

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINNESOTA FAMILY SUPPORT & RECOVERY COUNCIL
Jimmy's Pourhouse in Sauk Rapids –March 20, 2008

Members present: Juan Martinez, John Stark, Jenna Penfield, Sandy Slocum, Grant Forsyth, Ruth Sundermeyer, Karen Strandemo, Nancy Menssen, Anne Bradley, Sandy Thorne, Jolene Annen, Melissa Rossow, Terri Nielsen, Lori Lofrano, Robert Tipp, Carol Wacker, Robyn Krause, Julie Erickson, Lisa Kontz, Trygve Larsen, Rich Thielman, Yvonne Bibro, Lynda Flykt, Jennifer Stanfield, Pat Krauth, Tracy Howe, Diane Hall, .

Excused Absences: Michelle Collins, Brian Buhman, Jenny Nystrom, Mark Ponsolle.

Unexcused Absences:

Guests: Jenese Dawson

1. The meeting was called to order by President, Juan Martinez at 11:05 am at the Jimmy's Pourhouse Inn in Sauk Rapids, MN.
2. Secretary's report: Secretary, Anne Bradley had previously distributed minutes for the meeting of January 17, 2008 by email. Motion by Ruth Sundermeyer, 2nd by Grant Forsyth to approve the minutes of 1/17/2008. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer's Report: Report was distributed and summary given by Treasurer John Stark. Savings balance of \$4,119.78, checking account balance of \$1,073.85, and conference account balance of \$5079.37. Treasurer's report placed on file.
4. Collaborative Reports:
 - A. MSSA-John Stark reported the MSSA conference is next week and MFSRC is sponsoring 4 sessions. He provided the times, names of the sessions and the names of the presenters of the sessions.
 - B. Child Support Advisory Board-Sandy Thorne reported that they met on 03/05/2008 and she reported regarding items that were discussed at that meeting. DEED interface is being worked so that the REI interfaces correctly when a cases close. MEWS-DHS is currently fielding registration issues, and they are waiting for employers to start signing up. MC2 interface is moving ahead looking at 07/01/2008 for completion. Employers EFT implementation, notices will be sent to counties around 03/17/2008 to include with their income withholding notices. SMI -plan to roll out with PRISM, MAXIS and SSIS information sometime in July. Abandoned funds have been identified and the funds will be sent to the Department of Commerce in December. TRIBAL update—White Earth is looking at federal approval in 60 to 90 days and Red Lake is looking at approval after 07/01/2008. ROP clean up for counties, the automation of the update of ROPD will only happen if the record is an exact match, if not the county worker will have to update. The real time search access will be available sometime in May 2008.
 - C. MCRA-Carol Wacker reported that they last met 01/10/2008 and one of the items covered was discussion regarding Department of Revenue and the revenue recapture process. Next meeting is 04/17/2008.

D. MACSSA- No report.

E. MCAA- Lisa Kontz reminded the board that the date for MCAA one day seminar in St Cloud is May 2, 2008 and will be held at the St Cloud Convention Center. A draft agenda should be available in the next few weeks.

5. Old Business:

- 1) Policy on NCSEA attendance—carried to next meeting.

