

RICHLAND COUNTY CHILD SUPPORT

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MINUTES FOR DECEMBER 19, 2019

The Child Support Committee met on December 19, 2019 at 10:00 a.m. in the Jury Room of the Courthouse. Present were committee members Jeanetta Kirkpatrick, David Turk, and Ed Pulvermacher, Director Amy Forehand and Lead Caseworker, Amy Hoffman.

The meeting was called to order by Pulvermacher at 10:01 a.m. The meeting was properly posted. Turk moved to approve the agenda. Second by Kirkpatrick

Kirkpatrick moved to approve the minutes from the previous meeting. Second by Turk.

Forehand presented an invoice outlining the agency bills. Kirkpatrick moved to approve the bills. Second by Turk.

Forehand gave her directors report.

- a. The performance figures as of November 30, 2019 are as follows:

The collection rate is 83.57%. In October and November, the agency has collected \$198,770 in current support. The arrears rate is 54.79%. That is the seventh highest rate in the state. The court order rate is 92.61% and the paternity establishment rate is 97.16 %

- b. In the beginning of December, Amy and Nancy went to a one day training in Madison. Amy also went to a supervisor meeting. Forehand had Lead Caseworker Hoffman address the committee about things were happening in the agency. Hoffman explained that Webi is a new program Bureau is using to run reports. In the past, you might have had to wait a week or month to get a report. The new system gives reports in real time. The program has a wealth of information that is helpful with enforcement and case management. The new program makes it possible to manipulate the information and customize.

Hoffman reported that there is a change dictated by the state on when the agency needs to establish orders. No longer does the agency need to open cases when the parties live together. This is going to change the number of cases that the agency opens. For example 21 one of the 46 cases that were established in 2019, would not have had to be established.

Hoffman reported that the State has dictated changes in how the agency enforces orders. Workers are required to make several attempts to reach out to non-payers before using any punitive enforcement tools. Even then, the agency is restricted on when they can use punitive measures.

Hoffman and Forehand informed the committee that they are discussing ways to restructure the agency in the future. Forehand indicated that her workload for the County has shifted and Health and Human Services is needing more of her time. With the changes in the way the agency handles their cases and potential future changes, a restructuring of the positions within the agency may be in order. Hoffman and Forehand foresee proposing that Forehand's position return to being just providing legal services for the agency and returning to a Worker-Director. They talked about eliminating a position and creating a Case Worker-Financial Specialist position.

Turk moved to go into close session under Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1) at 10:43 a.m. to discuss personal issues. Second by Kirkpatrick. Kirkpatrick moved to return to open session at 11:14 a.m. Second by Turk.

The committee returned to open session. The next meeting was scheduled for January 23, 2019 at 10:00. Kirkpatrick moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Turk. Meeting was adjourned at 11:18 a.m. by Pulvermacher.