

Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board
Minutes
May 26, 2015

The May Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board Meeting was held Tuesday, May 26, 2015 at the Plymouth County Courthouse Annex Building, 215 4th 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 Monson, Matthew Ung, Mark Loutsch, Jim Henrich, Dennis Wright, Mark Sybesma.

Others present: Shane Walter, Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Sharon Nieman, Aaron Haverdink, Mike Wood, Julie Albright, Ann Landers, Dennis Butler, David Vogel, JoAnn DeYoung, Don Nore, Jolie Corder, Gary Turbes, Jillian Britt, Jim Rixner, Patrick Schmitz, David Van Ningen, Nate Vander Plaats, Dan Gillette.

2. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Mark Monson to approve the minutes of the April 28, 2015 Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried 6-0
3. SHESLER HALL SERVICES – MIKE WOOD, INTERIM DIRECTOR
 - A. The Board was presented a proposal for consideration of Regional funding to assist women who reside in Shesler Hall.
 - B. Shesler Hall is a residential care facility for mentally ill women located at 1308 Nebraska St. in Sioux City, Iowa.
 - I. Shesler Hall has been in existence for several decades. It offers 24 hour supportive living for women in the area who have a mental health diagnosis. Some of the women also have co-occurring disorders, intellectual disabilities as well as physical disabilities.
 - II. The facility can house up to 14 women; currently there are 10 women living there.
 - III. Services they provide are for meal planning, money management and social skills.
 - IV. The average length of stay in the facility is six months to a year.
 - C. The past several years there has been a shortfall of contributions. Instead of self-sustaining they have been drawing into savings heavily and there is talk that they may have to close their doors.
 - I. The total cost per month, per resident is \$900. They do receive funding from the Iowa Conference of the Methodist Church along with other contributions, but not enough to cover the entire cost, leaving a shortfall of \$260 per month per resident.
 - D. The proposal is asking that the Region fund the \$260 per month for those residents who meet the qualifications outlined in the Sioux Rivers Regional Mental Health & Disabilities Mental Health Plan.
 - E. Shane Walter stated the proposal is a discussion item today, but next month he will come back with a provider contract that lists specifics. It will be on next month's Agenda as an action item.
4. ETC 28E AGREEMENT FROM ISAC
 - A. This agreement needs to be done regionally now, not by county. The agreement, which is governed by HIPAA, allows the providers of the Region to bill electronically which simplifies the billing process. This can't be done without the 28E in place.
 - B. According to ISAC, no action needs to be taken unless a county wants to register a change to the proposed ETC 28E Agreement.

5. MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID – TRAIN THE TRAINER
 - A. Training will be held August 17-21, 2015 in Minneapolis, MN.
 - B. Three people will be attending this training. They will go and become trainers and then come back to the region and be able to provide a two day training to law enforcement agencies. Eventually training will be available for all stakeholders.
 - C. Expense for the class is \$2,000 per person, plus lodging, meal and transportation expenses.
 - D. Motion by Mark Sybesma to approve the funding of the Mental Health First Aid training, second by Mark Loutsch. Carried 6-0
6. IHH BUSINESS ASSOCIATE AGREEMENT AND CARE COMPACT – SIOUXLAND MENTAL HEALTH
 - A. This agreement allows the Region to share information with Siouxland Mental Health, who is the IHH provider in Woodbury County, regarding consumers who are being served by IHH as well as the Region. Sharing information cannot be done without signing the IHH Business Agreement and Care Compact.
 - B. The same type of agreement is currently being worked on for Plains Area Mental Health, who the IHH provider for Sioux and Plymouth counties.
 - C. Motion by Mark Sybesma to approve the signing of these agreements, second by Jim Henrich. Carried 6-0
7. MENTAL HEALTH ADVOCATE
 - A. The Iowa Legislature has passed that effective July 1, 2015 the Mental Health Advocates will be Appointed by the county, as opposed to judges, and will become county employees.
 - I. The law says the current Advocate that is serving each of the counties in the Region has to be maintained.
 - II. The Advocate for the Region will be an employee of Woodbury County. Each of the other counties will contribute towards the cost of that person.
 - III. Each of the counties would contract with the Region to provide the service.
 - IV. The Advocate is to represent the individual that is being committed.
 - V. There are defined job responsibilities and duties that have been drafted by the Judicial Committee and ISAC. Because the Advocate is going to be a county employee these rules and responsibilities will need to be adhered to.
 - VI. It was expressed that more direction is needed to make certain the Advocate is meeting the needs of the people being committed. More information regarding the individual needs to be provided so that the proper county is being billed for services and the State data requirements can be met.
 - VII. The Advocate is a part time employee working 20-24 hours per week, earning approximately \$22,000 to \$27,000 per year.
 - VIII. A contract for the Advocate will be presented to the Board prior to next month's meeting for review. The contract has to be in place by July 1st so it will need to be approved at the next meeting.
8. DISCUSSION OF PROGRESS OF APPROVAL OF AMENDED 28E
 - A. Matthew Ung expressed his concerns with the wording in the amended 28E, paragraph 7.1, regarding the Governing Board determining the amount of the mental health dollars levied by individual counties on behalf of the Region.
 - B. Shane Walter stated that the counties have the power to levy and certify; the Region does not. With the 28E, the board of supervisors in each county voluntarily gave the authority for the Governing Board to determine what the levy should be.
 - C. There was an in depth discussion by all Board members and members made a "gentleman's agreement" that the next time there are changes made to the 28E, it will include consideration of changing the wording in paragraph 7.1 from "Governing Board shall **determine**" to the "Governing Board shall **recommend**".

