

Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board
Minutes
March 27, 2018

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board met on Tuesday, March 27, 2018 at the Plymouth County Courthouse Annex Building, 215 4th 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, Matthew Ung, Shane Walter and Julie Albright.

Members absent: Mike Wood and Don Nore.

Others present: Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Aaron Haverdink, Sharon Nieman, Dennis Butler, Kim Keleher, Katie Detloff, Sarah Jackson, Jason Wagner, Amy Lord, Jay Ricke, Kim Wilson, Jennifer McCabe, Kathy Roberts, Steve Walhof and Scott Witte.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

- A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Don Kass to approve the Agenda for the March 27, 2018 meeting. Carried 3-0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 27, 2018 GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING MINUTES

- A. Mark Sybesma added a correction on the February 27, 2018 minutes. The minutes show he was in attendance and he was not. Correction noted by Julie Albright, Secretary.
- B. Motion by Mark Sybesma to approve the minutes with the noted correction, second by Don Kass. Carried 3-0.

4. FISCAL AGENT REPORTS

- A. Dennis Butler shared with the board the Fiscal Agent reports (Fund 110 reports for Woodbury, Plymouth and Sioux counties and the Fund 720 Regional report).
- B. Dennis asked Board members, because of the scenario they are in right now, if they want to waive the 20% (that is in the 28E agreement) for next year's balances.
 - I. Normally they would withhold the 20% for administration, but if the split takes place, they may want to withhold it in a fund because it is going to be regional money wherever it is. It is money for expenses next year, so Dennis suggested they withhold the 20% and if the three counties are still together after July 1st, they will have to pay the 20% over for the reserve for administration.
 - II. Aaron Haverdink stated that basically instead of putting our local tax dollars into the Regional pool, just keeping it in the local accounts until they know for sure what the makeup of the Region will be for next year. He added that they will be changing fiscal agents July 1st as well.
 - III. Shane Walter stated that this item will be added to next month's agenda as an action item.
- C. Keith Radig moved to accept the Fiscal Agent reports, second by Matthew Ung. Carried 3-0.

5. APPROVE REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES: FEBRUARY 2018.

- A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Dennis Wright to approve the February Mental Health Expenditures as presented. Carried 3-0.

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

- A. Sharon Nieman updated on the Advisory Board and indicated they will be meeting on April 11th.
- B. Scott Witte of Hope Haven spoke to the group about Work Alternatives.
 - I. There is a group of five agencies that have been working together for the past three or four years (Hope Haven, Goodwill, NPI, Life Skills and Mid-Step). They call themselves the Sioux Rivers Employment Alternatives Group.

- II. They have been working on some projects together; one of them is a joint integrated employment project.
 - III. Scott passed out to the group a mid-year update which showed their employment goals.
 - IV. They look at Group Integrated Employment, Individual Site Integrated Employment and combined numbers.
 - V. They have made nice progress towards their July 1, 2015 base numbers in all three categories. The one they are most excited about is the Individual Site Integrated Employment which are competitive jobs in local business and industry.
 - a) Currently there are 153 individuals working in those types of arrangements with an average rate of pay of \$8.61 per hour.
 - b) They work just under 20 hours per week with the state average being around 12 hours week, so they have been exceeding the state average.
 - VI. Scott shared they also have an ongoing marketing campaign. The website siouxriverspartners.org will have three new videos posted that portray people from Life Skills, NPI and Mid-Steps.
 - VII. Aaron Haverdink added that with the marketing campaign they mailed out letters to Siouxland businesses. Aaron got his first call from an employer asking for an employee.
 - C. Katie Detloff reported on the Assessment and Stabilization Center.
 - I. Katie passed out a report showing the number of Medicaid participants they have served over the past month.
 - II. They are still unable to bill for Medicaid participants because they are still waiting on their application.
 - III. Shane asked if they were still talking about April 1 being able to bill. Katie responded that she does not see it happening by then.
7. INTEGRATED TELE-HEALTH PARTNERS: APPROVE PROPOSAL FOR PACKAGE OF SERVICES TO HOSPITALS /JAILS.
- A. CEO Shane Walter reminded the board that the information packet regarding ITP was distributed at the last board meeting. They were to review it and come back this month with any questions they may have for Jay Ricke. They are looking for the okay to go forward with ITP in FY19; it is built into the budget.
 - B. Dennis Wright asked if it was an Orange City hospital that was interested in using it.
 - I. Shane shared at this point it is a pilot project essentially; they are looking at Orange City Area Health and Floyd Valley Hospital in Le Mars.
 - a) Those are the two hospitals initially because they showed interest; other hospitals in the area are using something similar and are not interested at this time.
 - C. Dennis Wright asked when Telehealth would start. Jay Ricke stated that realistically because of the provider credentialing component and the IT set up, they would be looking at July 1st or even August 1st.
 - D. Chairman Loutsch asked if it could be expanded if need be. Shane replied that is it a pilot project, they are going to see how this model works and if it does what we hope it will do, they will look at expanding to other hospitals and jails that might need it. Woodbury County is already set up in the jail at this point.
 - E. Patty Erickson-Puttmann added that they had a meeting last week with the Sheriffs' offices, the Sioux City Police Department. At the meeting, they talked about the possibility of utilizing ITP for the Mobile Crisis Response Team.
 - F. Shane Walter shared that they have budgeted \$50,000 for this project which would buy roughly 112 cases.
 - G. Jay Ricke stated that there are currently nine regions participating in Telehealth.
 - H. Aaron Haverdink introduced Steve Walhof from the Orange City Hospital.
 - I. Mr. Walhof shared that from a provider standpoint the main thing they look at is the 2:00-3:00 a.m. visit from individuals who have a mental illness and the hospital having the ability to have access to a mental health professional that can screen the individual and make a determination on a committal or whether they need to go to the crisis center, etc. It takes a lot of pressure off the physicians and nurses which is a benefit. In addition, if the patient needs to have a placement, Jay and his team have access to the specific facilities who have open beds.
 - I. Don Kass made a motion to approve the proposal of the Integrated Telehealth Partners, second by Dennis Wright. Carried 3-0.

