

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Churchill County Social Services Advisory Board was called to order at 10:05 a.m. on the above date by Shannon Ernst.

PRESENT: Brad Goetsch, Churchill County Manager –
Representative for Elected Official
Lori Capurro, Owner Anchor Properties –
Representative for Community Business Owners
Karen Stoll, Director FRIENDS Family Resource Center –
Representative for low-income families

ABSENT: NONE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None

AGENDA

Brad Goetsch moved to approve the agenda minutes and revisions from January 24, 2007. Lori Capurro seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote.

MINUTES

1. Shannon Ernst gave a detail explanation on the Youth Backpack Program, and the recent hire of a Project Coordinator to oversee the functioning of the program. Through the expansion of Project Food, the Youth Backpack Program will allow volunteers to prepare up to 50 packages per week for youth ages 2 to 18 years old, to supplement their weekend and holiday period food supply. The program is designed to provide children enrolled in school with nutritious food. The applications for the program have been made available to all those interested and a Public Service Announcement will be released on Friday May 25, 2007.
2. Shannon Ernst informed the committee of another program she would like to begin in collaboration with John Riley from the Fallon Police Department. The proposed program, Backpacks for Youth in Transition, would provide comfort items, such as blankets and stuffed animals, to children displaced due to domestic violence issues, etc.
 - a. Funding is made available through CSBG; \$1500 allocated for any new innovative program
 - b. An additional \$1200 may be available from Soroptomist; Reno's Non-Profit group, whom oversees Churchill County's Geothermal Funds, must distribute monies to women and children within our county
3. Shannon Ernst proposed starting a Community Response Team (CRT), which would cut down on the number of total meetings held throughout the county. The committee would be comprised of:
 - a. One core group, which will make overall decisions. Group will have to include an elected official in order to make policy changes.
 - b. Various sub-groups designated specifically to each of the following areas: Domestic Violence, Homelessness, Housing, and Poverty.The CRT will aim to incorporate all community services and coordinate them together. Shannon explained that she does not want to begin all new groups,

but rather coordinate with the existing organizations and have them fall under the CRT. Karen Stoll commented that she prefers the individual monthly meetings because each group offers different perspectives. In response, Shannon suggested sending CRT representatives to each of these meetings. Karen also commented on the county coming together to show what each department can offer the community, due to a vast unawareness of all programs available to county residents. Shannon will hold a community meeting in July in order to show a model of her proposed committee. If committee is formed, quarterly Community Meetings will be held, as required with the Strategic Planning guidelines.

4. Shannon Ernst proposed a resolution for the Indigent Burials that are stacking up at the funeral home. Shannon has been working with the cemetery, Rusty Jardine, and Jorge from Parks and Recreation on this matter. Nevada Statutes allow unclaimed remains to be discarded. Disagreeing with such practice, Shannon has researched other counties procedures for such cases.
 - a. \$30-\$60 will allow remains to be buried in the cemetery in an area donated to indigent care or in an insoluble plot; each plot will contain a marker with the last name of the individual and the date deceased. Shannon contacted Alan with the comptroller's office for the financials. An estimated five or six cases each year would be possible.
5. Shannon Ernst updated committee on all Grants
 - a. CDBG
 - i. Applications have been submitted
 - ii. Received first approval from Governor's Advisory Counsel for Multi-Use Feasibility Study (\$57,000)
 - iii. Waiting for Governor to sign off; will know the middle of June
 - iv. Starting public participation process early
 - v. Applicants Training to be held July 10, 2007 from 9:00am-4:00pm; mandatory for all those whom applied for funds
 - b. RNCOC
 - i. Sponsorship with Social Entrepreneurs, Inc for \$40, 000
 - ii. Match low this year: \$70,000 from In Kind & Cash, whereas last year was \$97,000
 - i. Do not have to have match, but strive to have 20-25%; will be ranked on June 17, 2007
 - iii. \$100, 000 for Nevada Small Business Centers
 - i. Each department responsible for all draw requests and quarterly reports; findings go against department and can lead to loss of CDBG funding!
 - ii. To be ranked June 17, 2007
 - iv. This is the last year the county is sponsoring this grant; have done the last 3 years.
 - c. HUD RNCOC
 - i. Turned in Monday May 21, 2007
 - ii. Will be ranked today Wednesday May 23, 2007
 - iii. \$140,000 for Long-term Transitional Housing
 - iv. New Frontier Treatment Center requested \$55,000 for 3 years to support 2 beds
 - d. CSBG
 - i. Made deadline May 11, 2007

- ii. \$55,570 allocation for 3 years
 - i. Supports caseworker for Transitional Housing and Project Coordinator position
 - ii. Supports the following programs: Project Food, Youth Backpack, Youth in Transition, and A+ Dad Skills, as well as travel expenses for department
 - e. ESG
 - i. Approved for \$9840
 - i. Supports the following shelter activities: PATH room for 1 year, 3 hours of Housing Counseling, 37 total hours for Transitional Housing
 - f. Welfare Set-Aside
 - i. Churchill County requested to receive \$16,000 to aid in Emergency Services (rent, utilities); will know decision by June 16, 2007
 - g. Western Nevada Home Consortium
 - i. Short-term Transitional Housing Expansion Program; \$36, 000
 - i. Supports 10 families per year; subsidy on housing after leaving PATH room
 - ii. Long-term Transitional Housing: \$100, 000
- Both approved in April
6. Shannon Ernst motioned for a change to agenda and minutes to the county's format, less the time references
 - a. Brad Goetsch seconded the motion, which carried by unanimous vote. A copy will be included in Tripartite Training Manual
 7. Shannon Ernst informed committee of Board Training on June 11, 2007 in Carson City from 10:00am-1:00pm
 - a. Will also be televised for viewing at WNCC, Elko, and Las Vegas
 - b. Training will go over manual and the rules of an advisory board
 8. Shannon Ernst listed the dates she would be out of town for various meetings
 - a. June 19-June 22, 2007 Philadelphia, PA
 - i. Nevada Community Action Agency (NCAA): How to conduct public meetings; not restricted under CSBG
 - b. June 26-June 29, 2007
 - i. Nevada Association for Human Services Providers: Economic development; how to get Tripartite members active
 9. 1st Time Homebuyers Seminar will be hosted by Shannon Ernst on July 19, 2007 from 9:00am-4:00pm; open to public
 - a. Inform of all programs available, such as down payment assistance
 - b. Lenders and realtors will be present to answer questions
 10. Process to receive Incentive Funds has changed
 - a. Government Management Advisory Committee going to make process competitive
 - b. \$25,000-\$30,000 available to be used for a 3 year period
 - i. Shannon Ernst proposes using funds towards a part-time caseworker or clerical specialist position
 - ii. Also looking to allocate some funds towards the Guardianship Program
 11. Shannon Ernst contacted various departments to aid in Discharge Planning; when homeless are released from Jail, the hospital, etc

- a. Previously lost 15 points on HUD grant because did not have such plan
- b. Shannon presented committee with various form templates she is considering dispersing to facilities; to be completed prior to homeless individuals being released

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 11:58am by Shannon Ernst.

APPROVED: _____
Brad Goetsch, County Manager