

December 27, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee was duly called and held at 3:00 p.m., December 27, 1977 in the Courthouse Annex.

Present: Commissioners Bollero, Carlson and Potvin.

Absent: Commissioners Racine and Farrell.

In Attendance: Patricia Micklow, Assistant Prosecuting Attorney; Lynn Emerick, U.P. Health Systems Agency; Dr. Richard Potter, Marquette County Health Department Director; and Michael Zorza, Emergency Services Director.

Patricia Micklow, Assistant Prosecutor, was present to discuss the collection of child support payments as it concerns the Prosecutor's Office. She stated one defence for not paying support payments is a person's inability to pay. Ms. Micklow noted by law an individual must contact the Friend of the Court to notify him of his inability to meet his child support payments. She added the Judges prioritize these payments above any other type of debt the individual may have. According to Ms. Micklow, the law states each support payment case should be reviewed by the Friend of the Court every two years for possible modification.

Ms. Micklow stated in Eaton County, which is comparable to Marquette County in population and child support payment caseload, \$2.2 million was collected in support payments during 1976 compared to Marquette County's total collections of \$845,000.00. Eaton County also had about 600 show cause hearings as compared to Marquette County's approximately fifty. Ms. Micklow noted that Eaton County has a larger Friend of the Court staff than Marquette County as well as a computer system, which aids in keeping records up to date. She stated that Fred Comley of Eaton County has set up a very good system for collections and has indicated he will act as a consultant to other counties to set up a similar system.

Ms. Micklow stated the Prosecuting Attorney sets hearing dates for the delinquent payment cases investigated and submitted to them by the Friend of the Court. Hearing dates have been requested for all cases referred to them by the Friend of the Court, however, because of the way the court calendars are arranged it may be sometime before a hearing is actually held.

The committee felt a meeting with Patricia Micklow, Harold VanOverloop, the Circuit Court Judges, and Gary Yoder should be held to attempt to increase the child support collection payments in Marquette County. Lyle Trombley, Support Specialist, and Duane Beard will be invited to attend also. Prior to this meeting, however, the committee will meet with one or both of the Judges on this matter. Patricia Micklow will contact Fred Comley to see if he is interested in aiding the county in establishing new procedures. Ms. Micklow left the meeting.

Lynn Emerick, U.P. Health Systems Agency; Dr. Richard Potter, Marquette Health Department Director; and Michael Zorza, Emergency Services Director, were present to discuss establishing a County Emergency Medical Services Task Force. It was noted a reply has not been received from the Communications Committee regarding including medical services in the Central Dispatch System. It was felt the improvement of communications should have first priority.

It was noted the number of people on a Medical Services Task Force, and whether or not compensation is given, is not determined by statute. It was felt the Task Force should not be a standing committee of the Board.

Mike Zorza provided a list of objectives and the make-up of a proposed Task Force for Marquette County for the committee's consideration. Commissioner Potvin felt each city and township should be represented on the Task Force.

Following discussion of the make-up of the Task Force, it was moved by Commissioner Potvin, supported by Commissioner Bollero and carried unanimously to recommend to the Board that they give the Welfare Contact Committee the authority to appoint such a Task Force made up of the following representatives:

- A. Providers
 - 1. Medical Society (1)
 - 2. Ambulance Services, E.M.T.'s (8)
 - 3. Hospital Administration (2)
 - 4. Emergency Room Nurses (2)
 - 5. American Red Cross (1)
 - 6. Michigan Heart Association (1)

- B. Community Support
 - 1. Township Association (4)
 - 2. Media, Interested Service Groups and County Residents (1)

- C. Public Agencies
 - 1. Health Department (1)
 - 2. Local Government, County, Township, City (4 plus the Welfare Contact Committee as ex officio members)
 - 3. Law Enforcement Association (1)
 - 4. Fire Services Association (1)
 - 5. Health Systems Agency (1)
 - 6. Emergency Services (1)
 - 7. K.I. Sawyer AFB (1)

Commissioner Carlson requested that Lynn Emerick, Richard Potter and Mike Zorza draft a letter to be sent to the proposed Task Force members for the committee's consideration. Lynn Emerick, Mike Zorza, and Richard Potter left the meeting.

As there was no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 5:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Chubb
Secretary

Clerk

November 29, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee meeting was duly called and held November 29, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex.

Present: Commissioners Farrell, Racine, Carlson and Bollero. Commissioner Potvin arrived late.

Absent: None.

In Attendance: Harold VanOverloop, Friend of the Court.

It was noted the Friend of the Court has recently obtained a CETA employee to update the filing system for collection payments. Harold VanOverloop stated there is a problem locating some individuals who are delinquent in these payments. Delinquent payment notices have been sent to offenders with favorable results according to Mr. VanOverloop.

Harold VanOverloop provided a job description for the CETA clerk/typist position for the committee's information. Funding for this position terminates September 31, 1978. Mr. VanOverloop stated he would like to retain the individual after that time.

Mr. VanOverloop noted collections were down for 1977. As of October, 1976, \$242,000 had been collected compared to \$226,000 as of October, 1977. Mr. VanOverloop said every effort is made to bring an employed delinquent support payer to Court. Commissioner Carlson noted Marquette County is below the State average in the percentage of support payments collected.

Mr. VanOverloop stated at the end of August, 1977, \$40,886 was received by the County from the State as a result of support payment collected. The County receives 25% of support payments collected during the first year of a support judgment and after that time 10% is received by the County. Mr. VanOverloop stated when payments are not received following notification the delinquent payer is asked to come for an interview with the Friend of the Court to discuss the problem. The Prosecuting Attorney determines whether or not a delinquent support payment case should be taken to Court. It was noted Wayne Jussila, special investigator for the Prosecutor, handles Uniform Reciprocal Enforcement of Support Act (URESAs) cases.

Harold stated payments are based on the net income of an individual and the Court determines what the support payments will be. He added if a person's income alters the payments may also be altered. Commissioner Potvin arrived at the meeting.

Mr. VanOverloop felt an additional employee in his office would not increase the collections received. He noted tracking people delinquent in their payments is difficult. Harold stated a recent law directs the Court to consider the present family of an individual making support payments when setting the amount to be paid.

VanOverloop stated there often is a significant time lag between the time he requests scheduling of a show cause hearing for delinquent payments and the actual scheduling of the hearing. He noted in such cases, circumstances of the parties involved may change before the hearing is held.

A report will be submitted to the committee by the Friend of the Court prior to the next committee meeting documenting the time period between show cause requests and the actual hearings. He will also provide information on the time period between requests and hearings prior to the time the Prosecuting Attorney's Office assumed responsibility for such cases, number of URESA cases turned over to the Prosecutor's special investigator to contact and to the Department of Social Services to locate.