8. FY19 ANNUAL SERVICE AND BUDGET PLAN (ASBP)

- A. Shane Walter handed out to board members a copy of the FY19 Annual Services and Budget Plan that he will be turning into DHS on April 1st.
- I. Shane noted that he handed out two versions; one version with two counties (Plymouth & Sioux) and the other with the three counties (including Woodbury).
- a) He pointed out in the Woodbury County version he based the budget and expenditures on a levy rate of \$22.58, adding that he understood that Woodbury County had approved a \$30.49 levy rate, so that is up to them, but this budget does not factor that in. Shane stated that his assumption is if they stay together as a three-county region, Woodbury County may want lower than the \$22.58.
- II. Dennis Wright asked if they should turn in both budgets to DHS.
- a) Keith Radig added that the Woodbury County Board of Supervisor's Agenda for that evening has an item to vote on Woodbury County being a stand-alone county.
- III. Shane stated that the Board could approve them both and he could submit whichever one needs to be submitted.
- a) Keith Radig shared that he was fine with either one of them and stressed his main concern is with the Assessment and Stabilization Center and not seeing any income yet at this point.
- b) Shane added for clarification, with respect to the costs, if he had to guess prior to July 1, they should have the ability to bill, but they may not.
- c) Keith Radig asked if they approve the \$500,000 for crisis and stabilization and end up never getting reimbursed, what do we do?
- d) Shane stated that then they would have to make adjustments. One thing they would certainly have to do would be to drop the 23-hour observation portion of the crisis service. That is something they visited with Siouxland Mental Health and their financial director several months ago and about taking the 23-hour observation piece out, which would account for approximately 60% of the cost. Siouxland Mental Health was agreeable. They never intended for the region to fund the facility at current levels, they anticipated that there would be reimbursement at some point (long before now).
- e) Keith Radig asked if the 23-hour observation is required by state law. Shane responded that it is not; the only other crisis center in Iowa that he is aware of that has the 23-hour component is in Polk County.
- IV. Keith Radig stated that Goodwill, NPI, Hope Haven, Life Skills and Mid-Step in the past have received \$90,000 per year and asked if they are still at that figure in the budget being presented.
- a) Shane stated no, they have set aside an amount of money for a two-county region which is \$100,000 and \$200,000 for a three-county region. Money is set aside for supported employment but it would not be the \$90,000 in either scenario.
- b) Dennis Wright asked what happens to the Woodbury County providers who are doing this if Woodbury County is no longer apart of the region.
- c) Aaron Haverdink shared that Sioux Rivers has partnered with other regions in the past on employment efforts, training, education, etc., and there would be nothing from preventing Woodbury County, if they are on their own, from partnering with Sioux Rivers or having a similar model going forward.
- d) Shane added that they have had those types of conversations. They want to partner with Woodbury County in some fashion regardless of the relationship and also with regions across the state.
- V. Keith Radig asked if there was Sanford Center funding in the budget and at what level.
- a) Shane responded that Sanford Center is not in the two-county budget, but it is in the three-county budget at the same level.
- b) Keith responded that he would still move to at least amend that. He did not think they would need those kinds of services for anything lower than high school.
- c) Shane told Keith that by approving the budget does not mean he is approving the program per se, it is just built into the budget.
- VI. Board members discussed approving both budgets. Mark Sybesma recommending approving one at a time.
- VII. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Don Kass to approve the FY19 Annual Service and Budget Plan that does not include Woodbury County. Carried 2-0 (Woodbury County abstained).
- VIII. Motion by Keith Radig, second by Dennis Wright to approve the FY19 Annual Service and Budget Plan that includes Woodbury County. Carried 3-0.

