

Minutes Joint Board Meeting
January 17, 2017
Fryn' Pan Restaurant, Moorhead MN

**JOINT BOARD MEETING
MOORHEAD PUBLIC HOUSING AGENCY
HOUSING & REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF CLAY COUNTY MN
Special Meeting of January 17, 2017**

CCHRA BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Les Bakke, Cecil Johnson, Mike Martin, Dale Rollie and Ione Schultz.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

CCHRA STAFF PRESENT:

Dara Lee and Sheila Laney.

MPHA BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Donna McMaster, Terry Braun, Michael Carbone, Melissa Fabian, Greg Lemke and Daryl Moede.

MPHA STAFF PRESENT:

Dawn Bacon.

9:35 A.M. MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER

Board Chair for CCHRA, Les Bakke, called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL & INTRODUCTIONS:

All present introduced themselves to the group and some shared their experience with a past collaboration.

FRAMEWORK FOR ONGOING COLLABORATION:

The catalyst grant which was awarded last year was the origin of this collaboration. Director Lee began by giving an overview of the programs offered by the Clay County HRA. Director Bacon gave an overview of the Moorhead Public Housing Agency's programs. The areas of overlap are the Housing Choice Voucher program and the Public Housing program. The focus of discussion currently is on Housing Choice Voucher with plans in the future to look at Public Housing.

Director Bacon emphasized that if any collaborative changes are made, how they affect our clients would need to be at the heart and core of the process.

Michael Carbone gave a short presentation on his research thus far. He was present on November 18, 2016 when many Housing Choice Voucher participants were asked to come to Moorhead Public Housing and provide basic information. Both Clay County HRA staff and MPHA staff worked together on this date.

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He talked about avoiding pitfalls in this collaborative process and the need for getting feedback from clients. Starting with if/then statements is necessary. Measuring outcomes and then reassessing the data are an important part of the process.

POTENTIAL OUTCOMES FOR THE HCV/SECTION 8 PROGRAM:

1. MPHA transfers the HCV program to Clay County HRA.
2. MPHA maintains the HCV program with improvements made through technical assistance from the Clay County HRA.
3. Moorhead Public Housing and Clay County HRA form a consortium agreement.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the best way to serve Housing Choice Voucher clients in our area. The board members asked the directors for their input and guidance.

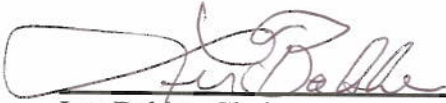
Some key points made in this discussion were:

1. MPHA has a small number of Housing Choice Vouchers and the staff person that handled the Housing Choice Voucher program has resigned. They have not hired a replacement yet.
2. The HCV staff at the Clay County HRA is very experienced.
3. The administrative time for the Housing Choice Voucher program is quite heavy and the program is complicated for less experienced employees.
4. For clients, it would be less confusing for one agency to handle the HCV program.
5. There could possibly be some political pressure to consolidate in the near future.

The consensus recommendation was for the MPHA to transfer its HCV program to the Clay County HRA. It was felt that we could make services better for our clients while strengthening both agencies at the same time.

The process will require a formal resolution from the Moorhead Public Housing Agency Board and the Clay County HRA Board. Therefore, it was decided to place an item on the agenda for the January 24, 2017 meeting of the MPHA and the February 21, 2017 meeting for the Clay County HRA.

11:00 A.M. MEETING ADJOURNED


Les Bakke, Chairperson

3/6/2017
Date