

## SOCIAL PROGRAMS COMMITTEE MINUTES

November 10, 2009 – 3:15 p.m.

Present: Chairman Sausville; Supervisors Jenkins, Lucia, Raymond, Southworth, and Veitch; David Wickerham, County Administrator; Sandi Cross, Office for the Aging; Bob Christopher, Tina Potter, Social Services; League of Women Voters.

Chairman Sausville called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.

**On a motion made by Mr. Veitch, seconded by Mr. Jenkins the minutes of the October 13, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.**

Mrs. Cross requested a resolution authorizing the Chairman to sign the Office for the Aging annual implementation plan for 2010.

A list of the provider subcontracts for 2010 was distributed to all committee members for their review. Mrs. Cross said there are no changes from last year either in the contractors or the amounts.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Jenkins to approve authorizing the Chairman to sign the Office for the Aging annual implementation plan for 2010. Unanimous.**

Mrs. Cross requested a resolution to authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the subcontractors for the Office for the Aging.

**A motion was made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mrs. Southworth to authorize the Chairman to enter into an agreement with the subcontractors for the Office for the Aging. Unanimous.**

Mr. Christopher gave a brief overview of the HEAP program as follows:

The program started on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. There are some changes between last year's program and this year's program as follows:

- **Income guidelines have changed – Tier 1 benefit has increased by 4%; Tier 11 benefit has increased by 3%.**
- **Benefit amounts have changed for deliverables, fuel, kerosene, wood and coal. The regular HEAP benefit is \$600 with \$700 as the maximum. An individual would get the maximum if there was a vulnerable household member and they were Tier 1. In 2008-02009 the benefit was \$900.**

- **Gas and electric maximum benefit is \$500 and the minimum is \$400. The same rule applies, if there is a vulnerable household member and they were Tier 1 they would be eligible for the maximum benefit of \$500.**
- **Last year the benefit amounts were based on a point system with the minimum for natural gas and electric was \$425 and the maximum was \$620.**
- **The heat included benefit where a tenants heat is included in the cost of their rent remains the same as last year, \$50 for Tier 1 and \$40 for Tier 11.**
- **Emergency benefits remain the same as last year - \$600 for non-utility fuels and \$135 to \$160 for heat related domestic - \$435 - \$510 for natural gas with heat-related domestic and \$300 - \$350 for natural gas.**
- **The non-utility heat emergency – oil, kerosene, wood and coal – 2008-2009 was \$800 – this year it is \$600.**
- **Equipment repair is the same as last year at \$3,000 per applicant annually – the furnace replacement component is the same at \$6,000, provided once in a ten-year period.**

Mr. Sausville asked if the applicant would get a check in a lump sum? Mr. Christopher said, the proceeds go directly to the vendor. How long would it take to get reimbursed once the paperwork is filled out? Mr. Christopher said, if it is an emergency it is dealt with right away, the same day. Otherwise it is up to a thirty-day window to provide the supplemental benefit.

**On a motion made by Mr. Lucia, seconded by Mr. Veitch the meeting was adjourned.**

Respectfully submitted,  
Chris Sansom