

Ward County Social Service Board
Minutes
 June 21, 2016 – 8:00 AM
 Ward County Commissioner's Chambers

PRESENT:

John Fjeldahl
 Larry Louser
 Jack Nybakken
 Shelly Weppler
 Alan Walter

Also present were Melissa Bliss, Director and Karen Schultz, Recording Secretary.

MOTION:

It was moved by John Fjeldahl, seconded by Larry Louser and unanimously carried by the Board approval of the Minutes of the May 17, 2016 Regular Board Meeting.

MOTION:

It was moved by Shelly Weppler, seconded by Larry Louser and unanimously carried by the Board approval of the bills according to the attached list and following summary,

Social Welfare Expenditures

GENERAL ASSISTANCE	9,636.26
BOARD MEMBER EXPENDITURES	321.83
ADMINISTRATIVE PAYROLL	298,182.87
ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES	8,536.69
TRAVEL & REGISTRATION FEES	4,900.84
WORKERS COMP PREMIUM	.00
LIABILITY INSURANCE	.00
EMPLOYEE HEALTH INSURANCE	70,923.62
EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT & LIFE	39,394.51
SOCIAL SECURITY& MEDICARE MATCH	21,708.37
PARENT AIDE EXPENDITURES	4,736.44
WRAPAROUND SW EXPENDITURES	7,634.44
SAFETY PERMANENCY FUNDS	1,975.14
WELLNESS COMMITTEE	.00
FC PROGRAM EXPENSE	.00
FOSTER CARE TRANSPORTATION	384.28
TECS./VISION/SAMS OPERATIONAL COSTS	.00
EBT FOOD STAMP COSTS	.00
TOTAL SOCIAL WELFARE EXP	480,158.12

The Board reviewed the General Assistance approvals and denials. No appeals were heard.

Director Melissa Bliss had provided the board members with a copy of a letter from The Village Family Service Institute regarding their annual grant request in the amount of \$10,000.00. The Village provides services through the Supervised Parenting Time and Child Exchange Program. This supervision service is a great asset to Ward County Social Services and the numbers of families and individuals that they serve has greatly increased in the last few years. This amount is budgeted for in FY 2016.

MOTION:

It was moved by Shelly Wepler, seconded by John Fjeldahl and unanimously carried by the Board, the approval of a \$10,000 grant to The Village Family Service Institute, as requested.

Director Bliss displayed for the Board members, the panic alert buttons which have just been received from Vestige. The four devices will soon be activated and ready for use.

Director Bliss also informed the Board members of upcoming conferences in which 8 child welfare workers will be attending the Children's Justice Symposium in July and 4 eligibility workers will be attending a Showcase in August. Expenses for hotel, per diem and mileage will be reflected in a future Listing of Bills.

Melissa also informed the Board members that she still needs to work out the details regarding exempt versus non-exempt status of employees. She indicated that the supervisors will still meet the exempt status due to their job duties. She expressed concern over the need to work extra hours particularly for foster care case managers which would result in comp time being earned. She also explained that a number of employees are choosing to come to work early even though they are not claiming comp time on their time sheets and that the issue will need to be resolved by not allowing workers to come in early at their own choosing. Board Member Nybakken inquired if we had ever considered having our social workers sign contracts similar to those that educators sign. She indicated that we have not. Director Bliss will work on her recommendations for the exempt versus non-exempt status and present it to the Board at a future date. It will then be their decision whether or not to accept the changes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 am.

Alan Walter, Chairman

Date

Karen Schultz, Recording Secretary