY BOARD CONSENT AGENDA

Anderson did not designate any items for the consent agenda. James requested that Anderson report to the full Board that the Juvenile Delinquency Grants will be extended.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kat Bork
Recording Secretary

Secy's note: The minutes reflect the order of the agenda and may not necessarily reflect the order of business conducted at the meeting.