

The Red Lake County Welfare Board met on Wednesday, May 17, 2023, at 4:00 pm and adjourned at 5:30 pm.

The following Board members were present:

Ron Weiss
Allen Remick
Anthony Flage
Tony Gerardy

General Business:

Approval of Agenda:

Commissioner Remick moved to approve the agenda.

Commissioner Gerardy seconded the motion.

Upon being put to a voice vote, the motion prevailed all yeas and no nays.

Reading of the Minutes

Commissioner Remick moved that the April 19, 2023, minutes be approved as presented.

Commissioner Flage seconded the motion.

Upon being put to a voice vote, the motion prevailed all yeas and no nays.

Administrative Bills:

Commissioner Remick moved to approve the administrative bills as presented.

Commissioner Gerardy seconded the motion.

Upon being put to a voice vote, the motion prevailed all yeas and no nays.

Discussion/Decision Items:

Conflict of Interest Discussion:

Red Lake County Social Services Executive Board Meeting: 5/17/2023 at 4:00 p.m.

Present:

Tanner Holten, County Attorney

Kristi Nelson, Red Lake County Social Services

Mr. Flage, Mr. Weiss, Mr. Remick. And Mr. Gerardy

Kristi Nelson gave a brief summary of a need for home and community-based services. See attached summary provided by Kristi Nelson. Ms. Nelson confirmed that she is not expecting to have any financial gain from this agreement. She also stated that her partnership will only be used in situations where other agencies are unable to fulfill Red Lake County's needs (due to lack of staffing, lack of resources, etc.). Ms. Nelson explained that her partnership merely acts as an intermediary and that the funds transferred to her partnership would go directly and completely to the partnership's subcontractors.

At this point, Ms. Nelson left the room. Mr. Holten began taking meeting minutes.

Red Lake County Attorney Tanner Holten briefed the council on the applicable law in this situation relating to contracting with public officers. In summary, the County can contract with an employee in certain circumstances and so long as proper disclosures are made. Here, Ms. Nelson informed the board of the conflict of interest, advised them that she is not expecting financial gain, and noted an unavailability of other service providers. After that explanation, Mr.

Holten informed the Board that in order for this action to pass, it would require unanimous consent.

Not discussed specifically but provided herein for reference: See Minn. Stat. § 471.87 (imposing a general prohibition on contracting with a public officer except as authorized in Minn. Stat. § 471.88); See Minn. Stat. § 471.88 (listing of exceptions to the general prohibition but requiring unanimous consent).

Motion, by Mr. Gerardy, Second, by Mr. Flage. Approved unanimously.

After the motion, Director Nelson returned to the meeting.

Informational Items:

Director Nelson asked the Commissioners for any constituent concerns that had been brought forward. There were no concerns.

Director Nelson provided a brief director's report of activities.

Director Nelson reported that an interview was offered to an applicant after the posting closed. The selected candidate declined the interview the day of the scheduled interview. The position is now posted as open until filled.

Director Nelson reported that funds were allocated to lead agencies to support the processing of MA eligibility renewals during the "unwinding" process. Funds can be used for planning, hiring/training, overtime, supplies, equipment enrollee outreach and communications, printing, postage and technology. Funds will be distributed to lead agencies in the form of a one-time payment within the first two weeks of July. Based on enrollment counts, Red Lake County will receive \$23,863.

Director Nelson reported that RLCSSC met the performance markers set by MN DHS for 2022. Percent of SNAP and Cash Assistance Application Processed Timely was 98.3%. The required threshold set by MN DHS for this measure is 75%. Percent of Expedited SNAP Applications Processed within One Business Day was at 77.1%. The required threshold set by MN DHS for this measure is 55%.

Director Nelson reported that the annual BCBS audit was found to be 100% compliant on all audited measures.

Director Nelson reported that after further review, the agency will temporarily hold off on a vehicle purchase.

Director Nelson reported that up to two staff would be attending an online training to perform the Montreal Cognitive assessment. The cost of the certification is \$150/per person and will be taken out of the existing training budget.


Agency Unit Reports:

Handouts reviewed.

BE IT RESOLVED, the foregoing record is a true and accurate re-cording of the official actions and recommendations of the county welfare Board and as such, constitutes the official minutes thereof. Payment of assistance relief and claims indicated in those minutes is hereby ordered. The question was on the adoption of the resolution; and the roll being called there were 4 YEAS and 0 NAYS as follows:

Ron Weiss	YEA
Allen Remick	YEA
Anthony Flage	YEA
Tony Gerardy	YEA

Meeting Date: The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 21, 2023, at 4:00 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Social Services Building.



Acting Chairperson



Secretary

