

**Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board**  
**Minutes**  
**August 25, 2015**

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board Meeting was held Tuesday, August 25, 2015 at the Plymouth County Courthouse Annex Building, 215 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Le Mars, Iowa.

1. Chairman Dennis Wright called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m. and introductions were made.

Members present: Mark Loutsch, Mark Monson, Matthew Ung, Dennis Wright, Jim Henrich, Mark Sybesma, Shane Walter, Mike Wood, Julie Albright

Others present: Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Sharon Nieman, Aaron Haverdink, Dennis Butler, JoAnn De Young, Shawn Scholten, Joshua Widman, Jim Rixner, Anne Rust, Patrick Schmitz, David Van Ningen, Darin Raymond, Larry Clausen, Gary Turbes, Don Nore, Jolie Corder, Dan Gillette

2. Motion by Mark Monson, second by Mark Loutsch to approve the minutes of the July 28, 2015 Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried 6-0
3. CRISIS SERVICES UPDATE: RECAP OF POLK COUNTY VISIT; MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING
  - A. Sharon Nieman has been working with current Pride Group consumers residing at the Division St. property to make sure they are transitioned out correctly. She was notified that these consumers will be out of the facility by October 3<sup>rd</sup>. Renovation will begin immediately following and the Crisis Center will be open before January 1, 2016.
  - B. A meeting was held Monday, August 24<sup>th</sup>, involving law enforcement, county attorneys and nurses to discuss policies, procedures and programmatically what needs to be done for the Crisis Program in Sioux City.
    - I. Torrie Simmons and Scott Willsey from Eyerly Ball in Polk County attended this meeting and shared with the group about the Eyerly Ball Crisis Program, policies and procedures and how to operate a crisis stabilization and crisis observation program. There will be continued communication with Polk County as to how to set up and what is going to be beneficial for the Crisis Program.
    - II. The group had the opportunity to ask several questions regarding what Polk County would do differently if they had a chance to do things over again. They pointed out that they would make sure they had more medical direction by way of doctor driven assessments and evaluations.
  - C. Jim Rixner stressed the need for the Crisis Center to have a registered nurse practitioner or psychiatrist available on an on-call basis. Telemedicine is also an option.
  - D. Patty Erickson-Puttmann, along with two correctional officers from Woodbury County, passed the Mental Health First Aid Instructor Training in Minneapolis. They are now certified and are able to teach citizens and groups within the Region.
  - E. Sharon Nieman attended the Trauma Informed Care Training: Educational Perspective Conference sponsored by AEA.
    - I. The Conference provided information regarding expanding outreach to rural schools and offered tools to address the unique needs of students experiencing trauma.
    - II. Woodbury County currently has counselors that go out to the schools and it is the goal within the Region to expand that type of outreach, if it is within the budget, into Plymouth and Sioux County Schools.
  - F. The Sioux City School District received federal money and will be providing eight hour mental health first aid training to all teachers and personnel this year.
  - G. Mike Wood offered his gratitude to the Board and all individuals involved for their commitment to the Crisis Intervention Program.

4. APPROVAL OF DIVISION STREET RENTAL AGREEMENT WITH PRIDE GROUP
  - A. A rental agreement was drafted between the Sioux Rivers Region and Pride Group. This agreement states that each consumer currently residing at the Division Street property will be charged \$15 per day from July 1 through October 3, 2015. This amount was arrived upon based on current SSA amounts.
  - B. Motion by Jim Henrich, second by Mark Sybesma to approve the Division Street Rental Agreement. Carried 6-0
  
5. APPROVAL OF PROVIDER AGREEMENT WITH DSI
  - A. Developmental Services of Iowa (DSI) is a provider of Habilitation Services in Sioux City. The Region has proposed a rate to reimburse DSI for the services received by those consumers waiting for Habilitation funding, but not currently eligible.
  - B. The Agreement had not been returned by DSI. The Agreement will be presented at the next Governance Board Meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>.
  - C. Motion by Mark Monson, second by Mark Loutsch to table this item until the next meeting. Carried 6-0
  
