

**Child Welfare Advisory Committee  
February 23, 2009**

**Call to Order**

Jerry Foxhoven called the meeting to order at 10:30 am and roll was taken.

**Committee Members Present**

Jerry Foxhoven  
Nancy Magnall  
George Belitsos  
David VanNingen  
Jean McAleer  
George Estle  
Kathleen Kilnoski  
Dick Moore  
Randal Peters by phone  
Miriam Landsman by phone  
Mary Nelson  
Gene Gessow  
Cynthia Cox  
Ron Stehl

**Committee Members Not Present**

Amanda Ragan  
Matthew McDowell  
Tiffany Wilson  
James Seymour  
Janet Petersen  
Kathy Penkert

**Guests**

None present.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mary Nelson made note that the year was incorrect under the Mini CSFR. The minutes will be revised to reflect 2010 not 2009.

The minutes will also be amended to reflect that the Chair was supposed to draft and send a letter to Bill Gardam for both of the items listed in the discussion around the Emergency Child Mental Health Services RFP.

A motion was made by Cynthia Cox to approve the Minutes with the requested amendments. Ron Stehl seconded the motion and the minutes were approved unanimously.

A request was made to send the minutes out a few days in advance of the meeting so that they could be reviewed by the committee prior to the meeting.

### **Update on Emergency Child Mental Health Services RFP**

Mary Nelson provided an update on the second motion of the December 15 meeting. The motion was made for the Dept of Human Services Mental Health Division to discontinue the moratorium for Chapter 24. Nelson said that she checked on this and the Moratorium was on the community Mental Health Centers only. George Belitsos believes the letter was a little broader than just talking about the Community Mental Health Centers. Mary asked George to forward her a copy of the letter.

### **DHS Update (Administrator's Report)**

Mary Nelson provided an update from DHS. The written report is available on the Child Welfare Advisory Committee (CWAC) webpage. Nelson provided a brief overview of each topic.

DHS Director, Gene Gessow provided a brief overview of the budget for the rest of SFY 2009 and SFY 2010.

George Belitsos made a motion that the group sends a letter to Governor Culver thanking him for the protection of the Child Welfare Committee. David VanNingen seconded the motion. There was some discussion about this letter. Gessow requested that the letter also state that the committee appreciate that Governor Culver's views keeping children safe as a priority.

### **Action Items**

Jerry Foxhoven, CWAC chair, will draft and send a letter to Governor Culver. George Estel requested that the committee defer any action on the DHS report at this time. Estel also requested that if any hand-outs including the DHS report be sent out prior to the meeting so that everyone will have plenty of time to review.

### **DHS Review of Provider Capacity Subcommittee Survey**

Mary Nelson provided an overview of what the committee has been working on and provided several handouts.

Miriam Landsman and Mathy Penkert will review the response from DHS and provide feedback to the CWAC at the next meeting.

### **Legislative Proposals, Recommendations and Actions**

George Belitsos distributed a hand out of Legislative issues and provided a brief overview. Belitsos recommended that the group support the following issues: (G) Improve Educational Opportunities for Youth in Treatment, (J) Emancipation (K) Guardianship

House File 315. This house file is the Iowa calibration for youth development. It was not included on the hand out because it just came out on Friday.

Belitsos made a motion that the group support the Elevate bills and the Iowa collaboration. Dick Moore seconded the motion. After some discussion it was decided that the motion would be withdrawn.

Belitsos asked that the agenda for the next meeting include time for further discussion around these issues.

Belitsos will e-mail the hand-out to Michelle Muir so that it can be added to the web site.

A second request was made to provide hand-outs prior to the meeting so that they can be reviewed prior to the meeting.

### **Public Comment**

There was no Public Comments.

### **Future Meetings**

The next meeting will be March 27<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 to 2:00

Meeting Adjourned at 2:30 PM

Lori VandeWall  
Recording Secretary