Welfare Contact Committee
November 29, 1977
Page 2

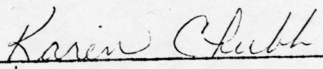
Commissioner Carlson stated Mike Zorza, Emergency Services Director, attended a meeting concerning Emergency Medical Services and obtaining grants, etc. for such services. He felt this field should be pursued. The committee felt Mike Zorza should be invited to a meeting to present recommendations on the EMS program in this area.

Commissioner Carlson also noted the committee must decide on how to approach the development of a county emergency services program. Mike Zorza, Dr. Potter, County Health Department, and Lynn Emerick, Upper Peninsula Health Systems Agency, will be invited to discuss this at the next committee meeting and will be asked to provide recommendations on the structure of a committee to plan a county-wide emergency services program. A copy of a letter from Dr. Hammerstrom regarding county-wide emergency services will be sent to each committee member.

A brief discussion was held on the County's committee structure for 1978 in regard to responsibilities and membership of the different committees. Commissioner Carlson presented a brief report on operations at Acocks Medical Facility.

As there was no further business to come before the committee the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

October 25, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee meeting was duly called and held October 25, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex.

Present: Commissioners Carlson, Bollero, Farrell, and Potvin.

Absent: Commissioner Racine.

In Attendance: Members of the County Board of Institutions: Richard Coombs; Ruby Cheatham; Thomas Pellow; Ann Richards; and Lou Chappell. Also present were Mr. Kroncich, Acocks auditor, and Gary Yoder, Controller.

The meeting was called to order. Commissioner Carlson stated the purpose of the meeting was to discuss various items regarding Acocks Medical Facility. He also stated the Budget and Executive Committee has asked the Welfare Contact Committee to look into the financial needs of the facility for 1979 budgetary purposes.

Mr. Pellow stated the facility is underfinanced and the County Board of Institutions can not do an adequate job of running the facility with the funds provided for 1978. It was noted \$173,000.00 has been allocated for operating expenses in 1978. Mr. Pellow stated the facility's employees' union is seeking wage and cost of living increases and he believes \$35,000.00 is needed above the 1978 appropriation to balance the budget.

Commissioner Potvin stated the views of Marquette County residents should be determined in regard to the future of the facility.

Mr. Kroncich stated the facility never received the second half of their 1976 allocation from the county although these funds had been requested. Commissioner Carlson stated there was some confusion concerning the facility's cash balance which affected the county's allocation. He felt an additional appropriation is possible if information is received by the Board regarding the need for more money. Mr. Pellow stated there was a large cash balance near the end of 1976 because Acocks received delinquent medicaid payments from the State.

Mr. Pellow stated a labor management consulting firm will be directing labor negotiations for Acocks. Two members of the Board of County Institutions, Acocks' business administrator, and Mrs. Marlowe, Acocks' bookkeeper, will also be involved in the labor negotiations. The firm is charging \$25.00 per hour for their services. The Welfare Contact Committee expressed concern that the employees of the facility receive a realistic wage. The possibility of using staff from the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to review the contract was mentioned. There was some question as to who the County Board of Institutions is responsible to. Thomas Solka will be requested to provide an opinion as to whether or not they are responsible to the County Board or under their own authority.

Commissioner Carlson stated individuals on the County Board of Institutions whose terms are expiring should send a letter of request for reappointment to the Board if they are interested in reappointment. Mr. Pellow stated he is pleased with the present Board members and would wish to continue working with them.

Gary Yoder, Controller, entered the meeting to discuss Acocks' budget. Mr. Yoder stated all out-departments are given one half of their appropriation and the second half is given when a need is shown for these funds. Mr. Yoder noted this practice was initiated by the Budget and Executive Committee. He further stated he does not recall receiving a request from Acocks for the second half of their appropriation. Thomas Solka will be asked for an opinion on withholding funds appropriated by the Board. Mr. Pellow stated the financial problems of the facility would be solved for 1978 if they receive the second half of the 1976 appropriation.

Commissioner Potvin felt a recommendation and schedule for long range planning for Acocks should be drawn up by the County Board of Institutions for discussion.

Commissioner Carlson stated reports have been received by County Board members on the operation of Acocks. Mrs. Cheatham stated she has been approached by employees on staffing shortages which have affected the employees' morale. A discussion was held on personnel problems at the facility. According to Mr. Pellow, Dr. Sherk and Dr. Bertucci believe patient care at the facility is excellent.

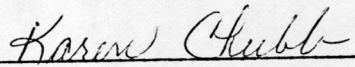
Commissioner Carlson stated he will request that the second half of Acocks' 1976 appropriation be allocated. Commissioner Bollero and Ruby Cheatham agreed with Commissioner Carlson's recommendation; Commissioners Farrell and Potvin expressed reservations.

A copy of the contracts for the Sheriff and Courthouse unions will be forwarded to Mr. Pellow, as well as a copy of the State statute dealing with the County Board of Institutions. A committee meeting will be set up early in December to continue discussion of Acocks with the Board of County Institutions.

Commissioner Potvin stated he's received information that an air conditioning system must be installed at the facility as windows can not be opened in the kitchen and laundry rooms. Commissioner Potvin felt dust from a nearby pellet plant causes this problem. According to Mr. Pellow, Allen Schoolcraft from the State Health Department has requested that windows not be opened in these rooms.

Prior to adjournment, the committee decided to meet with the Friend of the Court concerning operations of that department. There being no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

October 5, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee meeting was duly called and held October 5, 1977 at 7:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex.

Present: Commissioners Carlson, Bollero, Racine, Potvin and Farrell.

Absent: None.

In Attendance: Lynn Emerick, U.P. Health Systems Agency; Mike Zorza, Emergency Services Director; and Richard Potter, Director of the Health Department.

The meeting was called to order. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss ambulance services in the county. Current services available in the county were discussed. The new Marquette City ambulance service, to take effect January 1, 1978, was outlined by Mike Zorza and Lynn Emerick regarding staffing and operations. Ambulances and ambulance staff must be licensed for operation according to Dr. Potter.

Ms. Emerick stated Delta County put together a proposal for federal funds to run a paramedic program within the Sheriff Department. Two vehicles would be used for both emergency services and patrol purposes, and ten individuals would act both as deputies and paramedics. Under the grant Delta County would have to pay 30% of the program's cost for the first year; 50% during the second year; and 70% during the third year. Thereafter, the county would fund the full program.

Mike Zorza stated it may be possible to interest groups in low populated areas such as McFarland and Wells Township, where an emergency vehicle is not practical, to equip the community with basic life support systems. Lynn Emerick stated this would be a cost effective way to provide medical care.

