

**Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board**  
**Minutes**  
**April 24, 2018**

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board met on Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at the Plymouth County Courthouse Annex Building, 215 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Le Mars, Iowa.

1. Chairman Mark Loutsch welcomed attendees, called the meeting to order at 1:00 p.m.

Members present: Mark Loutsch, Don Kass, Mark Sybesma, Dennis Wright, Keith Radig, Shane Walter, Mike Wood, Don Nore and Julie Albright.

Member absent: Matthew Ung

Others present: Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Aaron Haverdink, Sharon Nieman, Dennis Butler, Kathy Roberts, Audrey Larson, Sean Finnegan, Joel Peterson, Shawn Scholten, Katie Detloff, Amy Lord, Nia Key, Gary Turbes, Kermit Dahlen, Rose Nicoson, Craig Bartolozzi, Cindy Wilde, Shawn Fick, Matt Buley, Kim Keleher, Velvet Jeratowski, Kim Wilson, Jennifer McCabe.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

- A. Motion by Don Kass, second by Dennis Wright to approve the Agenda for the April 24, 2018 meeting with Agenda Item #7 being removed. Carried 2-0. (Radig, Ung absent)

3. APPROVAL OF MARCH 27, 2018 GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Don Kass to approve the minutes of the March 27, 2018 Board meeting. Carried 2-0. (Radig, Ung absent)

4. FISCAL AGENT REPORTS

- A. Dennis Butler shared with the board the Fiscal Agent reports.

- I. As of April 1<sup>st</sup>, Fund 110 for Woodbury County has a balance of \$1,038,965.52; Fund 110 for Sioux County has a balance of 381,834.22; Fund 110 for Plymouth County has a balance of \$272,317.74

- II. Fund 720 (the Regional Fund) as of April 1<sup>st</sup> has a balance of \$4,063,003.74.

- B. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Dennis Wright to approve the Fiscal Agent reports as presented. Carried 3-0.

5. APPROVE REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES: FEBRUARY 2018.

- A. Motion by Dennis Wright, second by Keith Radig to approve the March Mental Health Expenditures as presented. Carried 3-0.

6. UPDATES: ADVISORY BOARD, WORK ALTERNATIVES, ASSESSMENT & STABILIZATION CENTER, JAIL ALTERNATIVES, ETC.

- A. Shawn Scholten reported that the Advisory Board met on April 11<sup>th</sup>.

- I. The main topic discussed was the rural delivery of Peer Support services. Board member and Peer Support Specialist, Robin Falde lined up Carolyn Solberg who is the manager of that program through Hope Haven to speak to the group.

- II. They talked about IHH changes and the impact.

- III. The Advisory Board recommended to the Governance Board that they offer provider improvement grants again this year.

- IV. Next meeting is July 11, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

- B. Aaron Haverdink spoke about the Work Alternatives group.

- I. They have been meeting regularly and are wrapping up the current year. In the next month, they will do an end of the year evaluation for progress towards their goals to receive the rest of the grant money that they can earn for this fiscal year as well as developing the grants and budgets for the next fiscal year.

- C. Katie Detloff updated the group on the Assessment & Stabilization Center.
  - I. They are still working with the MCO's regarding the billing. She spoke to Amerigroup last week and they are still processing everything and said that they will get back to her in a couple of weeks with more details.
- D. Nia Key spoke to the group about the Jail Alternatives program.
  - I. Since its implementation back in October, they have served in Woodbury County 43 justice involved individuals (18 females, and 25 males). In Plymouth County, they have served 5 individuals. In Sioux County, they have served 3 individuals.
  - II. They have received outside referrals: Department of Corrections (1), Woodbury County Jail Counselor (2), Iowa Public Defender's office (2) and County Social Services Mental Health Region (1).
  - III. Jail Alternatives has made two referrals to supportive services for Veteran families; one of the referrals was in Woodbury County the other in Plymouth County.
  - IV. As far as housing referrals, there have be 20 coordinated entry assessments that have been completed. Two individuals have been successfully housed. They have eighteen that are still in the process.

7. ITEM REMOVED FROM AGENDA

8. PROVIDER IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

- A. Shane Walter explained to the Board members that provider improvement grants were built into the budget for this year. They looked at where they were at with the budget and noted that they were in good shape so they asked the Advisory Board to consider that and to come back with a recommendation to the Governance Board as to whether to proceed with provider improvement grants in this fiscal year. The Advisory Board recommended to proceed with provider improvements.
- B. Shane explained to the group that they will be using the same guidelines that they have had in place for the past several years when they have awarded funds to their providers. He stressed that they have always had guidelines in place for awarding the funds, for how the dollars are going to be spent and the reporting to the services coordinators as to the expenditure of the dollars that need to be expended by the end of the fiscal year.
  - I. Shane asked that the Board approve the awarding of grants to the providers who meet the criteria that the Regional has set forth. They currently have a budgeted amount of \$200,000 for provider improvements.
  - II. Dennis Wright said that the Advisory Board discussed provider improvements and \$5,000 cap per provider was what they discussed initially adding he thought maybe that figure was a little low considering the overall budgeted amount.
  - III. Mark Sybesma stated \$5,000 was a little low.
  - IV. Keith Radig stated that he was not in favor of keeping the provider improvement grants and he was not sure how Matthew Ung stood on the issue.
  - V. Don Kass stated with the current situation in the Region he thought the Board needs to carefully consider the amount of the cap. He pointed out that the proposals would need to in by May 16<sup>th</sup> with the projects being completed prior to June 30<sup>th</sup> which is not a lot of time.
  - VI. Dennis Wright stated that in the past providers have been able to do several types of improvements within the allotted time frame.
  - VII. Don Kass stated that they should base the amounts given on a case by case basis.
  - VIII. Chairman Mark Loutsch talked about the cap amount being \$5,000 to \$10,000.
  - IX. Keith Radig suggested a cap at \$20,000.
  - X. Shane Walter said they have always awarded grants on a case by case basis, but there needs to be a cap amount.
  - XI. Keith Radig stated \$5,000 is a little low.
  - XII. Aaron Haverdink shared that in the past around 15 providers have applied each year.
  - XIII. Sharon Nieman added that last year every provider that applied received a little something.
  - XIV. Mark Sybesma stated that part of the motivation of doing provider grants in the past was to get the fund balance down.

