

**Minutes of the Board of the Department of Social Services  
March 20, 2006**

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 a.m. by Chairman Jim Schwartz. He stated this was an open meeting and representatives from the news media and other interested parties had been notified. Board members present were, Jim Schwartz, Mark McCune, Ken Brandt, Jim Spindler and Deborah Wilke. Staff members present were Michael Bloedorn, Sandy Hoefert, Mary Knoeck, Kay Lucas, Joanne Faber and Jill Schwenzen.

**Approval of Minutes**

A motion was made by Mark McCune, seconded by Ken Brandt to approve the minutes of the Social Services Board meeting held on February 20, 2006. Motion carried.

**Strengthening Families – Wisconsin Initiative**

Michael introduced Jill Schwenzen, Senior Social Worker for the Department. He said that Jill had been selected to participate in the training that was held in Washington DC. Jill stated that the goals of the initiative were to increase awareness that strengthening families is central to quality child care, to increase the number of early childhood programs to prevent child abuse and neglect, to improve the working relationships between early childhood systems, child welfare systems and child abuse prevention programs and initiatives and to integrate prevention planning among state agencies with a family-centered approach that includes early childhood.

**2005 Final Budget Report**

Mary Knoeck explained the procedure used in ending the years financials and reviewed the final outcome of the 2005 Department of Social Services budget.

**Long Term Care Redesign**

Michael gave an update on the organizational meetings for the long term care redesign. He said the ultimate goal of the redesign is to improve services for adult, elderly and physically disabled clients. He stated that he would keep the Board apprised of further progress.

**Workload and Financial Report**

Joanne reviewed the Economic Support workload and the changes made to the report because of the W-2 program. She further explained the partnership between Arbor E & T and the Department.

Sandy Hoefert reviewed the Social Work workload and the Alternate Care Report.

**Director's Report**

- Title V – Michael explained the Title V program and that the Governor's Commission was impressed with the work that is being done in Washington County. He stated the Department will receive \$50,000 for the second year.

- 211 – Michael explained the 211 initiative that is funded by United Way of Washington County. He said that Washington County currently does not have a program but that two other counties are interested in operating the program for United Way in Washington County. A motion was made by Mark McCune, seconded by Jim Spindler to send a letter to United Way stating that the Department is not interested in pursuing a 211 system for Washington County. Motion carried.

### **April Social Service Board Meeting**

The April Social Service Board meeting is scheduled for April 17, 2006 at 9:00 a.m.

### **Adjourn**

A motion was made by Ken Brandt, seconded by Deborah Wilke to adjourn. Meeting adjourned at 10:20 a.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted by,

Jim Spindler  
Secretary