Mike Zorza felt linking up the communications system is the logical first step in the program. A discussion was held on coordinating communication services between police agencies and emergency services, such as ambulances and hospitals.

Delta County has established an Advisory Committee of the Board to deal with ambulance service. Mike Zorza and Lynn Emerick were requested to draft a letter on the communications system for consideration by the committee and for possible presentation to the Board. Commissioner Bollero suggested the committee approach police agencies before going to the Board on this matter.

Mike Zorza stated the rescue service will be a support unit for the ambulance services and will be used as a mobile training unit. Volunteers will man the program and will be paid "on call". The extrication equipment is to be stored at the County Airport.

Qualifications for crash rescue service personnel was discussed. Applications have been sent by Mike Zorza to fire protection agencies. Those who have applied are mostly medical technicians. Commissioner Bollero felt Airport employees should be trained for this purpose.

Commissioner Carlson stated one approach to improve county ambulance service would be to subsidize current systems. The upgrading of the current programs would be necessary to receive subsidies.

Commissioner Potvin suggested providing funds to purchase basic life system equipment for low populated areas if people in those area attend paramedic classes. He also suggested the use of incentive payments for individuals who attend such programs.

Welfare Contact Committee
October 5, 1977
Page 2

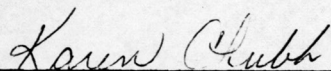
Commissioner Potvin felt the cooperation of citizen band radio operators should be requested. It was noted the Sheriff Department is doing this now on a limited basis.

Mike Zorza stated a great deal of involvement from agencies and hospitals will be required. He felt an Advisory Committee is necessary if the program is to be successful.

The communications system will be the first order of business. Dr. Richard Potter, Lynn Emerick and Mike Zorza will act as an Advisory Committee to the Welfare Contact Committee for the subsidization idea and to draft a proposal for a broader Advisory Committee to discuss the program at a more advanced stage. Mike Zorza, Lynn Emerick and Dr. Potter left the meeting.

Acocks Medical Facility was discussed. The Budget and Executive Committee would like the Welfare Contact Committee to look into the operations of Acocks for the purpose of advising them during the budgetary process in the coming year. Commissioner Carlson stated various commissioners have received calls regarding patient care at the facility. It was noted the Board of County Institutions is responsible for the facility. The committee will meet with this board at their next meeting. The meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Secretary

August 23, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee was duly called and held on August 23, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex.

Present: Commissioners Carlson, Bollero, Farrell and Potvin.

Absent: Commissioner Racine.

In Attendance: Frank Patterson, Department of Social Services.

Copies of a letter from Lynn Emerick, U.P. Health System Agency, Inc., regarding ambulance service quality were provided to the committee. A county ambulance service will be discussed with Ms. Emerick and Dr. Potter at the September meeting of the committee.

Commissioner Potvin stated he talked to Norma Schoonover on Title VI funding for a Clerk/Typist in the Friend of the Court's Office. Ms. Schoonover is working with the Friend of the Court on this and it will be discussed at an up-coming CETA meeting.

Acocks Medical Facility was discussed. Commissioner Carlson questioned whether the committee should make a recommendation to the Budget and Executive Committee on the Acocks Medical Facility budget. Commissioner Bollero felt more money should be appropriated for the running of the facility. Commissioner Farrell noted the Board of County Institutions operates the facility. Commissioner Bollero suggested sending a letter to Arthur Heibel requesting information on the long range program for the facility.

Mr. Patterson, D.S.S., was present to discuss welfare benefits for striking workers. It was noted the State is taking over the general assistance program from the county which will exclude county responsibility for welfare benefits. Mr. Patterson stated D.S.S. has been in constant contact with community union representatives on welfare eligibility. D.S.S. representatives have gone out in the field to provide information to the strikers. Also, all community union representatives from the locals attended a meeting set up by Social Services and were provided materials to apply for benefits and information on eligibility.

To be eligible for the Food Stamp Program excess resources cannot exceed \$1,500. This figure would include camps, boats, etc. One vehicle is exempt from this figure. The excess resource requirement eliminates the majority of the strikers according to Mr. Patterson.

Food stamp assistance is based on: 1) Net income; 2) Household size; 3) Available resources. Maximum allowable income for eligibility (based on D.S.S. computations) for a one person family is \$262/month; for a two person family, \$344/month; for a three person family, \$447/month; for a five person family, \$673/month; and for a seven person family, \$893/month, etc.

Some strikers who are not eligible for welfare benefits in August because of back pay received may be eligible in September, according to Mr. Patterson.

Commissioner Bollero requested a written breakdown of general assistance program requirements, and any other programs available to striking workers, so they can be sent by the Board to union representatives.

It was noted, the general assistance program is very restrictive. Only single people would be eligible for this type of program.

ADC is based on family size (must have children) and involves personal, household and shelter needs. A \$2,000 excess resource requirement must be met to receive ADC. Seven hundred-fifty dollars for one vehicle for purposes of employment only may be exempted from the \$2,000 figure.

Welfare Contact Committee
August 23, 1977
Page 2

To receive ADC an individual must register for WIN and MESC programs and be out of work for at least 30 days prior to receipt of the first ADC check. Refusing a job will affect eligibility; the job, however, must be similar to what they have been doing. After meeting requirements for ADC a person receives a money grant, Medicaid, and is eligible for food stamps.

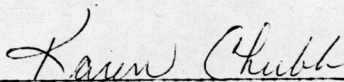
Mr. Patterson noted striking workers are not eligible for unemployment benefits.

He stated the ADC, Food Stamp and General Assistance programs are the three basic programs available. Mr. Patterson stated the community union representatives have informed their members of the benefits available to them. Commissioner Carlson stated it would be useful to publish the requirements for the different types of aid in the newspaper for the striking workers' information.

Mr. Patterson stated the county has no discretion or authority in welfare programs within the county since the county released the responsibility to the State.

The meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

July 26, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee meeting was duly called and held July 26, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. in the Courthouse Annex.

Present: Commissioners Bollero, Potvin, Farrell and Carlson.

Absent: Commissioner Racine.

In Attendance: Shari Meyers, Juvenile Division.

Chairman Carlson called the meeting to order. The committee discussed a CETA position request by the Friend of the Court's Office. The Personnel Committee did not act on this request at their last meeting. It was noted the office had given up a half time clerk/typist at the end of 1976. At the March, 1977 meeting of the Welfare Contact Committee Betty Howe had stated maintaining a status file on those making support payments has increased collections greatly in Delta County.

Commissioner Potvin stated the Friend of the Court has established a file system and that he will contact Mr. VanOverloop regarding submitting an application for Title VI funds.

