



## SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

### GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board met in person and via zoom at 1:30pm. Members present in person and via zoom: Kim Wermersen, Shane Walter, Beth Will, Abby Wallin, Mavis Anema, Lisa Rockhill, Mark Loutsch, Don Kass, Sue Duhn, Shawn Scholten, Sherri Bootsma, Jerry Birkey, Christina Eggink-Postma, Cory Altena, John Steensma, Shawn Scholten, Sherri Bootsma, Jerry Birkey, Christina Eggink-Postma, Heather Fitzgerald, Ryan Dokter, Mike VanOtterloo, Paul Merten, Jamison Van Voorst, Barry Whitsell, Nicolle Eaton, Mark Sybesma, Sheila Martin, John Pluth, Denise Driesen, Carl Vande Weerd, Karen Rosengree, Rob Aiken, and Scott Witte. Tim Schumacher joined via zoom at 1:38pm.

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS-**

Wermersen began the meeting at 1:30pm by welcoming those in attendance.

**2. APPROVE AGENDA-**

Sybesma made a motion to approve the agenda. Altena seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 2/25/21 MEETING MINUTES-**

Bootsma made a motion to approve the February 25, 2021 minutes. Kass seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

**4. FISCAL AGENT REPORT-**

Dokter reported on the February financial report. The financial report does not include any of the remaining CARES dollars. Loutsch asked if we received more taxes than we anticipated with our region being at more than 60%. Dokter states we typically get more of the anticipated dollars in the fall. Vande Weerd made a motion to approve the financial report. Steensma seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

**5. APPROVE FY22 BUDGET-**

Walter reported on the FY22 budget. Walter stated this has been a more challenging year to complete the budget simply because we have many unknowns. As a region, we are trying to see where we can assist providers with covering costs in places where their rates from the state are just not enough. At this time, the legislature is looking at essentially making the access centers emergency rooms, which would cost a great deal of money. Our region is looking at some brick and mortar as well as virtual sub-acute services. At this point, we are working with Central Iowa to see about services in Fort Dodge, but we do not yet know what those costs will be. Due to new priorities, we have had to look at services that are not mandated and have had to scale back on some of those services. We continue to support those services we value, but do need to balance the unknown with what we do know. We have budgeted for more than

the revenue amount, but we do need to spend down the fund balance. Wermersen stated he and Kass did sit in on some of the staff meetings while the budgets were discussed. He praised the staff for the work they have done to get to this point, as it is not easy to make these decisions. Kass agreed with Wermersen. Walter did state the data must support the dollars spent. Sybesma asked about the difference of Property Tax Levied in Table B of the Annual Service and Budget Plan vs. the levy dollars in Table E. Altena asked why some of the dollars were in different line items last year than this year. Will explained the staff worked to get the dollars in the correct line item this year. Kass asked about the drop in center, and if that was still being decreased in the budget. Walter explain there was a cut, but that additional dollars had been added since then. Sybesma made a motion to approve the budget. Bootsma seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

**6. APPROVE ANNUAL SERVICE AND BUDGET PLAN-**

Walter explained the annual service and budget plan. It is the annual service plan with the budgeted dollars within it. Each year the region identifies the services we plan to provide. It also lists the Governance Board members as well as the access points for the region. The service coordination is listed in the plan, as well as the crisis services providers and their emergency numbers for both adults and children. Altena asked about the transportation to get individuals to those crisis centers. Walter explained the region has a contract with the YES Center for transportation. Walter also stated there is a bill for mandated transportation. Kass said at this point that one has died. Walter stated the YES Center has been a good partner with the region. While we have mandates, we cannot fulfill those mandates without providers. Discussions have occurred with MCO's regarding this. Loutsch asked if this is what people see when they go to the state website. Walter explained this information is on the website as well as our progress towards our goals. Rockhill wanted to remind the board this is our plan for FY22, but it is ultimately our goals and things will likely change as the year goes forward. It is a projection at this point. Schumacher wanted to make sure Emmet was spelled correctly with one t. Anema also wanted to make sure Loutsch was added as an ex-officio in the Governance Board members section of the plan. A motion was made by Kass to approve the FY22 Annual Service and Budget Plan. Altena seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.

**7. MH ADVOCATE UPDATE-**

Walter stated that Joan Reed, the Emmet County advocate is retiring May 19, 2021. Therefore, Emmet County will need an advocate. Walter has discussed with Emmet County that it makes sense that Wallin work in all six counties. In this case, she would have to be the interim from May 19, 2021 through June 30, 2021. Walter did remind the board the county is in charge of appointing their own mental health advocate. In our region, we have an agreement with the counties for the advocate. Emmet County will make a decision next week. Bootsma is not a 100% sure she can sell the idea to the O'Brien County Board as the employer of record for Wallin. Bootsma would like to meet with Walter prior to the meeting in

Emmet County next week. Walter and Bootsma agreed to set up a meeting to discuss the position prior to Emmet County meeting next week. Walter will provide another update at the next meeting.

**8. CRISIS SERVICES UPDATE-**

Rosengree stated ITP has signed a contract effective today at a hospital in Sioux County. Mobile crisis provided a written update. Kass asked Seasons Center if the outcome of the call could be added to the report. Eggink-Postma reported a summary could be included in the report, and would plan for this in the future. Rockhill stated this is compiled for the annual report as well.

**9. SIOUX CITY BUILDING UPDATE-**

Brent Wilhelm and Paul Merten met with Shane Walter and Kim Wermersen. Wermersen stated there is an official request from Rolling Hills to purchase the building. Wermersen said the meeting was a discussion about being good neighbors with Rolling Hills. Kass believes we need to receive more than \$325,000 for that building. Altena asked what the appraised value was. Walter explained that at this point, there is a wait list to get an appraisal done. Kass stated he would be willing to come down in the price of the building, if the region could work out a fee for service going forward. Walter stated there would need to be an agreement for services going forward. Loutsch believes the sale of the building and the service costs going forward do need to be discussed hand in hand. Walter would like the board to make a formal counter offer for the Rolling Hills Board. Kass suggested \$395,000 as the counter offer. Schumacher asked how the board acquired the building. Loutsch stated the region purchased that building as Sioux, Plymouth, and Woodbury Counties. Walter stated while Woodbury County was a part of the region at the time, the region did maintain the building when Woodbury County left. Kass made a motion to counter offer the price of the building at \$395,000. Sybesma seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. The motion carried with all eyes. The official counter offer will be written and sent to Rolling Hills.

**10. PROVIDER UPDATES-**

Dr. Scholten stated the Adult Advisory Board elected not to meet in March, but will plan to meet early this summer. If anyone knows anyone in Emmet or Dickinson Counties that would like to be members to send them her way. Children's Coordinators met together. The group decided it wanted to meet monthly. Everyone in the group felt that DHS has not shown much support in this area, and some regions are unwilling to pay any dollars until there is some financial commitment from the state. Anema provided an updated on jail diversion. Anema shared a story about an individual at the jail. This individual has gone to the Harvest Academy. Walter stated he believes this is what jail diversion is really about, getting individuals out of jail, while working to keep them out of jail, and change their lives going forward.

**11. GENERAL DISCUSSION-**



## SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

### GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, MARCH 23, 2021

Wermersen asked the group if there was any other discussion needed. No one had anything else to report.

#### 12. ADJOURN GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING-

Altena made motion to adjourn meeting. Kass seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Sue Duhn, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Duhn".

Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board