

MINUTES  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING  
MINNESOTA FAMILY SUPPORT & RECOVERY COUNCIL  
Jimmy's Pourhouse in Sauk Rapids –November 19<sup>th</sup>, 2009

Members present: Sandy Slocum, Melissa Rossow, Jolene Annen, Jenna Penfield, John Stark, Lori Hanson, Jenny Nystrom, Nancy Menssen, Jennifer Stanfield, Kala Kolkind, Karen Strandemo, Rich Thielman, Karey Hindi, Tracy Howe, Jami Schwartz, Teri Nielsen, Ruth Sundermeyer, Sandy Thorne, Grant Forsyth, Tina Buscher, Lori Lofrano, Kathleen Tracy, Pat Krauth, Mark Ponsolle, Diane Hall, Trygve Larsen

Guests: Robert Tipp, Linda Flykt, Carol Von Ende

Excused Absences: Lisa Kontz, Patrick Hest, Juan Martinez

Unexcused Absence: Brian Buhmann

1. The meeting was called to order by President Sandy Slocum at 10:55 a.m. at the Jimmy's Pourhouse in Sauk Rapids, MN.
2. Secretary's Report: Secretary Lori Hanson had previously distributed minutes for the meeting of Sept. 15, 2009, by email. Motion made by Pat Krauth, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Sandy Thorne, to approve and file the minutes of Sept.15, 2009. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer's Report: Report was distributed and summary given by Treasurer John Stark. We ended up coming out \$28,186.53 ahead on conference! Current Conference Account balance is \$31,643.47. All agreed that these are fantastic numbers. Treasurer's report approved as distributed and placed on file.
4. Collaborative Reports:
  - A. MSSA: Need new representative due to John Stark's retirement.
  - B. Child Support Advisory Board: Sandy Thorne reported on several items:
    1. Interfaces/MEC2-delayed. They are testing. Next meeting should have error reports.
    2. Federal-SRD changes have been migrated.  
The ASDN Webinar was finally published. Work being done on a Q&A (which is out there now). Deliverable 3 report should be available next week, Deliverable 4 by the end of November. More webinars to come.
    3. DD/EFT-Plan to reduce the number of warrants is not as cost effective as was hoped. Credit/Debit card payments are being looked at. Question of fees for this service.
    4. Guidelines Phase 2-Work on Relative Caretaker/Foster Care and Healthcare documents. Modification documents hopefully in place by year end.

5. DEFRA-Migration of SRD dates completed. Conditionally assigned arrears were moved--about \$60 million moved to NPA accounts.
6. ROP/MDH Interface- Delayed. Hopefully will be completed by Spring, 2010.
7. Tribal Program Dev-Leech Lake meeting 12/1/09, and hope to be up by 4/1/2011. Mille Lacs-no recent contact.
8. Modification Relief Project-Economic Relief Effort-State sent out a report to be worked for "good payors" currently on REI. They developed quick modification forms specifically for this project.
9. Legislative updates-Mark to report later.
10. Border Project-25 WI workers to get MN access, 25 MN workers to get WI access.
11. DHS-Ideas needed regarding federal laws that seem to be outdated. Send suggestions for the Dec 8<sup>th</sup> BIG 8 meeting. (Ex. Closing codes, notices)
12. CSSED-Announcement clarification. Although not to use words FEDERAL tax offset, PI, or any federal tax intercept identifier in CAAD notes and such, you may say "tax offset" in general. One county is using Eagle for federal and Loon for state!

At this point in the meeting, we took time to acknowledge John Stark and Bob Tipp, who are both retiring (retired!) after many years of gracious, loyal service to MFSRC. Bob was made an honorary life member and given a plaque, John was given a beautiful, engraved wooden photo album. Both will be missed!

- C. MCRA: No meeting since last MFSRC meeting. Hope to have elections at the January meeting.
- D. MACSSA: Jami Schwartz indicated that their meeting issues were much the same as Advisory Board. Proposed 2010 legislation, Wayland and Shirley to offer more communication on the Service Delivery Model, Webinar around December. Can e-mail any comments, suggestions to Wayland Campbell.
- E. MCAA: Mark Ponsolle reported on a few issues:
  1. Planning for the 05/2010 Conference. 1 day Seminar, in cooperation with MFSRC. Will have the regular sessions on Friday and include CSOs, Supervisors, other invited attendees. Thursday will be an "experimental" day for ACAs that work with Child Support only. A skills training/sharing day.
  2. Jennifer Stanfield-forming a sub-committee on multiple family issues. Request for other attorneys interested to contact Jennifer. There was a question from Nancy Menssen regarding if collection ACAs would be included. This is actually a committee for child support issues, so probably not at this time. Mark will talk more with MCAA about this though.

3. Tribal Issues-TRIBE/STATE interaction-a sub-committee is working on this process. Tribes are their own nation, so this is a complex issue.