Commissioner Carlson noted at the last Welfare Contact Committee meeting the County Lands and Buildings Committee had been requested to look into installing an air conditioning system at Acocks Medical Facility. A memo was received from that committee stating no action was taken because it is possible the system will be installed without county expense. It was noted CCI has stated they may pay for this because dust from their operations cause much of the problem.

Commissioner Carlson stated he would like to have a meeting with CCI on this. Commissioner Carlson will contact Art Hiebel, Business Manager, Acocks Medical Facility, on this matter and also Commissioners Cheatham and Krook, members of the Board of Institutions.

Shari Meyers was present to discuss the 1977 Child Care Fund. She stated additional money will be needed by October, 1977. As of June, 1977 there was a balance of \$36,451.35 in the fund. She stated the fund will need an additional \$25,000 to \$29,000 for the remainder of the year. Shari stated the problem with budgeting for the Child Care Fund is the uncertainty of the type of care that will be necessary for children referred to the court.

Occasionally children must be placed in a security type facility unlike the open atmosphere of the Youth Home. Commissioner Potvin suggested working with the Sheriff concerning detaining juvenile offenders over 16 who need more security than the Youth Home offers. Mrs. Meyers stated there is a need for a detention facility in this area and a state run institution for those who need long term treatment.

In regard to the Child Care Fund, Mrs. Meyers said bills left from last year have had to be paid this year amounting to \$13,400. Commissioner Potvin stated bills should not be carried over to a new year. Shari noted the state has, in the past, been five to six month behind in submitting bills but has gone to a new system and the county has received a backlog of bills. Commissioner Potvin felt Youth Home expenses should be studied. The committee then discussed the state's report on the Youth Home.

Commissioner Carlson noted a memo to Judge Anderegg from Don Merckx, Youth Home Supervisor, requesting that his position be placed in a group classification. This request should go through the union.

Commissioner Carlson also stated Don Merckx had informed the Assistant Controller he would like to move out of the Youth Home but retain his position. Mrs. Meyers could not provide any information on this request. Commissioner Carlson would like the judge's views on this matter. He stated a written request will have to be submitted by Mr. Merckx before action is taken. Shari will submit a report to the Budget and Executive Committee on the request and a suggested job classification for Mr. Merckx' position. Shari then left the meeting.

Commissioner Carlson stated the county should attempt to look at ambulance services within the county. He noted there has been concern expressed by the City of Ishpeming on the expense of maintaining an ambulance service and there are feelings the services provided are not adequate for the county's needs. The committee felt an administrator from Marquette General North; Tom McNabb from the City of Marquette; Robert Noe from the City of Ishpeming; someone from Gwinn, as they have an ambulance service; along with Mike Zorza, Lynn Emerick and Dr. Potter should be brought together to discuss the problem.

The meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Karin Chubb
Secretary

June 28, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee meeting was duly called and held on June 28, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. at the Courthouse Annex.

Present: Commissioners Bollero and Carlson.

Absent: Commissioners Farrell, Potvin and Racine.

Commissioner Carlson called the meeting to order.

The commissioners discussed the need for an additional position for the Friend of the Court's Office to organize files and develop a system to improve support payment collections. It was felt the Friend of the Court could apply for CETA funds for such a position. A recommendation will be made to the Friend of the Court to submit an application for CETA funds as soon as possible for a position in his office. It was noted the application must first be submitted to the Personnel Committee for review and that this should be done by their next meeting on July 21, 1977. The Friend of the Court will be informed that he can contact Commissioner Potvin for assistance on the CETA application.

The Hill-Burton Act, which concerns the hospitalization payments of indigent patients, was discussed. Commissioner Carlson stated he and Commissioner Potvin will meet with people from Marquette General Hospital on this matter and a report will be submitted at the next Welfare Contact Committee.

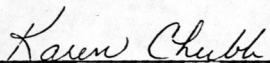
It was noted a letter was received from Art Hiebel, Business Manager, Acock's Medical Facility, in response to a letter sent by Commissioner Bollero concerning the need for an air conditioning system in the facility. A copy of the letter will be sent to the County Lands and Buildings Committee with a recommendation from the Welfare Contact Committee that the system be installed and that their committee look into various ways of financing the system. A report on action taken by that committee will be requested. It was noted a recommendation may have to be submitted to the Budget and Executive Committee concerning payment or partial payment of the system.

Landscaping and surfacing of the drive-way at the Marquette County Youth Home was discussed. A letter will be sent to the County Lands and Buildings Committee stating that the Welfare Contact Committee strongly believes that the landscaping and drive-way must be finished, with a recommendation that the committee see that this is accomplished. A report on action taken by that committee on this matter will be requested.

A letter from Betsy Little, Coordinator, Marquette County Citizens Advocacy Program, was received concerning a proposal written by the Marquette Association of Retarded Citizens for federal funds. The Board's secretary will contact Ms. Little for more information on this letter.

As there was no further business to come before the committee, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

April 26, 1977

A meeting of the Welfare Contact Committee was duly called and held on April 26, 1977, 4:00 p.m., at Acock's Medical Facility.

Present: Commissioners Bollero, Potvin, Farrell and Racine.

Absent: Commissioner Carlson.

In Attendance: Acock's Board of Trustees Thomas F. Pellow, Richard C. Coombs, Orvo Krook, Dr. J.P. Bertucci, Lou W. Chappell, Ruby Cheatham, and Ann Richards; Arthur L. Hiebel, Administrator; Pamela Gallay, Social Worker; Shari Platt; and Larry Beltrame.

The following comments were made. There are over 100 people on the waiting list to enter Acock's Medical Facility. A new program will soon be introduced at Acock's on a trial basis. This is a Professional Standards Review Organization (PSRO) pilot program. The thrust of the program is to determine whether patients should be continued as a patient or should they be moved to a less skilled care center or home. The attempt is to place patients at a facility that can provide adequate care with the least skilled staff. The problem seems to be what and where are the alternate facilities? Adult Foster Homes are one of the possibilities.

Mr. Chappell stated the key to continuation and improvement at Acock's is how long and to what extent will taxpayers subsidize Acock's. Mr. Chappell was also concerned with the liabilities of the Acock's Board in their lawsuit with former employees.