- XV. Shane stated that provider improvement grants were given in Woodbury and Sioux counties prior to regionalization.
- XVI. Mark Sybesma stated that he was not opposed to provider improvement grants because it has been budgeted for this year.
- XVII. Chairman Loutsch stated if they did \$10,000 per provider based on a history of 15 providers the total amount would be \$150,000.
- XVIII. Aaron Haverdink shared that the Region's goal as far as fund balances is at the end of three years (currently the Region nearing the end of year one) to be at 20% of the projected fund balance which is \$990,000. He added at the end of this year they are looking at a total fund balance of 3.3 million dollars.
- XIX. Dennis Wright said he is all in favor of a cap.
- XX. Don Kass said that he does not think the \$200,000 overall is a bad cap.
- XXI. Dennis Wright said \$5,000 is too low and asked members whether the cap should be \$10,000 or possibly \$20,000.
- XXII. Mark Sybesma said if there are projects that come back and are more than the cap, the Region could ask for matching funds adding the cap figure could be \$20,000.
- XXIII. Dennis Wright asked what cap number the members are thinking.
- XXIV. Mark Sybesma said \$20,000 is fine with him.
- XXV. Keith Radig stated he thought \$20,000.
- XXVI. Chairman Loutsch stated that at \$20,000 that would be them at a total of \$300,000.
- XXVII. Dennis Wright stated that that won't happen, adding that some grants will be higher and some will be lower.
- XXVIII. Shane Walter said that the total overall would still be \$200,000.
- XXIX. Aaron Haverdink stated that the Region's Service Coordinators will review the applications and make recommendations to the Board.
- XXX. Shane Walter said the Board will make the final approval and that is why they must have the submission deadline prior to the next Governance Board meeting.
- XXXI. Dennis Wright asked if members liked the \$20,000 amount for the cap.
- XXXII. Shane Walter said the \$20,000 would be okay, but then they could only award \$10,000 at the maximum unless there are lesser amounts requested.
- XXXIII. Keith Radig stated that in the past they have pared some down by a percentage. If all 15 providers came in asking for \$20,000 they would not have enough, but they could reduce them all by 32%.
- XXXIV. Shane Walter stated that they did reduce some last year. They awarded percentages of what the providers asked for, so they could do that again this year.
- XXXV. Dennis Wright added that they may all come in at \$20,000.
- XXXVI. Keith Radig replied that some of them may come in at \$10,000.
- XXXVII. Dennis Wright stated that the providers have always been very good about their improvement requests in the past.
- XXXVIII. Dennis Wright made the motion to approve the provider improvement grants with a cap of \$20,000 per provider and a total cap of overall all of \$200,000, second by Don Kass. Carried 2-1. (Radig opposed)
- XXXIX. Keith Radig stated that he said he was going to vote no on the item and he was being consistent.

## 9. MOBILE CRISIS

- A. Patty Erickson Puttmann reported on Mobile Crisis. They are still moving forward and are working on policies and procedures.

## 10. GENERAL DISCUSSION: INPUT FROM REGIONAL STAFF, PUBLIC, PROVIDERS, CONSUMERS, ETC.

- A. Shane Walter talked about HF2456 which was signed into law which will mandate new services across the State such as access centers and assertive community treatment teams.
  - I. The CEOs have been talking about how they are going to work together across regions. They are still waiting for the rules to be written.
- B. Don Nore introduced Rose Nicoson to the group. Rose is going to be the new Directive Officer at Life Skills Training Center. She will be replacing Don as he will be stepping down on July 1<sup>st</sup>.

- C. Keith Radig received a letter from Rocky DeWitt indicating that there is going to be a press release. Keith summarized:
  - I. Providers that Woodbury County is committed to are assured that critical needs, mental health and disability needs are met over the next year.
  - II. For Sioux Rivers Region, Woodbury County looks to work forward in good faith negotiations coming up on an interim 28E since legally Woodbury County has pulled out the existing 28E with Sioux Rivers.
- D. Sean Finnegan shared with the group the upcoming conference that Siouxland Mental Health is holding on May 10<sup>th</sup> at Stoney Creek Conference Center. The name of the conference is Elevate the Conversation.
  - I. Sean asked if Sioux Rivers would supply scholarships as they have in the past.
  - II. Shane said that the Region had already talked about and approved scholarships again this year.

Motion by Don Kass, second by Keith Radig to adjourn the meeting. Carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 1:50 p.m.



Julie Albright, Secretary  
Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board

Approved by Governance Board: May 22, 2018