6. WORK ALTERNATIVES WORKGROUP UPDATE – DAVID VAN NINGEN
  - A. All five agencies involved in the Program funded by the Region (New Perspectives, Mid-Step, Life Skills, Hope Haven and Goodwill Great Plains) will have staff in attendance at the conference of the Association of Persons in Supportive Employment (APSE).
  - B. The Workgroup came to an agreement with the Outcomes Data Collection Process and Reporting that will be needed to keep the Work Alternative Program on track and also to report to the Governance Board on a quarterly basis. The information needed to be collected include: Who is involved; what are the job placements; how much people are earning; and how many hours per week are they working.
    - I. All five agencies are in the process of hiring or assigning someone to this project.
  - C. Iowa released its intended rules for Rebalancing Iowa's Medicaid Employment Services.
    - I. These are the rules on how Medicaid money can be spent on what services and what rates to support people with disabilities in employment. These rules also include staff qualifications needed to provide Medicaid services.
    - II. Each agency, as well as the Workgroup, will have the opportunity to provide public input to the State regarding these rules.
  
7. APPROVAL OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH AREA AGENCIES ON AGING (AAA'S) FOR EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION IN LIEU OF BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT (BAA).
  - A. The Business Associate Agreement is for HIPAA purposes. It allows the Region to share information with AAA's.
  - B. The Board needs to approve Shane Walter's signature on the Business Associate Agreement. All Regional CEOs will meet on August 28<sup>th</sup> to sign this Agreement.
  - C. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Jim Henrich to allow Shane to sign the Business Associate Agreement at the CEO meeting. Carried 6-0
  
8. APPROVAL OF AMENDMENT TO CONTRACT WITH SIOUXLAND MENTAL HEALTH CENTER'S IN-SCHOOL THERAPY PROGRAM – ADDITIONAL \$25,000.
  - A. Siouxland Mental Health has been providing the School Therapy in the Sioux City Community School District for over 15 years though the Safe School-Healthy Student Federal Grant.
    - I. The School Board allowed SMHC to start the program due to having the federal funding in place. When that funding ran out, Woodbury County picked up the funding.
    - II. It is the only form of early intervention for those children with mental illness.
    - III. Current budget is \$190,000 and the additional \$25,000 will bring it to \$215,000.
    - IV. Approximately 350 students were served last year.
    - V. For those students who qualify, Medicaid has been billed for the services provided.
  - B. The Region is planning to expand In-School Therapy into the Plymouth County and Sioux County schools eventually. Currently, there is a therapist from Creative Living Center that goes to West Sioux High School and South O'Brien, approximately four days per week.

- C. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Mark Monson to approve amending Siouxland Mental Health Center's In-School Therapy Contract for an additional \$25,000. Carried 6-0

9. REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES BUDGETING PROCESS/MEETING DATES

- A. The CEO and service coordinators will be meeting on August 26<sup>th</sup> and September 14<sup>th</sup> to work on the FY17 Budget Proposal. It will be presented to the Board at the next meeting on September 29<sup>th</sup>.

10. STATEWIDE AND FALL SCHOOL MENTAL HEALTH AFFILIATE AGENDA

- A. Fall School is being held November 18<sup>th</sup> in Cedar Rapids, IA. The Planning Committee put together an agenda. They will receive training on a number of issues and will have interaction with the new managed care organizations.
- B. Statewide Training for all regional CEOs and service coordinators will be held October 1<sup>st</sup>-2<sup>nd</sup>.