While at Acock's the committee met with Ms. Platt and Larry Beltrame about a long delayed plan for the current year that CUPPAD was to provide. Also, a discussion was held on the possibilities of cooperating again this coming year. It was moved by Commissioner Farrell, seconded by Commissioner Potvin and passed unanimously to recommend that the Board endorse the course of action that Ms. Platt and Mr. Beltrame recommend. The Board is to be advised prior to the May 4, 1977 meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald K. Potvin
Donald K. Potvin, Member
Welfare Contact Committee

klc

ADMISSIONS POLICY

ACOCKS MEDICAL CARE FACILITY

1. To place a name on the waiting list of the Acocks Medical Care Facility an application must be filled out completely. Applications have been provided to the Social Service Departments at Marquette General North, Marquette General South and F.A. Bell Memorial Hospital. The Adult Placement Worker at the Marquette County Department of Social Services also has applications. A family wishing to place a name on the list may also call Acocks and one will be mailed immediately.
2. Applications will only be accepted from Marquette County residents.
3. It is very important that these applications are filled out completely because the information requested is very pertinent. It alerts the Facility whether the needed governmental regulations have been fulfilled (i.e. determination of level of care through the R-19/904 process, source of payment, etc.) If these items have not been completed then the Facility can assist in completing them.
4. All patients must be admitted on the order of a licensed physician. Each new admission must be accompanied by a full medical report which contains sufficient information to provide continuous care. This is another reason why a completed application is important so that the Facility can assist families who are attempting to place a person directly from the home. It is mandatory that the family doctor is contacted and medical records compiled.
5. All names are placed on the waiting list in chronological order (date application is made) according to level of care (i.e. skilled or basic). Skilled patients have first preference, since the Facility has sixty-three licensed skilled beds. The Facility has so many male and female beds. If a vacancy occurs due to the discharge or expiration of a male patient then the bed must be filled by a male patient. (Example: If an opening becomes available for a skilled male patient then the first name in that section of the waiting list will be given preference.) If there are no names on the waiting list for a skilled bed then those waiting for a basic bed will be contacted. The waiting list is updated periodically to check the status of those waiting (i.e. possible change in level of care, already been placed, etc.) ATTACHED IS A SHORT DESCRIPTION OF SKILLED AND BASIC CARE LEVELS.
- Available at Kanno Office -
6. There is no priority given to private pay patients. Source of payment, whether the patient can pay privately, or utilize Medicare and Medicaid will in no way hinder his admission.
7. If a person requires a tremendous amount of medical attention their case will be reviewed individually before admission to make sure that the Facility has the needed staff and medical equipment to meet the medical needs of that particular patient. There are cases that require extended care and in order to provide the appropriate care costly medical equipment is required.

March 22, 1977

A meeting was held on March 22, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. The purpose of the meeting was to develop a system that would facilitate the collection of payments that are to be made to the Friend of the Court. This meeting was attended by Mr. VanOverloop, Lyle Trombly, Pat Micklow, Gary Walker and Commissioner Potvin.

The basic changes made were much as expected by the Welfare Contact Committee. A new card file system has been set up that locates, with ease, the current status of the payors. There seems to be a determined effort to get current with these collections.

It appears that another area of concern to the Welfare Contact Committee has been taken care of. It seems that the Courts have begun to support the collection process by holding Show Cause Hearings, as requested by the Friend of the Court. Without the proper response the people in default shall be cited by the Court. In the past this step in the procedure had been a real bottle neck. Further improvement is the willingness of the Courts to sign URESA petitions as requested. This is an agreement between some States to facilitate collection from payors that leave the State.

Attached is a copy of the follow-up system.

Respectfully submitted,

Donald K. Potvin
Donald K. Potvin, Member
Welfare Contact Committee

klc

FRIEND OF THE COURT FOLLOW-UP PROCEDURES

A card index should be started containing payor's name and address, payee's name and whether payee is ADC or not, court docket number, type of order, and support amount. This index system will be comprised of all court orders in Marquette County, with cards filed in alphabetical order in slot marked "Current Month". (See Chart). When the payor makes his full monthly support payment, the card is transferred to the slot marked "Payment Complete".

At the end of the month the balance of the cards in "Current Month" are pulled and a letter is sent to the payor. (See Example Letter). The cards are then placed in the "10 Day Letters" slot. If the payment is received or other arrangements are made, the card is to be placed in the "Payment Complete" slot. If no response or an unsatisfactory response is received, the card is transferred to the "Contempt Investigation" slot. The Friend of the Court will then conduct an investigation into the payor's ability to pay.

When it has been determined that the payor's circumstances have changed enough to warrant a modification of the order, the Friend of the Court, will refer the case for modification and place the card in the appropriate slot. The card will remain there until the court has ruled. If it has been determined that the payor is possibly in contempt of the support order, the matter is referred for a contempt hearing and the card is placed in the appropriate slot. The card will remain there until the court has ruled. In both cases, once the court has ruled the card is to be returned to the "Payment Complete" slot.

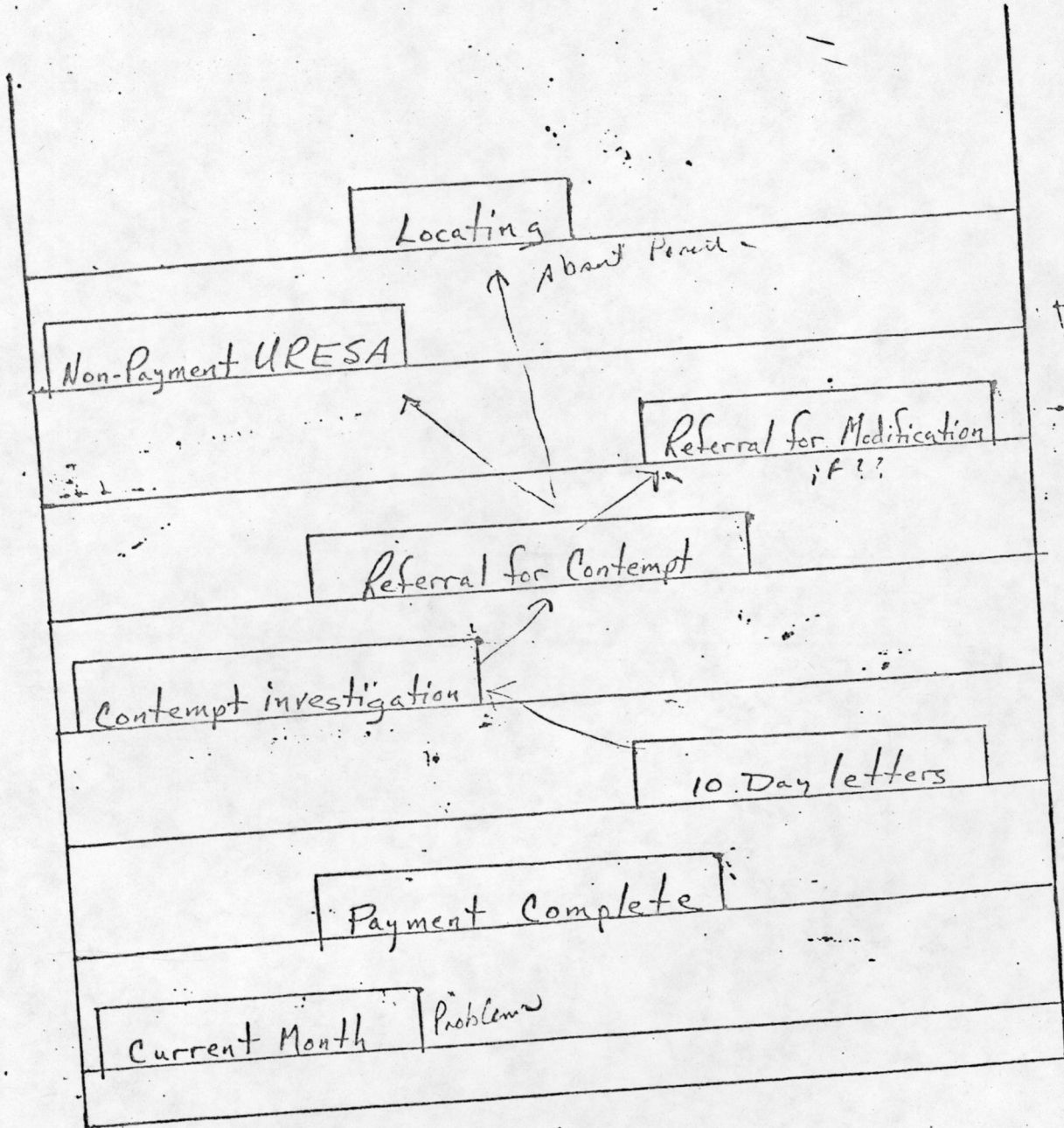
When it has been determined that the Friend of the Court does not have a complete address or a letter is returned marked "Undeliverable", a request is to be made of the DSS Support Specialist for locating services. The request

