

MINUTES
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
MINNESOTA FAMILY SUPPORT & RECOVERY COUNCIL
Jimmy's in Sauk Rapids – February 16, 2006

Members present: Robert Tipp, Julie Erickson, Juan Martinez, Anne Bradley, John Stark, Sandy Thorne, Lori Lofrano, Rich Thielman, Grant Forsyth, Ruth Sundermeyer, Julie Ellis, Sandy Slocum, Lisa Kontz, Diane Hall, Sharon VanEpps, Jenna Penfield, Linda Flykt, Brian Buhmann, Yvonne Bibro, Melissa Rossow.

Excused Absences: Mary Belfield, Mark Ponsolle, Jolene Annen, Diane Hodel, Theresa Olson, Wayland Campbell, Nancy Schroeder, Michelle Collins, Pat Krauth.

Unexcused: Jennifer Stanfield, Tracy Howe.

Guests: Trygve Larson

1. The meeting was called to order by President, Robert Tipp at 11:25 am at Jimmy's Pourhouse in Sauk Rapids, MN.
2. Secretary's report: Secretary, Anne Bradley had previously distributed minutes for the meeting of December 8, 2005 by email. Two corrections needed—error in spelling of a last name and wrong last name. Motion by Grant Forsyth, 2nd by Sandy Thorne to approve the minutes of 12/08/2005, as corrected. Motion carried.
3. Treasurer's Report: Report was distributed and summary given by Treasurer John Stark. Savings balance of \$19844.41, checking account balance of \$1801.42. Treasurer's report placed on file.
4. Collaborative Reports:
 - A. MSSA-Theresa Olson absent but provided written report—Anne Bradley read report which informed the Board that there will be four MFSRC/Child support sessions at the MSSA conference in 03/06. The sessions are Paternity: Establishment and Disestablishment, Child Support Guidelines: Changes on the Way, Recreational License Suspension: A "How to" Guide, and ACRE Account Review. She also provided information on other sessions that would be of interest to MFSRC members. John Stark informed the Board that he would be bringing the MFSRC display board for our booth at conference. Robert Tipp reported to the group that Theresa Olson will no longer be able to be our representative for MSSA, and that MSSA would need to appoint a representative. Brian Buhmann stated that he would approach the MSSA Board in March on who they may want to designate. Robert Tipp stated he would also contact Deb Most on this issue.

- B. Child Support Advisory Board-Sandy Thorne reported that DHS has a technical bill approved by the Governor, and that DHS is setting up new workgroups. They are eliminating the policy workgroup and forming two new ones, an interstate workgroup and a locate workgroup. They are also setting up a short term workgroup to look at ROP interface. She reported that Taylor Edmundson is heading up a training that is being presented to counties on IV-A/IV-D workforce collaboration. She provided information on the new guideline training. It is expected that in April & May the 1st presentation will be completed with a follow up in August & September and a hands on training will be available later in the year. Other information she provided is that Recodification won't happen until fall, and that SMI is currently being piloted and will be going statewide effective 03/01/2006 and that everything will be migrated for direct deposit as of the end of February 2006. As far as direct deposit if an account closes, CSPC will send a letter to the client to try and get new information. If no new information is provided, they CSPC will send the client the Relia card. This action will be done quarterly.
- C. MCRA-Sandy Slocum reported that they met on 01/18/2006, and there was great attendance. Brian Shields is the new program integrity supervisor. She also informed the group that the legislation change allows collection officers to have PIN(Program Integrity Network) access. This allows them to access DL info, Maxi's , Prism, and DEED. DHS will be providing training for collection officers and fraud investigators.
- D. MACSSA- Brian Buhman reported regarding child support guideline training, a general video will be available in April or May, hands on forms will be available for the training in August and September and final training will be in November or December. He informed the Board that the CS Audit System Wide report was completed 02/06/2006 and there were recommendations in the report for improvements, but MACSSA as a group has not addressed the recommendations yet. He also stated that there is a 15 to 20 minute overview presentation next week regarding guidelines for the directors and the general assembly. The March meeting will be canceled due to the MSSA conference.
- E. MCAA-No report

5. Old Business:

1. Invitation to past presidents to attend MFSRC conference—tabled to next meeting.
2. President's Process for MFSRC Appointments –Rich Thielman reported that the issue is that the open positions on the board were not made public and appointments were not made public. The suggestion is that we make it known to all MFSRC members when a position becomes open to allow all members the ability to express an interest and to have a chance to be on the board. Ultimately it would be the president's responsibility appoint. Rich Thielman will draft a proposal and send to Robert Tipp to send out to the board for approval.
3. Contributions for Training—tabled to next meeting.