9. EMPLOYMENT SERVICES – DAVID VAN NINGEN

- A. This group will be getting together in June.
- B. Aaron Haverdink and David had the opportunity to meet with the organization Disability Consultants, Inc. They are contracted by the State to implement the Employment First Doctrine from the federal government. They have agreed to work with Employment Services on the project serving as a partnership consulting role at no cost. They hopefully will also be bringing some money to the table so the Regional dollars can stretch further.

10. CRISIS TEAM – PATTY ERICKSON-PUTTMANN

- A. Pride Group has a facility on Division Street in Sioux City that because of the changeover in State mechanisms for funding, they will no longer be able to use that facility for any type of State funded programs. Pride Group is interested in selling this facility.
 - I. The facility was toured by Shane and service coordinators. It would be an ideal location for the Crisis Intervention, Crisis Stabilization programs and possibly the Friendship House.
 - II. It was built 23 years ago and sets on 1.25 acres of land. It has a large living area, large kitchen, 10 separate bedrooms, all accessible, roll-in showers and main floor tornado shelter.
 - III. There are currently 10 consumers residing in the facility that will need to find alternative placements.
 - IV. The purchase range for the property is \$230,000-\$275,000.
 - V. The property needs to get inspected. The Crisis team would like to proceed on having this done as well as negotiating a price with Pride Group
- B. Motion by Jim Henrich to proceed with the inspection and negotiation, second by Matthew Ung. Carried 6-0

11. FISCAL AGENT REPORT – DENNIS BUTLER

- A. Fiscal Agent report as of May 26, 2015 was presented. Current balance is \$3,458,012.54 (that is \$100,000 less than last reported due to a clerical error). Interest earned was \$232.88 and there was an expenditure of \$310 to the Aging Resource of Central Iowa.
- B. If the Division St. facility is purchased it will come out of the pooled regional fund.
- C. There was concern by the Board regarding the balance. Shane Walter explained that there is a need of getting it down to the 25%. CEOs are meeting on a regular basis and that is one of the things they are looking at very carefully. They are putting together a statewide plan to show the legislators and DHS where we propose to be in a couple years with respect to our bottom line. The goal is to get us down to that 25% level, but we are asking the legislature to give us this time, provided we give them some good information on what we plan to do.
- D. Dennis: We do have to set up to go to the Region starting July 1st and need to figure out administrative expenses. The Woodbury County AP Department will be writing the checks for the Region.
- E. Shane: Once we amended the 28E we are agreeing to pay the Fiscal Agent the fee to cover those costs. Next month's meeting we will come back with an amount that makes sense for that based on what Dennis Butler thinks.
- F. Motion by Mark Monson to approve expenditures, second by Matthew Ung. Carried 6-0

12. Motion to adjourn by Mark Loutsch, second by Jim Henrich. Carried 6-0

Next meeting will be Tuesday, June 23rd at 1:30 p.m., at the Plymouth County Courthouse annex building.



Julie Albright, Secretary

Approved by Board: June 23, 2015