is to contain the following information: name, social security number, or a past employer of the payor, payor's last known address, and date of birth, if available. The payee's name, court case number and date of the order should also be included on the request. Once the request for locating services has been made, the card is to be placed in the appropriate slot.

If non-payment is on a URESA order, the matter is to be referred to the Prosecutor's office. The card will be placed in the appropriate slot and remain there until payment is received.

Lyle Trombly, Support Specialist
Marquette County, DSS

Chart Facsimile of Card index Box



Dear

Upon examination of your payment record, it has been determined that you are now \$ _____ in arrears. Since the court has ordered this Child Support, it is expected that you keep payments current. Therefore, if a check in the above amount is not received by _____, this matter will be referred for contempt proceedings before the Circuit Court.

If you have any questions, make an appointment with me before _____ so we might discuss your arrearage.

Very truly yours,

March 22, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee was duly called and held March 22, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. at the County Courthouse.

Present: Commissioners Carlson, Bollero, Farrell, Racine and Potvin.

Absent: None.

In Attendance: Mary Lou Fontaine, Department of Social Services; Harold VanOverloop, Friend of the Court; Gary Walker, Pat Micklow and Wayne Jussila of the Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Marigene Richardson, Betty Howe and James Dompierre, Social Services Board; and Lyle Trombley, Social Services Department.

Discussion was held on the Juvenile Justices joint grant for fiscal year 1976-77 between Menominee, Marquette and Dickinson counties in which CUPPAD is acting as coordinator.

Mary Lou Fontaine stated CUPPAD has indicated the grant has been approved and the program will be implemented in April or May. She added some funds will be lost because of the late start of the program.

Mary Lou Fontaine stated the county could apply for a similar grant for fiscal year 1977-78 without the services of CUPPAD as she felt their services were not needed. Under the grant \$4,000.00 was received by the county and \$1,000 by CUPPAD for acting as coordinator.

Commissioner Carlson stated he will send a letter to CUPPAD regarding the grant.

Commissioner Carlson requested that the Welfare Contact Committee continue to receive monthly reports from the departments, as has been done in the past, even though the committee will meet with these departments on a quarterly basis.

Discussion then turned to the grant received from the State of Michigan for the purpose of helping Social Services on legal issues. Commissioner Carlson stated the committee wanted to hold an information session with the Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the Social Services Board on this matter.

It was noted a Cooperative Reimbursement Program was initiated in 1970 for the purpose of expanding services in regard to establishing paternity, prosecuting welfare fraud cases and matters dealing with child support. An incentive payment of 25% of all support payments collected were returned to the county the first year and 10% will be returned for each succeeding year.

Mary Lou stated the purpose of returning these funds is to expand the collection services. She noted this has not been done. \$60,000.00 was received by the county in 1976.

Harold VanOverloop stated \$42,000.00 in support payments were collected in January, 1977. Mary Lou Fontaine said this is 41.5% of the collectible funds. She added 44% of the collectible funds were received in February and 37% in December, 1976.

The Prosecutor's Office and the Friend of the Court Office receives \$53,000 yearly from the State and Federal governments to assist in child support collections. According to Gary Walker, welfare fraud cases no longer fall under the grant.

Gary Walker stated funding is used for the salaries of a secretary, attorney, a half-time investigator and some office expenses. He said by law these funds are to be used for the program and that his office submits monthly reports of their activities.

The Prosecutor's Office receives \$41,000 per year from the grant and the Friend of the Court receives \$12,000.00, which is used to supplement the Friend of the Court's salary and a secretary's salary.

Mr. Trombley stated he acts as a liaison between the courts, Prosecutor's Office and Friend of the Court and refers paternity and child support cases. He noted the Prosecutor's Office handles reciprocal agreements between states in regard to support collections.

Wayne Jussila discussed his responsibilities, which include a follow-up on cases; initiating action on out of state cases; forwarding letters to recipients of aid; interviews; and preparing petitions.

Mary Lou stated a tri-county coordinator had been working as a liaison in referring cases to the Prosecutor's Office, however, currently they are working directly with the Prosecutor's Office, which is more effective.

James Dompierre stated he felt the ideal situation would be for the Social Services Board to have their own attorney to work on these cases. He said action is needed as only 30% to 40% of court ordered payments are received. He felt more publicity in regard to the prosecution of fraud cases would deter others from doing the same.

It was noted Lansing is appraised of all referrals to the prosecutor concerning cases of fraud.

Gary Walker stated welfare fraud cases are handled by his office in the same manner as all criminal cases. Wayne Jussila stated six fraud cases went to court last year and restitution is being made. Mr. Trombley felt it would be beneficial if an assistant prosecutor could be assigned to the Department of Social Services.

Mary Lou stated referrals of some alleged fraud cases date back to 1974 and 1975. She informed the committee that in setting up reimbursement plans only the approval of the plans are needed from the Prosecutor.

Gary Walker stated the Social Services Board cannot hire an attorney to handle fraud prosecutions; only the prosecutor can do this.