5. Old Business:

- A. 2010 Conference Bids-Grant reported. The conference site committee will do comparisons on the bids received. We have bids from Breezy Point, Madden's, Cragun's, Kelly Inn and the Kahler. Looking at September or October dates, as prices seem comparable. E-mails will follow.
- B. Web Conferencing-Tryg reported. Great experience at conference, and Tryg watched from home and it looked great. Comments have been overwhelmingly positive. Cost was \$200 for the 2 month trial. To continue with Citrix go to Webinar, it is \$100/mo or \$960 (20% discount) for an annual plan. Some discussion on charges/session (NCSEA charges \$300/session and we could do it for MUCH less!), future webinars, subscribing to an annual plan, use for training, session ideas. Motion made by Melissa to get a committee together and then do an annual plan when we are ready to move forward. Motion 2<sup>nd</sup> by Pat. Motion passed.  
Additional discussion and it was decided that the education committee would do this. Melissa will be added to the education committee per her request. Pat also mentioned the MFFN-Strengthening Families convention to be held at Arrowhead. We may be able to offer to broadcast OCSE Commissioner Vicky Turetsky's speech as a collaboration. (SECRETARY'S NOTE: On 6/15/2009, Vicki Turetsky was appointed as the Commissioner for the Office of Child Support Enforcement in the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Administration for Children and Families.) We may be able to do a trade off--broadcast the speech/webinar in exchange for the booth fee. Motion by Grant, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ruth to consult with MFFN to see if they will do this. Motion passed.
- C. Display Board-Tina Buscher will take over the display board as well as John's position as chair of the Public Relations Committee.

6. New Business:

- A. Actions of the Executive Board since the last meeting-Sandy
  1. Appointment of Teri Nielsen as Treasurer due to John's retirement.
  2. Tina Buscher to be John's replacement for Public Relations  
MSSA rep to be decided. Does this need to be a board member? Tabled to Jan. meeting, Old Business
- B. New Registration Chair-Carol Von Ende from Benton County.
- C. Working on new 6<sup>th</sup> District Representative. Tabled to Old Business next meeting.
- D. MSSA replacement. See above. Tabled until next meeting.

7. Committee Reports

- A. Finance-Diane Hall: She is working with Teri Nielsen
- B. Constitution and By-Laws-Melissa Rossow: One more year until redistricting. Hold off on any by-law changes until then. Suggested we read

the by-laws and offer any ideas/suggestions for changes. Some discussion on what is involved with this.

C. Legislation-Mark Ponsolle:

1. Federal: Bill at the federal level that would permanently fix the effects of the Recovery Act. Senate Bill 1859 is a stand-alone bill to permanently fix this. Sandy gave permission for MFSRC to support this.

2. State: State at 2 year level...the 2008 bills to be “resurrected” for 2010.

\*I/W - 20% on arrears fix

\*No renewal of judgments required

\*Redirection issues

\*Administrative subpoenas for cell companies, etc.

The redirection issue got far before, but there was a roadblock at the judicial committee. Sen. Mee Moua would not hear any family law bills. Per discussion with MSSA reps, they are now open to hearing family law bills this year if non-controversial and no amendments. Non-controversial in that money to follow child and money savings. However, became somewhat controversial, as some concerns among reps. Personal service suggested, but not cost effective.

\*Fix on FIDM - Questions on statute of limitation and if MN

Customer Credit Protection Act applies to FIDMs.

D. Historical-Grant Forsyth: Two “pieces of history” leaving us in John Stark and Bob Tipp.

E. Education-Lori Lofrano: We have a project (Webinar project). YEAH! Melissa Rossow and Jenny Nystrom to be added to the Education Committee.

F. Public Relations-John Stark: Tina Buscher will be replacing John. Possibility of registration/booth swap for MSSN. Do we want to do the Human Services Conference at Duluth? Do we want to go back to participating in events/conferences? MFFN-Lori and Linda Flykt will do this if we will pay. Lori Lofrano motioned to pay the registration fee if it is \$300 or less and if the trade-off doesn't happen. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Grant. Motion carried.

G. Conference Registration-Carol Von Ende: Conference went well. We had 288 registrants. Of those, 172 were registration only (stayed) and 116 were commuters. We made some money!

H. Overall Conference-Jolene Annen: We're having one!

I. Conference Program-Melissa Rossow: Talked about meetings, ideas. The Site Committee will be looking at the proposals and comparing sites, looking at date selection, theme ideas. “Family” was suggested as that is a popular theme among organizations for the future.

We had great, constructive feedback on this year's conference. People appreciated fewer tracks...we will not go back to 7. Other comments were good basic training, focused.

Suggested we set a date ASAP so that maybe we can get Vicky Turetsky to speak.

J. Nominations and Elections-Sandy Thorne: Working on a 6<sup>th</sup> district rep.

K. Awards-Rich Thielman: Nothing to report

L. Website-Tracy Howe: Revamping the website. Will bring proposals to the next meeting.

M. Conference Site-Grant Forsyth: Received 5 proposals. Committee will meet and discuss/compare. Leaning toward September dates right now. Ruth

requested that we please keep in mind county budgets and commuting option, especially since we had a significant number of commuters this year. Ruth had done a Northern Supervisor's questionnaire pertaining to conference attendance and shared that. Melissa requested that district reps touch base with their constituents. Mark to market to Sr. Managers/Directors, but sups need to speak with them and promote conference.

N. Newsletter-Tracy Howe: Should be out within the next couple of weeks. Be sure to take a look!

Motion made by Ruth Sundermeyer to adjourn. Seconded by Pat Krauth. Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Lori Hanson  
Secretary-MFSRC