

MINUTES

**SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE
Standing Committee to the Laughlin Town Advisory Board
July 21, 2015
8:30 A.M.**

**Laughlin Regional Government Center
101 Civic Way, LAUGHLIN, NEVADA**

Members Present: Dave Brownlee
Pat Gutierrez
Cheryl Seipke
Victoria Conely
Jack Barley
Lance Ross

Members Absent:
None

Others Present:
Kate McDonald, Mohave Valley Daily
News/Laughlin Times
Donna Stanley, DWSS
Diana Marchetti, DWSS
Cassandra Batteast, DWSS
Kathy Zamecki, DWSS
Patricia Hayde

1. CALL TO ORDER

- A.** Conformance with the Nevada Open Meeting Law.
- B.** Agenda items may be taken out of order if deemed necessary.
- C.** The Social Services Committee may combine two or more agenda items for consideration.
- D.** The Social Service Committee may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item at any time.

2. ORGANIZATIONAL ITEMS

- A.** Approval of the July 21, 2015 Agenda.

Victoria Conely moved **Pat Gutierrez** seconded the approval of the agenda.
Motion carried 5-0.

- B. Approval of the June 16, 2015 Minutes.

Pat Gutierrez moved **Cheryl Seipke** seconded the approval of the minutes.
Motion carried 5-0.

3. **COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC:** This is a period devoted to comments by the general public about items on *this* agenda. If you wish to speak to the committee about items within its jurisdiction but not appearing on this agenda, you must wait until the “Comments by the General Public” period listed at the end of this agenda. Comments will be limited to three (3) minutes. Please step up to the speaker’s podium, clearly state your name and address and *spell* your last name for the record. If any member of the committee wishes to extend the length of a presentation, this will be done by the Chair or the committee by majority vote. The committee retains the discretion to take additional public comments during times other than during a Public Hearing or during the Public Comment Sessions. In all other instances, a citizen may speak on any matter before the committee for consideration, after receiving recognition and consent of the Chairman of the committee.

4. **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

- A. Receive a presentation from Donna Stanley, Manager, Henderson District Office, Division of Welfare and Supportive Services (DWSS), along with Kathy Zamecki, Manager of Durango District Office, Diana Marchetti, Supervisor Durango District Office, and Cassandra Batteast, FSSII of Henderson District Office. The topics presented will be: programs administered by DWSS, points of access for Laughlin, and the DWSS Business Process Reorganization.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

The DWSS (Division of Welfare and Supportive Services) staff presented their Programs: TANF (Temporary Assistance for Needy Families), SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), NV Medicaid, and MAABD (Medical Assistance For The Aged, Blind and Disabled).

TANF is a cash grant based on household income and is granted to families with a dependent child or children. A decision to grant TANF is made within 45 days. The parent uses the money to supplement rent, utilities, food, or other necessities for the child/children. TANF is available for only 5 years and accumulates state to state. After 24 months the benefits end for 1 year, benefits then resume for 24 months ending again for 1 year, then the remainder 1 year can be resumed. TANF also assists with childcare for the working parent, and interview expenses which includes bus passes to interviews. TANF does require cooperation with certain work requirements.

SNAP is based on household income and is granted within 30 days. If a person fits certain criteria expedited services can be done within 6 days. SNAP benefits can only be used for food, beverages, and limited prepared foods. Income verification and Nevada ID are required. Money is added to an EBT card for 12 months for the disabled, and 6 months for others. . To avoid services being interrupted a new application must be filed 45 days prior to the services ending.

Nevada Medicaid is based on household income and a decision is made usually within 45 days. There are many types of Medicaid available and is granted to users that meet certain criteria. Documentation is required including income, Social Security number and Nevada ID.

MAABD is for the aged, blind and disabled. It provides medical care and Medicare premium assistance. It is based on income, age (65 and older), disability, and blindness.

DWSS has improved their delivery of services through their new philosophy of “One and Done”, with decisions being made following the interview 78% of the time. The new practice has saved consumers long wait periods, has eliminated hiring at least 40 employees and has eliminated paying overtime. Their Voice Response Unit in system is manned by 600 phones, which has cut down the answering time to within 10 minutes as opposed to hours, sometimes days.

DWSS encourages users to utilize the online service, setting up an account under Access NV. A paper application does delay services and can be mailed to: Document Imaging Center, PO BOX 15400, Las Vegas, NV 89114-5400. DWSS does have a Voice Response Unit – 702-486-1646 which answers within 10 minutes. Walk in service is available at all Las Vegas sites. **Cassandra Batteast** is available at the Laughlin office, 55 Civic Way, every other Tuesday 8:30 a.m. – noon, the next date being July 28, 2015.

Victoria Conely requests that the Laughlin office hours be increased to every Tuesday. **Donna Stanley** states that this cannot be done due to fiscal issues. **Donna** adds that she appreciates the opportunity to make the community aware of their services, and DWSS is striving to earn the community’s trust.

B. Committee to review/finalize the draft Laughlin Resource Directory.

FOR POSSIBLE ACTION

Lance Ross recommends to add 311 (police non-emergency), 211 (information and referral service for human services) and 702-795-3111 (Metro

non-emergency – state that the call is from Laughlin). **Pat Gutierrez** will make the changes/additions and email a copy to committee members prior to the August meeting. The Resource Directory will be finalized at the August 18, 2015 meeting.

5. **COMMENTS BY THE GENERAL PUBLIC:** This is a period for the Public to comment on items within the jurisdiction of the Social Services Committee, but not appearing on this agenda. If any member of the committee wishes to extend the length of their comments, this will be done by the Chairman, or the committee by majority vote. When speaking during a specific item or during the Public Comments sessions, please step up to the speaker's podium, clearly state your name and address – please spell your name for the record – and limit your comments to no more than three (3) minutes. No vote may be taken on any matter not listed on the posted agenda.
6. **NEXT MEETING DATE:** August 18, 2015, 8:30 A.M., Laughlin Regional Government Center, 101 Civic Way, Laughlin, Nevada. Agenda items due no later than August 10, 2015.
7. **ADJOURNMENT**
Pat Gutierrez made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 a.m., seconded by **Jack Barley**. Motion carried 5-0.

NOTE: *These meeting minutes are in draft form and will be formally approved at the August 18, 2015 meeting. Any corrections to these minutes will be reflected in the minutes of the September 15, 2015 meeting.*