11. LEGISLATIVE REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING UPDATE

- A. Shane Walter and Patty Erickson-Puttmann are both on the Legislative Review Committee that met in August. The Committee discussed legislative priorities as a Mental Health Affiliate.
  - I. The number one priority is to implement some levying equity. The levy rates have been frozen at a maximum since 1996. In order for the Region to provide equity between the counties, legislation needs to be passed that will unfreeze the caps to allow counties to levy what is needed in order to raise sufficient funds to allow for that equity within the Region to meet the budget. The Supervisor Affiliate agreed to support the Mental Health Affiliate in the effort to raise the levy cap and will be presenting jointly at the next Legislative Policy Committee Meeting.
  - II. Clean up the residency language in the Iowa Code.
  - III. The 812 Commitment Process: The Committee is hoping to clean up the language and make it clear who is responsible for payment (The Department of Corrections or the Region) for the psychiatric evaluation of those individuals under this commitment process.

12. COUNTY REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES – JULY 2015

- A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Matthew Ung to approve the July 2015 expenditures for Plymouth, Sioux and Woodbury counties.

13. FISCAL AGENT REPORT / REGIONAL FUND REPORT / FY16 TRANSITION UPDATE

- A. Dennis Butler presented the Regional Fund 720 Report and also the Woodbury County Fund 110 Report.
  - I. After the Regional Report was done, revenue of \$247,453 came over from Plymouth County, which is their balance minus administrative costs.
  - II. The Regional Report shows disbursements broken down by the categories: Mental Illness, Intellectually Disabled and Developmentally Disabled. At the next meeting Dennis will have the latest Operating Statement which will show the expenditures broken down within these categories by line item.
  - III. Fund 720 has a balance of \$2,487,020.53. This will be greatly expanded in the future when Woodbury County gets their balances figured out through accruals, sometime in September. At that time they will transfer the money over to the Regional Fund. Sioux County will transfer their balance over as well.
  - IV. If the Regional Fund balance is over the 25% at the end of FY16, the Board will have to decide what is going to be done with this money. A \$1,300,000-\$1,400,000 balance would put the Region over the 25%.
  - V. Dennis asked that Sioux and Plymouth counties submit to him a monthly report that shows their Fund 110 (Administrative Fund) balance.
- B. Patty Erickson-Puttmann reminded the Board that starting January 1, the Crisis Program will be costing the Region around a half of million for the first six months of operation.
- C. Shane Walter encouraged all meeting attendees to be communicating with him, their respective service coordinators and Board members about the budget and what they would like to see in the coming fiscal year and in subsequent years. Also, what providers think they might need as far as increases. This input will be necessary in the budget building process.

- D. Jim Rixner expressed concern that public education is underfunded and people need a better understanding of mental illness.
- E. Mark Monson voiced his concern regarding what hourly and professional people are being paid and the inability of providers to maintain skilled personnel due to low wages. Encouraged the Board to look at what the Region is providing so that wages can be increased.
- F. Motion by Mark Monson, second by Jim Henrich to approve the Fiscal Agent Reports as presented. Carried 6-0

14. OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS

- A. Matthew Ung presented to the Governance Board the Resolution passed by the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors regarding the 28E and changing some of the language in the finance section.
  - I. Joshua Widman, Woodbury County Attorney, and Darin Raymond, Plymouth County attorney spoke regarding their thoughts on the 28E wording. Both agreed that moving forward by consensus is the best way to proceed.
  - II. Joshua Widman has reached out to the Attorney General's office on this issue. While they will not make a formal opinion, they are willing to take a look at the 28E wording and offer input.
  - III. Darin Raymond will be checking with other Regions regarding the wording of their 28E Agreements.
  - IV. Because the Resolution was not on the Agenda, nothing could be voted on at this Board meeting.
  - V. Denny Wright asked that the county attorneys from all three counties talk to each other and come up with an agreement on this issue. This item will be put on the Agenda for the September 29<sup>th</sup> Governance Board Meeting.

17. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Motion by Mark Loutsch, second by Matthew Ung to adjourn the meeting. Carried 6-0

***Next meeting will be Tuesday, September 29, 2015 at 1:30 p.m., at the Plymouth County Courthouse annex building.***

*Julie L. Albright*

Julie Albright, Secretary

Approved by Board: 9/29/2015