9. MOBILE CRISIS

- A. Patty Erickson-Puttmann reported that she has met with the Sioux City Police Department, the Woodbury County Sheriff's office, the Sioux County Sheriff, the Plymouth County Sheriff and the Le Mars Police Chief. All of the offices and departments are supportive and want to proceed with the Mobile Crisis program.
 - I. The group met last Friday to discuss what the protocols, law enforcement status and control of scene and telephone calls might look like. They began to flush out what the types of protocol will be for contact.
 - II. The program will provide a therapist 24/7 to assess and evaluate individuals.
 - III. The program will help to alleviate law enforcement from having to spend time in the ER that is not necessary and to get the individual into programs.
 - IV. Part of the responsibility of the therapist will be to develop relationships with mental health and substance abuse providers so a person can be admitted to an inpatient facility or involuntarily committed if that is what is needed. The goal is to minimize the amount of time that our law enforcement has to spend with those individuals as well as keep them out of jail.
 - V. Patty said she does not to expect it to move forward prior to July 1.
- B. Shane stated that he will keep it on the agenda for updates. He is excited about the prospect of implementing this regionwide, adding it is a sorely needed service.
- C. Patty shared that they are very fortunate to have the law enforcement that the Region has in the three counties.

10. IPS EMPLOYMENT MODEL: APPROVAL TO PROCEED WITH TRAINING FOR FY19.

- A. Scott Witte presented to the Board materials detailing the Iowa Individual Placement & Support (IPS) Pilot Project and a letter requesting SRR funding.
 - I. Individual Placement & Support is an evidence-based supported employment model designed to assist people with severe mental illness achieve competitive employment. Practiced with fidelity, IPS has been proven across the nation to achieve better placement outcomes than traditional supported employment techniques.
 - II. They are working as a three-region collaborative (Sioux Rivers, Northwest Iowa Care Connections, and Central Iowa Community Services).
 - III. Consultation and will be provided under private contract by Claire Courtney, MS, CRS, who currently serves as Senior Rehabilitation Program Consultant for Minnesota DEED/VRS overseeing the state's highly successful IPS program.
 - IV. They had their first steering committee meeting last week in Storm Lake. There were twenty-eight people at the meeting including representatives from the regions, MCOs, Plains Area IHH, people from the state and Voc-Rehab.
 - V. They are looking at a June 1 start up with having staff in place and beginning the training process so they are ready to launch the service July 1.
 - a) The current fiscal year costs are covered by the current Sioux Rivers Employment Alternatives Grant.
 - VI. In the first piece that they are asking for FY19, they are looking at per region cost for training and consultation related expenses. The cost per region would be \$8,698.17.
 - VII. Their budget request from Sioux Rivers is for a IPS Pilot start-up block grant for FY19 of \$72,000.
 - VIII. Board members asked questions regarding job retention and fidelity and the cost after the start up year. Scott responded that it depended on what they can generate from Medicaid and Voc-Rehab dollars.
 - IX. Mark Sybesma stated that it sounded like a good program and there is good accountability.
- B. Mark Sybesma moved that Sioux Rivers Region approve to proceed and support the IPS Employment Model Pilot Project, second by Don Kass. Carried 3-0.

11. GENERAL DISCUSSION

- A. Kim Keleher informed the Board and attendees that Plains Area is expanding their IHH Program. Seasons Center has announced that they are terminating their IHH Program and Plains Area is in the process of taking over that territory and those clients.

- B. Shane Walter reported that both the House and Senate approved the mental health bill. It will impact how the Region does some business.
- C. Chairman Mark Loutsch shared his concerns regarding moving forward after June 30th. He stated that operating as a two-county region and a one-county region is a possibility. There is a meeting scheduled on April 13 with DHS Director Jerry Foxhoven and that will dictate how to move forward. He asked that after that meeting the Board get together for further discussions. Concerns that Chair Loutsch had included:
 - I. The providers in Woodbury County and the contracts that they currently have; if they have to be terminated in Sioux Rivers and then turned over to Woodbury. They need to have that decided and figured out in a timely manner.
 - II. The employees in Woodbury County.
 - III. The Assessment & Stabilization Center – It is his hope that Sioux Rivers and Woodbury County can work together in a friendly manner to come to an agreement. There is already a policy in place for out of county/region people to use the Assessment & Stabilization Center.
- D. Matthew Ung shared with Chairman Loutsch his appreciation for talking with him earlier regarding the Assessment & Stabilization Center and the different options.
 - I. Shane Walter stated that certainly they are going to work with Woodbury County to make certain their needs are met, noting the primary users of that facility are from Woodbury County.
- E. Chairman Loutsch express his concern about Woodbury County provider contracts and who will be following up with them if Woodbury County is allowed to stand alone.
 - I. Patty Erickson-Puttmann shared that all Woodbury County provider contracts expire on June 30, 2018.
 - II. Matthew Ung made the Board aware that Supervisor Taylor has on the Woodbury County BOS agenda today for himself and Supervisor Chairman DeWitt to be the Woodbury County Board’s liaisons to their mental health department if they are approved to go alone next year.

Motion by Dennis Wright, second by Don Kass to adjourn the SSR Governance Board meeting. Carried 3-0.

Meeting adjourned at 2:25 p.m.

Julie Albright, Secretary
Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board

Approved by Governance Board: 04.24.18