

UMATILLA COUNTY COMMISSION ON CHILDREN & FAMILIES
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July 1, 2009

Members present: Larry Hanson, Regina Marks, Sheri Maze, Joyce Turner, Teresa Elisoff, Arron Swenson, Charles Logan-Belford

Members absent: Toni Lehman (excused)

Staff present: Shelley Ena & Melvalee Carter

Guests: Nels Swenson & Connie Caplinger

Meeting minutes: The minutes of the June 3, 2009 were approved with a motion being made by Arron and seconded by Regina. Motion was approved.

Reports:

- Shelley presented a calendar for July with meetings, activities, and vacation days designated.
- Larry reported that he went to the final budget meeting for the State OCCF.
- Last coalition meeting was regarding the budget. Emerging issues meetings were cancelled due to the budget issues.

Old business:

- Following the ARRA grant phone discussion that Shelley was on she decided that what she wanted to use the funding for isn't what they want the money spent on so we will not be applying for it.
- ESD wraparound meetings continue. All committee's meeting as scheduled and hopefully by the time school starts in the Fall they are hoping to have a program implemented. Some grants have been applied for to fund these programs and positions. Connie stated that the schools are on boards as are many area agencies.
- CASA / Healthy Start resign – CASA and Relief Nursery funding wasn't cut for the 2009-2011 biennium. Healthy Start took a large cut to their funding for this same time period. Discussions regarding meeting performance measures being tied to funding, and possibilities of regionalizing some activities. Shelley will continue to forward all information regarding these programs to the board.
- Sheri talked about the CASA program. She shared a report of what's going on with the local program. A copy of the presentations and agencies Chris Cooper has contacted was passed around. Two volunteers are waiting to be sworn in by the Judge. Two are currently in training. Five Head Start employees have stated that they would be interested in going through the training also. Chris would be more than happy to make a presentation to the CCF board.

- CCF RFP re-work committee – Hasn't met as of yet. Needs to get going ASAP because we need to look at getting the RFP out within a month. Joyce, Sheri & Larry (alternate is Arron Swenson) are going to meet on July 13, 2009 at the Head Start building in Hermiston at 9:00 am.
- JCP process update was shared by Charles. He is meeting with the Chiefs of Police for all areas in our County. He wants to have a county survey go out to the residents with questions regarding what they see as concerns regarding juvenile crime. This process will allow local law enforcement to become vested in the JCP plan.

New business:

- Healthy Start recommendation from the Review Committee was received from Genni Lehnert. It was read to all in attendance. This committee made the recommendation to award the Healthy Start grant to Umatilla/Morrow County Head Start Inc. There was discussion of awarding the program for only 1 year at this point due to the OCCF re-design of this program. Motion to accept this recommendation made by Charles and seconded by Joyce. This will be for a one year contract at this time contingent upon available State funding. Motion was approved. NOTE: Sheri Maze, an employee of Head Start abstained from this discussion and vote.
- Discussion of having a policy for program. At this point Healthy Start, CASA and Relief Nurseries are all required to apply for funding. Charles really feels that the JCP prevention money available for the next biennium needs to be targeted at the greatest needs. He also feels that if we're going to ask the public for input as to needs we can't really award money to anyone before the planning process is completed. This would be a sort of slam to the public that their opinion doesn't matter. Arron thinks that maybe we need to continue the way we've done for the next year. Motion made by Charles to do a flexible funding program until the surveys can be received. There was no second motion made. A motion was then made by Theresa to postpone any funding for at least 3 months until surveys can be returned. Charles thinks maybe to wait 6 months then. Sheri agreed. Connie reminded everyone of the ramifications of change. No motion was made as to a final decision regarding this funding. Discussion tabled until next meeting in September.
- A copy of the next year's meeting dates was passed around. Discussion as to where they will be held. Please look it over and let Shelley know of ideas.
- Chairperson nomination for July 2009 – June 2011 was discussed. A nomination was made by Charles and seconded by Joyce to re-elect Larry. Motion was approved.

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Next meeting is scheduled for September 2, 2009. Meeting place to be announced.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Melvalee Carter