



SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2022

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board met in person at the O'Brien County Courthouse in Primghar as well as via zoom for those unable to attend in person. Those in attendance via zoom and in person included: Jerry Birkey, Brenna Koedam, Sue Duhn, Cory Altena, Dennis Vanden Hull, Kim Wermersen, Carl Vande Weerd, Lisa Rockhill, Beth Will, Mike Van Otterloo, Denise Driesen, Kim Keleher, Tim Schumacher, Tim Overmire, Crystal McHugh, Amanda Olson, Barry Whitsell, Kristen Triplett (Creative Living), Don Kass, Abby Wallin, Rob Aiken, Brenda Iloff, Nicholle Eaton, John Pluth, Christina Eggink-Postma, Bailey Schwarck, Janice Hill, William Leupold (joined at 1:40pm), Dr. Scholten (joined at 1:40pm).

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS-

Wermersen welcomed the group and called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

2. APPROVE AGENDA-

Kass made a motion to approve the agenda. Altena seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 11/29/22 MEETING MINUTES-

Vande Weerd made a motion to approve the November 29, 2022 minutes. Van Otterloo seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

4. FISCAL AGENT REPORT AND REGIONAL EXPENDITURES-

Koedam shared the fiscal agent report. Birkey made a motion to approve the fiscal agent report. Vande Weerd seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

5. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS-

Duhn let the board know the claims include the third quarter payments to the counties. Van Otterloo made a motion. Vanden Hull seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

6. CERTIFIED YEAR END FUND BALANCE FY 22-

Koedam reported the difference in the FY22 fund balance. The difference was due to a lack of reporting the revenue received from the state. All reports have been signed and resubmitted to the state.

7. IT MOU UPDATE

All signed MOU's are returned except for Plymouth and O'Brien County. O'Brien County declined to sign the MOU. Plymouth County will sign it. Duhn will reach out to Plymouth County to ensure Stacey has the MOU, as Kass did not believe it had been received.

8. PROVIDER FUNDING REQUESTS-

Eggink-Postma reported on the Seasons Center food bank request. Eggink-Postma reported on the numbers being served. Van Otterloo asked why Plymouth County was not included in the counts. Eggink-Postma did state it is not intentional. The clients being served in Plymouth County are not utilizing the food bank. Eggink-Postma did state it is offered to all clients, but she did state she would work with her staff to ensure they are aware clients in Plymouth County are also eligible for food. Eggink-Postma did state there is not an office in Plymouth County, but clients in Plymouth County are still eligible for services. Van Otterloo asked if individuals could access this same need through other places such as Mid-Sioux. Koedam did confirm that the Seasons Center food bank is only for Seasons Center clients. The food bank through Mid-Sioux is still available to all. Seasons Center can get food through the food bank of Iowa. Kass asked what the name of the organization in Dickinson County is. Duhn confirmed it is Upper Des Moines Opportunity. Kass asked if this was included in our management plan and if the state would be ok with spending the dollars. Altena did state he sees county barriers within this, and does not believe it focuses on the region as a whole. Vande Weerd would like to gather all of the provider requests and do them all at the same meeting by tabling this today. Eggink-Postma believes this meets the very basic needs, and the numbers continue to increase. McHugh suggested the service coordinators put together a list of food banks for the Governance Board so they are aware of all options available before making a decision. Vande Weerd made a motion to put all funding requests together, including tabling the two requests today, to act on at the meeting in January, so they can be acted on together. Van Otterloo seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. Koedam will send out another note to providers to let them know all proposals need to be submitted by January 16, 2022. Birkey asked if we could get some clarification on if we can spend the money for the items. Duhn did state the region needs to follow the management plan, as well as be aware any dollars approved above the budgeted amount will need to have a budget amendment.

9. PRE-BUDGET MEETING

Koedam met with providers last week to discuss what was going well, gaps in services, and things the region can do better. Koedam believes they were pretty well attended. Meetings will be held quarterly. The meetings in 2023 include March 22, 2023, June 21, 2023, September 20, 2023, and December 20, 2023. Koedam did state providers had some creative ways to spend some of the money. Will did state one of the things she took away from one of the provider meetings was the need to let the legislators know the concerns. Koedam did send out a letter to all providers with some dates in January to put a letter together to share with the legislators. HHS is setting up a town hall meeting type forum with CEO's and Medicaid. It appears this will be held towards the end of January. Koedam will discuss the points from the providers to share at that town hall meeting. Koedam does still want to send the letter with all providers included. Wermersen agrees the more they hear and see the message the better we will be. Vande Weerd agrees that working on that Medicaid reimbursement is a crucial piece that needs to be worked on. Kass believes the ISAC meeting in Storm Lake was great as well. He believes there eyes were opened to what is really going on.

10. STAFF SALARIES FOR FY24, GENERAL ASSISTANCE, OFFICE SPACE-

Koedam reported on the compensation board requests to the counties. Wermersen discussed what Dickinson County did today. 4.2% increase with 1.9% bonus to be given at the end of December 2023 as long as the employee stays. Birkey asked if Dickinson County did this for all employees equally. Wermersen confirmed it was the same for elected and non-elected individuals. Wermersen did state the compensation board does not look at insurance benefits, but those need to be thought about as well. Vanden Hull believes we need to look at the increase in wages against the 5% increase in dollars the region is getting. Vanden Hull believes we need to be careful not to spend all of our dollars in wages verses spending it on clients. Kass would like a list of raw dollars, with a range of 5-8% so the Governance Board can see what the increase in dollars would be. Kass would also like to see the insurance totals for the region as well. Koedam will put this together for the next board meeting. Koedam discussed the General Assistance numbers for the current fiscal year (Dickinson, Plymouth, and Lyon). Duhn will send the information out to the board with the wage info, General Assistance info, and County Lease info. Duhn will double check if Plymouth County has paid. Duhn will send a letter with the plan for FY24 as well as an invoice for payment of the FY23 amounts. Dr. Scholten asked why some counties have General Assistance and some do not. Koedam explained that some counties have other employees in their counties doing the job. Plymouth County has approved the lease amount as the same for FY24. Koedam did state she would like to see Wermersen continue as the Chair for next year to keep some consistency for her. Mark Sybesma has retired from serving as a board member. Koedam thanked him for his service. Wermersen also thanked Sybesma for serving as well.

11. GENERAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES-

Dr. Shawn Scholten discussed the Advisory Meeting that was held last week. Dorothy Christensen joined the group. The group discussed provider updates. Village Northwest decreased their number of beds based on lack of staff willing to work nights and over nights. The next meeting is scheduled for March 14, 2023 via zoom. Vande Weerd thanked Koedam for being there to show support. Koedam did report that Rosecrance Jackson is closing their adolescent crisis center effective January 15, 2023 for much of the same reason. Eggink-Postma did report on the crisis services update. The bids have been received. Their board will approve the bids at their next meeting and then construction timeline can be shared. Keleher thanked Koedam for her efforts in communicating with the providers. Wermersen thanked the providers for sharing. Iliff agreed with Keleher.

12. ADJOURN GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING-

Vande Weerd made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kass seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 2:30 pm.

Sue Duhn, Secretary



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