6. New Business:

- 1) Voting Options at Conference—tabled to next meeting
- 2) Guidelines Update-Lori Lofrano reported that she is on the Guideline Workgroup which consists of 15 county workers and a lot of DHS staff and things are working well. She stated that there are a million sub groups working on things such as: CP obligations, enforcement against CP's, how collections on CP's will look on Prism, how medical support is going to play out, tweeking documents, 6 month review workgroup, CP offset, unreimbursed, payment plans, COLA and CP income. She explained that there is a Parenting time interpretation change in that if an order is silent on parenting time, it was believed that you would use the 12% deduction however the interpretation is that if there is no court order regarding parenting time you would not allow the deduction. Melissa Rossow informed the group that under this interpretation some of the counties believe that we can no longer proceed with 256 actions based on ROPs in ex pro, and they feel all of those cases will have to go to district court. She stated that Senator Neville has been made aware of this issue and agrees that clarification needs to added to the Statute. His intent was that everyone without an order would get the 12%.
- 3) Proclamation for child support enforcement workers—Sandy Thorne informed the group that there has been a request that the MFSRC Board to consider requesting a proclamation for child support enforcement workers. Motion made by Juan Martinez, 2nd by Sandy Slocum that MRSRC make an application but that it should include all Child Support Professionals, and Collection Officers. Motion carried. Decision was to apply for 08/01/2006 since August is Child Support Awareness Month, and Robert Tipp will pursue this on behalf of MFSRC.
- 4) Display Board—John Stark reported the our MFSRC display board now has a header with the MFSRC name spelled out, thanks to the efforts of Grant Forsyth and “Fastline Graphic” of Duluth who designed and produced it for us. The display board, complete with the new “header” was itself on display at our meeting. A picture of it will be sent out to the MFSRC Board for those members not in attendance

7. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

1. Finance – Diane Hall reported that she has completed the audit on the MFSRC books and she will be completing an audit on the conference account.
2. Constitution & By-Laws –Melissa Rossow informed the Board that she has split the list of counties between the committee members, and the committee members will make phone calls to get the current FTE counts. Then these counts will be compared to the 2001 counts, to determine whether redistricting needs to done. A report will be made to the Board prior to conference and a report will also be presented at the business meeting at conference. Sandy Thorne questioned whether the collection officers should be part of the count. Discussion held, and at this time the by-laws do not include the collection officers in the count, so an amendment will need to be made. It was decided that we would address this issue after this year.
3. Legislation – Legislation – Lisa Kontz reported that Senator Neuville has a list of proposed changes and DHS has sent him a list of technical changes. Some of the

- items on the list include: Presumption of Parenting Time, making a two tier deduction for parenting time, spousal maintenance on current case being deducted before child support is calculated, clearing up effective date issue, and joint physical custody. She informed the group that the Legislative committee has some ideas for fixes which include: redirection, interest charging, and there are some other ideas from the collections group.
4. Historical - No report.
 5. Education - No report.
 6. Public Relations - Juan Martinez reported that the header for the display board has been completed and the display board will be at MSSA conference.
 7. Conference Registration – no report.
 8. Overall Conference – Juan Martinez reported that the conference is still going on.
 9. Conference Program – Conference Program – Julie Erickson reported that the committee met this morning. The highlights are that the theme will be Gearing Up for Guidelines, Sandy Slocum and Sandy Thorne will be working on ideas for giveaways, Grant Forsyth has signed up the same band as last year, and is working on other ideas for entertainment, and Rich Thielman and Sandy Thorne are working on ideas for the Newcomers Program.
 10. Nominations & Elections – Sandy Thorne informed the group that she is passing a sheet around which list the positions that are coming up for re-election. She would like for the current Board members to let her know if they are willing to run again and she will be putting something together to send out to the full membership looking for nominees.
 11. Awards – No report.
 12. Website – Julie Erickson reported that she will be getting in touch with Lou Anderson.
 13. Conference Site – Lori Lofrano reported that the contract has been signed and deposit has been paid to Madden's. She stated that her and Sandy Thorne would be setting up a meeting with Madden's to discuss issues that came up last year, that need to be addressed prior to our upcoming conference.
 14. Membership Committee – No report.
 15. Newsletter Committee—Sharon VanEpps questioned as to whether this has ever been done before and how often should the newsletter be issued. Discussion held, and it was decided that Sharon VanEpps would get in touch with Theresa Olson to start addressing issues.

Motion by Julie Erickson, 2nd by Sandy Thorne to adjourn. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 1:08 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Bradley
Secretary-MFSRC