



SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2020

ZOOM MEETING

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board members met via zoom Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. Those in attendance included: Mark Loutsch, Carl Vande Weerd, Mark Sybesma, Jerry Birkey, Kim Wermersen, William Leupold, Shane Walter, Lisa Rockhill, Beth Will, Sue Duhn, Mavis Anema, Sharon Nieman. Kim Keleher attended from 1:40-2:00pm to discuss the proposal.

1. Chairman Loutsch handed the meeting over the Walter. The meeting was called to order at 1:30pm.
2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA-**
Vande Weerd made motion to approve agenda. Birkey seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.
3. **UPDATE ON RFP PROCESS/CARES ACT-**
Loutsch made motion to approve the RFP requests as suggested by regional staff. Wermersen seconded the motion. Motion carried with all ayes.
4. **FY2022 BUDGETING WORK MEETING-**
Keleher came on the meeting at 1:40 to share the proposal for crisis stabilization home, mobile crisis, sub-acute, and an access center. All services would be in one location, more centrally located in the region. The staff would be cross-trained to cover any aspects of the home. It is a 24/7 service, with medical staff requirements. Keleher met with Creative Living, they are interested in collaborating with Plains Area to provide mental health professionals, and staff support. Keleher believes all three regions (NWIACC, Rolling Hills, and Sioux Rivers) need to look at all crisis services and splitting the costs. Keleher is proposing two sub-acute beds and 4-6 crisis residential beds at the location. Loutsch asked where the location would be. Keleher is thinking Sheldon may be the best location. Keleher proposes the region locate a building and take over the renovations. Walter stated he has put some money into this year's budget to assist in getting started. Sioux Rivers would need to sell the building that is in Sioux City if the region went ahead with the Plains Area proposal. Rockhill stated the proposal would cover five of the core services. Walter believes it is sensible to have everything under one roof and within the region. Sybesma asked about the five core services, and what we are currently providing. Walter confirmed that we need to provide those five services, some of which kick in July 1, 2021. Currently we have crisis residential and 23-hour observation in Sioux City as well as mobile crisis with Seasons Center. There are also conversations happening with Rolling Hills regarding updating the facility in Sioux City. Walter stated we could not financially do both, if the decision was to build or lease a new facility. The region is currently spending at least half of the proposed amount for the services that are in place right now. Walter talked with Loehr (NWIACC) and she believes their region would be interested in collaborating with Sioux Rivers on this facility. Loehr will discuss with her board next week. Keleher left the meeting at 2pm. Walter states we



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could sell the building in Sioux City and purchase a new building in Sheldon. The region would need to make the purchase. The estimated value in Sioux City is roughly \$499,400 taxable value. Walter believes we can sell that building. He hopes Rolling Hills would be interested in purchasing it. Sybesma believes we need to be flexible on where the location may be as we are not sure that the RTF is even an option. However, Sheldon would be a good location. Will stated that one wing of the RTF is not currently used. Walter stated he would reach out to Mentzer in Rolling Hills too. Vande Weerd would like a three to five year projection of the costs. Walter stated we can make a projection, but it will be based on our current dollars because we do not know what the state will do. Rockhill stated they have options to bill services to Medicaid within this too. Walter stated Plains Area is already good at billing for Medicaid dollars to offset some of the costs. Loutsch asked what kind of split we may be looking at with NWIACC if we do a per capita. Walter stated we would have to pay more of course as we are bigger. If we could get NWIACC to pay a portion, we may not be paying much more than we already do. For FY 20, the assessment center had 223 admissions, with only 31 of those from Sioux Rivers. Sybesma made motion to urge staff to pursue relationship with Plains Area regarding five areas with the proposal in the budget. Wermersen seconded the motion. Loutsch would like the costs for what we are currently spending sent out as well. Motion carried all ayes. Walter stated we could continue with a contract at the ASC on a per diem basis for some of our counties.

Walter began the budget process discussions. There are services that regions are mandated to provide verses the services we choose to provide. The school services have been a good investment. We would love to continue to do that in some fashion if we can, however, we may not have the money to do so. We also have new children's services that we need to include in FY22. We are currently working with Forest Ridge to meet some of our needs for children's services, as well as Roscrance in Sioux City for crisis services too. We are currently working with the AEA's as well. Nieman stated that people need to remember that AEA's and schools are separate. There will be growing pains as children come into regional services, just as there were when counties became regions. The regions have been working on resource directories as well as working on relationships with other regions. We need to work together as regions to get things done. We cannot afford to do things on our own. Nieman urged the supervisors to talk at the state level, and with their affiliate, that regions (especially in our area) are working together. Walter agrees that we need to be our own best advocates.

Walter walked through the service definitions of core vs. non-core services. Walter discussed the core services that the region is currently providing and those we have yet to provide. The additional kids' services will essentially need to mirror the adult services.



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Walter went through the FY22 budget. It was discussed that the yellow highlighted line items are core, the red line items are core plus. Currently the green highlighted items are being funded, and the blue items are not being funded. That does not mean the service is not being provided, just that they are not being funded currently at the regional level. Walter shared the working document for the budget. We will continue to build this over the next several weeks. The staff will be meeting November 30, December 7, and again on December 21. We continue to work as a team to work through the budget. We do need to prioritize items this year. It will influence some of the providers that we currently work with.

Agenda items for next week. Walter stated we would need to approve another 28E adding Emmet County. This will then need to be sent to the counties for approval. We also need to approve the annual report next week. The staff suggested a zoom meeting only next week. Loutsch agreed this was a good plan. We will not have any feedback from NWIACC by Tuesday, because their meeting is at the same time. However, Shane will visit with Loehr on November 25 to discuss what the NWIACC board discussed. Walter will send an email to the board regarding the NWIACC discussion next week. Walter is currently working with Rolling Hills to move forward with the ASC as an access center. Walter will talk with Mentzer to see what they may do if Sioux Rivers walks away. Walter will send an email regarding his discussion with Mentzer as well.

Loutsch and Behrends will both be off the board beginning January 1, 2021. New officers will need to be appointed. Walter suggested the board members begin thinking about if they would like to take on an officer role on the board. Loutsch would like a list of the providers that have a report for next week's meeting so he can go through those.

5. **ADJOURN-**

Hearing no further discussion Walter adjourned the meeting at 3:30pm.

Sue Duhn, Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Duhn".

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