

Decategorization Governance Board

O R A N G E C I T Y C L U S T E R
C H E R O K E E , L Y O N , P L Y M O U T H a n d S I O U X C o u n t i e s

Shane Walter - Chair

Nola Aalberts - Coordinator

Minutes

Sept 9, 2004 - 10:00 a.m.

Iowa State Bank-Small Conference Room

I. Welcome/Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Shane Walter. Members present: Pat Penning, David Van Ningen, Larry Landman and Dan Watson. Staff present: Nola Aalberts and Joy Poppema

- II. Shane distributed Evaluations and Job Description for Decat Coordinator. Each was asked to complete and return to Shane. Those not present will be mailed a copy. The Board will review with Nola.

III. Review Minutes

The minutes for August 12, 2004 meeting were reviewed. A motion to approve was made by Pat Penning. Seconded by David. Motion carried.

IV. Old Business

Shane will contact Larry Weede and encourage to attend the Decat meetings or ask for a possible replacement from Cherokee County in the area of Education.

V. Decat/Juvenile Justice Report

Pat Penning reported on the four county cluster. Group care is showing a deficit for the service area. A surplus of \$119,000 is shown without the service area. Shelter care is an issue with a \$90,000 deficit. Funds were increased minimally for the child welfare budget.

Dan reported on CJJP 04 funding – should be ample funds. Lyon Co will not have a tracker because of implementing a school liaison. Cherokee, Plymouth and Sioux will have 3 trackers. A memo was distributed stating the JCS will cover 1; JAIBG will cover and 1/3 with O'Brien County sharing a tracker with Cherokee. Dan Watson left the meeting to find out details regarding the memo and trackers. He then reported that Sioux and Plymouth are each receiving a tracker. Lyon will have a school liaison. One tracker from JAIBG and one tracker from JCS for the Sioux Cluster. The tracker from O'Brien will help in Cherokee and will ask the tracker from Plymouth to cover Marcus. The total number of trackers is reduced from 3 ½ to 2+ and the funding for trackers has changed. Nola noted that the contract will need to be changed. There is concern because Cherokee PC was informed of a full time tracker and now there will only be a part time tracker. It was noted the Juvenile Court Services knows best where

services are needed, thus from now on they will tell us what is needed and they will report that to local Planning Councils.

Shane reported that the county did not increase Nola's wages according to county increases and this needs to be corrected. Questions were raised as to county eligibility requirements for Decat/Empowerment employees. The status of employees is being looked at because of funding through grants. The insurance company and the assistant county attorney have been consulted on these issues. Pat suggested resolving these issues first. Past minutes from Exec-Fin will be reviewed and then Nola's wages will be increased accordingly, if also approved by Empowerment.

V. Empowerment Report

Nola reported that the Annual Report is being completed at this time. The Healthy Families Coordinator is doing well. Benefits for Beginners requested left over funds be carried over. Funding for training for licensed daycare employees has been discontinued by CCR & R. This has raised concerns by Day Care providers.

VI. Community Partnerships

Nola reported on Neighborhood Networking in: Lyon County - Inwood. Good things are happening. The municipality in Inwood will be handling the contract there. They will implement after school programs, bus stop supervision, a bulletin board with information and welcome baskets.

Plymouth County – LeMars Estates – The first meeting had 3 families and has now expanded to 7-8 families. The goal is to increasing the amount playground equipment for 30 families in the complex. A donation from the Marines-Wal-Mart will assist families with clothes & school supplies. SHARE Iowa is going directly to the LeMars Estates for sign-up. A Toys for Tots for Christmas has also been implemented.

Sioux County – Hawarden – West Sioux School district will be using the Strengthening Families program to increase parenting skills. There is a community meeting scheduled on Sept. 14th.

Cherokee County – Looking at parenting skills training through Domestic Abuse Center.

A PCA grant for an additional \$11,000 has been received for Neighborhood Networking. There were 7 applicants with \$40,000 available.

Nola excused herself from the meeting to attend a conference call with Cherokee County Planning Council.

VII. Redesign

Pat requested that Redesign be on the agenda at next months meeting.

VIII. Comprehensive Strategies Report

Dave handed out the goals and targets that have been completed. This has been a year long process with the intention (after approval) to continue working on strategies and as funds become available to begin placement of funding for these strategies. The next step is developing a plan to market these goals and strategies to the communities. Motion was made, Dan 2nd, motion carried.

Decategorization Governance Board

O R A N G E C I T Y C L U S T E R
C H E R O K E E , L Y O N , P L Y M O U T H a n d S I O U X C o u n t i e s

Shane Walter - Chair

Nola Aalberts - Coordinator

IX. Next Meeting

October 14, 2004 at 10:00 AM, Iowa State Bank- small meeting room.

X. Meeting adjourned