Under the grant the Prosecutor's Office handles paternity, uresas, state reciprocal cases, support actions, interim support orders, among others. Pat Micklow stated it takes a great deal of effort to prepare such cases as paternity cases.

The committee discussed problems in scheduling and getting cases heard in one of the Circuit Courts. It was felt there is not much the Board or Prosecutor can do to rectify this problem.

Harold VanOverloop stated some show cause papers are not being served by the Sheriff's Department. He also noted he has only one hour per month in court for show causes and would like more time.

Commissioner Carlson felt the service of papers may improve under the current administration. Harold VanOverloop will let the committee know if the situation remains the same. Lyle Trombley stated services do not have to be made by the Sheriff's Department.

Harold VanOverloop stated in some cases the father does not have the ability to pay the court ordered child support and other fathers are hard to locate.

Welfare Contact Committee
March 22, 1977
Page 3

Betty Howe asked if there is a status record for each case. Additional staff would be needed for investigations and updating of the files. It was noted Delta County has done this and increased their support payments. Mr. VanOverloop stated there are over 1100 active cases on file.

Lyle Trombley noted that ADC cases must be reviewed every two years and the law requires that when payments are delinquent a letter must be sent out to the father.

Commissioner Potvin suggested looking into CETA funds to hire someone to update the support records. It was suggested Lyle Trombley, Harold VanOverloop, and Commissioner Potvin work out a preliminary plan in terms of budgeting and developing a continuing program to keep records up to date. The Prosecutor's Office would be involved in setting up the plan also.

The committee will meet with the Acock's Board April 26, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. at the Acock's Facility, and with Art Hibel and Dorothy Mendelsohn, Acting Director, to review, in part, their admissions policy.

The Hill-Burton Act was briefly discussed. Commissioner Carlson and Potvin and Mary Lou Fontaine will check with officials at the hospital on their position in cases involving indigent patients.

The meeting then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Chubb
Secretary

February 22, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee was duly called and held February 22, 1977 at 3:00 p.m. at the Office of Probate Judge.

Present: Commissioners Carlson, Bollero, Farrell, Racine and Potvir.

Absent: None.

In Attendance: Judge Anderegg; Shari Platt, Juvenile Division Director.

Shari handed out an information sheet on the Probate Code and went over the code with the committee. The code stipulates that all efforts be made to keep a child in their own home.

Shari stated there are two kinds of crimes committed by juveniles: status offenses and delinquency offenses. A status offense is a crime committed by a child that would not be considered a crime if the person was an adult, such as run aways and truancy.

The section of the code dealing with foster homes states under what circumstances a child can be taken from the home. The law provides criteria for when a child may be placed in a detention home or foster home.

Shari stated the children at the Youth Home range from 13 to 17 years of age. Judge Anderegg stated part of the Probate Code deals with the principles of the court system, such as trying to keep the family together. He also stated proceedings in Probate Court are rehabilitative not punitive.

The referral to the Juvenile Court generally comes from a police agency or the Department of Social Services, and are funneled through the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. The prosecuting attorney determines whether the charges have merit.

Once a referral comes from the prosecuting attorney it goes to Shari who assigns cases to the probation officers. Petitions are filled out in Probate Court, but the Judge is hoping to turn this over to the police.

At a preliminary hearing the parents, child, probation officer and prosecuting attorney appear in court. At the hearing the child and parent are advised of the circumstances of the charges it is determined whether an attorney will be appointed or if the child will be kept in detention if he/she is already in detention. A trial date will also be set during the preliminary hearing. Usually hearings are set within a week or ten days. The child has a right to a jury trial, which is a six person jury.

At the formal hearing regular trial rules are followed. This is divided into two phases: judicial and disposition. During the judicative phase the judge or jury makes a determination whether the act charged was committed.

In non-jury cases, when the Judge decides the child committed the offense, the probation officer will be asked if disposition is ready or if he/she wants an adjournment. For serious offenses disposition is adjourned for a week to ten days. Family and school histories will be compiled in these cases and will include the probation officer's recommendation. The prosecuting attorney and defense attorney will be asked for their recommendations, as well as the parents' and child's.

The Judge then listed the various types of sentencing.

He stated unofficial probation is used to deal with first offenders. This is usually a six month term and the record can be expunged if the child behaves.

Official probation is when the child is put on probation until he is 17 years of age. Different Judges handle this sentencing differently, however. This sentence will be reviewed in six months and can be discharged if the juvenile officer so recommends.

Judge Anderegg stated a person can be referred to Probate Court up to 19 years of age. Most people kept beyond 17 years of age however, are wards of the State.

A third type of disposition is removing the child from their home and placing them in a foster home. There are strict rules for licensing foster homes.

Another alternative is commitment to the Department of Social Services. They have their own foster homes and group homes. Group homes help children who have problems dealing with their peers.

A child may also be placed in a structured institution, where education and usually psychiatric treatment are given, if needed. Such an institution costs \$40.00 per day.

If a child is over 15 years of age and the Probate Court has done all they can the Judge can waive the child to Circuit Court.

The Judge stated neglect and abuse cases are taken care of by protective agencies.

Shari passed out the Juvenile Division's annual report and went over the report with the committee. The report listed types and amounts of referrals. Total intake, not including traffic cases, amounted to 804 in 1976.

The Judge informed the committee that a petition to Probate Court may contain more than one offense. First time offenders referred to Probate Court totaled 458 and the amount of repeat offenses totaled 346.

The financial statement for 1976 was provided for the committee's information. Total cost to the county for 1976 was \$76,683.60. Shari explained that a cash flow problem resulted in the budget being in the red. The state is behind in payments to the county.

The Judge determines how much a family can reimburse to the county for legal expenses. Judge Anderegg stated he is attempting to collect payments due to the county at this time. The Circuit Court bailiff will conduct financial investigations for Probate Court in the future.

Shari passed out a report on the Youth Home. 122 children were in the Youth Home for 1,938 days of detention. This was from March, 1976 to December, 1976.

Shari passed out the child care fund report to the committee for January, 1977. Total expenditures were \$15,328.56; total reimbursements, \$13,500.25.

Seven children were at the Youth Home for January, 1977, for a total of 57 days. Total intake, which included traffic, status and delinquency offenses was 82.

It was noted, the cost of Youth Home operations include food, salaries for staff, utilities, etc.

Shari passed out information on the rules and regulations that the Juvenile Division must follow to be able to operate. Dental and medical exams must be given to each child entering the Youth Home.

Judge Anderegg and Shari Platt then left the meeting.

The committee discussed HB 4046, which was referred to the committee by the Board. Commissioner Bollero stated the bill will help the elderly and he is in support of the bill.

Commissioner Farrell stated no information is given on where the money is coming from. Commissioner Carlson stated the actual cost would not be known until the amount of people who will participate is known. Commissioner Potvin was concerned with the cost and where the money will be coming from.