6. New Business:

- 1) Actions of the Executive Board since the October meeting—Juan Martinez reported that the Executive Board had approved to pay \$45.00 for entry of the MFSRC display board into a government communication contest. Molly Crawford from DHS recently improved the usefulness and the looks of the MFSRC display board. The decision on the winning entry will be in May.
- 2) Website Contact Information—carried to next meeting
- 3) Conference Site for 2009—Juan Martinez addressed the issue of prior Board action to approve Cragun's as the conference site for 2009, and whether there was interest in revisiting this issue. Motion made by Grant Forsyth, 2nd by Lynda Flykt to rescind the prior action that the 2009 MFSRC conference be held at Cragun's. Extended discussion followed regarding State and County budgets issues for 2009, membership concerns, and networking issues. Motion carried.
- 4) Legislation to restore funding— Lisa Kontz reported that there is Federal Legislation out there that has a lot of sponsors, and as an organization we have been asked to draft a letter regarding our concerns. Motion made by Lisa Kontz, 2nd by Ruth Sundermeyer that Mark Ponsolle draft the letter for MFSRC. Motion carried.
- 5) Exhibitor Fee for St Louis Co Human Service Conference—John Stark addressed the board regarding having the MFSRC display board at the St Louis Human Service Conference and the cost of the exhibitor fee. He informed the board that last year they had 1800 participants, 100 sessions and 135 exhibitors. Motion made by Robert Tipp, 2nd by Tryge Larson that MFSRC pay the \$175.00 exhibitor fee at have the display board at the St Louis Human Service Conference. Motion carried.
- 6) CSED update—Pat Krauth reported that CSED is applying for a federal 1115 grant for special improvement projects. The focus of this grant is a lot like SHLIF. Priority 1 focus of the Federal Grant is on projects in support of the the Federal Project to Avoid Increasing Delinquencies (PAID) initiative. DHS has contracted with a professional grant writer to help with this step. The focus will be work on streamlining modifications policies, processes, and forms. Part of this focus to improve and streamline will be that the IV-D agency will initiate the action, instead of sending pro-se motions (especially with incarcerated parents). A meeting was held yesterday with many of the parties that would be involved to talk about the barriers and ideas for streamlining. Some suggestions are to simplify the forms, like a mod EZ for incarcerated parents, parents on PA, or receiving SSI, and another set of modification papers for parties that are in agreement. Another suggestion is removing the expense information if the matter is not going to court. Very short time frame the application for the grant needs to be mailed by 04/10/2008. Pat Krauth stated that if someone has ideas, that you want to be addressed or thought about to let him know.

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance – No report.
2. Constitution & By-Laws – no report.

3. Legislation – Lisa Kontz reported that they did not meet this morning. The leadership in the State Legislation, both House and Senate have decided that with one exception there will be no bills passed regarding child support policy and funding. The one exception is a bill asking the Supreme Court to do a study on joint physical custody and a study evaluating family laws. The legislation committee is monitoring, and they hope that counties will get a voice in the study. At the Federal level the bill regarding DEFRA funding is moving slowly and there is no money attached to it at this time. Julie Erickson added that there is a budget bill from DHS on the child support piece regarding changes in the assignment piece of DEFRA.
4. Historical – Grant Forsyth reported that he has taken a look at the old folders being put on zip drive and have them running at conference, and then we would have this capability at anytime.
5. Education – No report.
6. Public Relations – No report.
7. Conference Registration – Teri Nielsen reported that there issues right now with setting up the bank account, but she is trying to get the issues resolved.
8. Overall Conference – Sandy Slocum reported that she has sent out 36 vendor letters with a requested response deadline of June 1, 2008. She plans to send out a second notice around May 15, 2008. Vendors will be set up in the pool area and there is room for more vendors at Cragun's than what we had at Maddens. So if anyone knows of anyone else that would be interested in setting up an exhibit to let her know.
9. Conference Program – Jenna Penfield reported that the theme has been decided, the grid is starting to get filled in and the next meeting is at Cragun's at 10:00 on April 24th. Information for the grid needs to be to Jenna one week before the April meeting.
10. Nominations & Elections – Sandy Thorne reported that she passed around the nomination list for positions that are up for election. A nominee is needed for the 1st Vice Chair position. Discussion followed regarding setting up a DOC position that would be appointed by the board. Decision that since this would require a change in the constitution and by-laws, that this issue would be addressed the next time a legislative change to the constitution and by-laws needs to be done.
11. Awards – No report.
12. Website – No report.
13. Conference Site – Grant Forsyth reported that we will be at Cragun's in 2008 and at time it is unknown for 2009.
14. Newsletter Committee – Tracy Howe reported that there was no newsletter last time because no information was submitted to her. She needs ideas and information to be able to put the newsletter together. Discussion followed. It was decided that she would request information from people, but they need to get back to her on whether they will be able to provide the information. She will put a schedule together of the dates she needs the information by so she is able to complete the newsletter timely.

Motion by Robert Tipp, 2nd by Lynda Flykt to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 12:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Bradley
Secretary-MFSRC