It was moved by Commissioner Farrell to recommend to the Board that they support the intent of House Bill 4046, but would like more information on the cost of the program, number of people who would be involved, and where the money would be coming from. He felt this area would benefit from such a bill because of the number of people who need this service. The motion was supported by Commissioner Potvin and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Carlson stated he had met with the Social Services Board. They are concerned about the Prosecuting Attorney's grant of \$50,000.00 to aid in the collection of support payments.

Commissioner Carlson felt the committee should meet with Gary Walker on this matter concerning what happens to referrals and what action is taken. The committee will also meet with Harold VanOverloop and Wayne Jussila on this.

Judge McDonald has not been pursuing family support payments according to a letter sent to Gary Walker from the Department of Social Services. This matter will be discussed with Gary Walker and Mary Lou Fontaine.

A discussion was held on the policy of Acock's Board on selecting patients and those who need skilled nursing care.

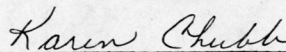
The committee also discussed the Hill-Burton Act. The committee will inquire into the area hospital's policy toward the Hill-Burton Act. Commissioner Potvin stated a new law will be superceding the Hill-Burton Act. This will be discussed with Mary Lou Fontaine at the next meeting with her.

Commissioner Carlson noted that Mary Lou Fontaine had informed him a grant application to aid juvenile services had been submitted to CUPPAD to process and no word has been received from CUPPAD on this.

It was moved by Commissioner Potvin to authorize the committee Chairman to contact CUPPAD on the status of the \$10,000.00 grant for Marquette County Department of Social Services, supported by Commissioner Farrell, and carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Potvin, supported by Commissioner Farrell and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary

January 27, 1977

The Welfare Contact Committee meeting was duly called and held at 7:00 p.m. in the County Courthouse.

Present: Commissioners Bollero, Carlson, Potvin, Farrell and Racine.

Absent: None.

In Attendance: Mary Lou Fontaine, Director of the Department of Social Services in Marquette; and Don Kauppila, Juvenile Division Probation Officer.

Mary Lou stated the county is gradually being phased out of paying for general assistance. The state will take over all general assistance payments in four years, except county hospitalization. She stated this costs approximately \$8,000.00 per year.

Mary Lou mentioned that previously the County Board had established requirements for general assistance eligibility. This, however, has been taken over by the state which has resulted in a decrease in the number of people eligible for general assistance, as they have tightened up the requirements. There has been a decline of one third in the number eligible, although applications remain the same.

Mary Lou Fontaine presented the report concerning receipts and disbursements for the Social Welfare Fund. Refunds & Collection - Direct Relief, which concerns extended loan payments to general assistance people, totaled \$3,950.80 in December of 1976.

It was noted the county does not receive discounts from county hospitals for the hospitalization expenses of general assistance persons. Mary Lou informed the committee a formula is used to derive at the amount of hospitalization a person will receive based on the individual's total excess funds (above those needed for living expenses).

Commissioner Potvin mentioned the Hill-Burton Act regarding hospital services for indigents, and if general assistance people qualify under the act. Commissioner Potvin will gather information concerning this act.

Mary Lou stated the Cash Aid account refers to direct cash payments, whereas Direct Relief refers to in kind type of relief, such as paying a dental bill for an individual.

Mary Lou said the Emergency Assistance Program covers such items as repairs for furnaces, stoves, etc. and is 100% reimbursed by the state. The Presumptive Eligibility Program provides advance payments for those presumed eligible for general assistance.

Mary Lou stated not many refunds are collected in the hospitalization program; the total for December, 1976 was \$420.00. She added, the bulk of the people receiving hospitalization benefits are in the 21 year to 65 year age group.

Mary Fontaine informed the committee that staff salaries and office space for the Department of Social Services are paid by the state.

Mary Lou Fontaine explained the various disbursement accounts. In regard to the Food Stamp Program, Mary Lou informed the committee that areas not covered by the Post Office Food Stamp Program are covered by an itinerant worker.

Mary Lou stated 54 general assistance recipients were involved in the Work and Training Program for December, 1976. The Work Training Program is a requirement for general assistance eligibility for those who are able to work.

Commissioner Racine informed the committee the Emergency Services Department and Health Department, with the aid of various clugs, will be distributing water containers to the areas in Marquette County suffering a shortage of water. He added a resolution will be presented to the Board regarding this at there next meeting.

Mary Lou stated \$1.10 is paid to the Post Office per food stamp transaction. \$1,389.31 was paid for 1,263 transactions and \$8,256.60 was paid for Upper Peninsula issuance. 24.1% of those estimated to be eligible for food stamps in Marquette County are actually participating.

Mary Lou said the Friend of the Court makes child support collections for ADC mothers and transmits them to the Department of Social Services. 37% of the collectible amount was received for the month of December, 1976. A discussion on the Friend of the Court's duties was held. The Friend of the Court will be invited to attend a meeting to explain the responsibilities of that office.

Don Kauppila then presented the Child Care Fund report and explained the function of the Juvenile Division. He stated the Juvenile Division dealt primarily with delinquent children, non-criminal offenses; abused and neglected cases are heard by the court.

For December, 1976 total expenditures for direct expenses, private agencies, and Youth Home operation were \$12,114.91.

Annual expenditures for 1976 total \$182,532.76. Mr. Kauppila explained the various forms of expenditures and reimbursements. It was noted these are non-salary expenditures.

Total cost to the county for the year 1976 amounted to \$76,683.60.

The population at the Youth Home for December and the summary of the population during 1976 were noted. It was mentioned that a child referred by the Department of Social Services is first committed to that department by Probate Court for care.

The possibility of meeting with the Social Services Board, Acock's Medical Facility Board, and others related to welfare services, and limiting the amount of report type meetings was discussed.

Don Kauppila and Mary Lou Fontaine then left the meeting.

The committee decided the Welfare Contact Committee shall meet on the fourth Thursday of each month from now on.

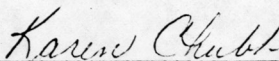
It was moved by Commissioner Farrell to meet with the various agencies or boards (Social Services Board, Juvenile Division, Friend of the Court, Acock's Medical Facility Board) connected with welfare and supported by Commissioner Potvin. It was mentioned meeting at the different facilities during the first quarter of the year. The question was then called and the motion carried unanimously.

It was moved by Commissioner Farrell that the Chairman of the Welfare Contact Committee send a communication to involved departments explaining the committee's intent and supported by Commissioner Bollero. The question was called and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Carlson felt the committee should have some responsibility in regard to programs sponsored by these agencies.

It was moved by Commissioner Farrell, supported by Commissioner Potvin and carried unanimously to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary