

**Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board**  
**Minutes**  
**June 28, 2016**

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board Meeting was held Tuesday, June 28, 2016 at the Plymouth County Courthouse Annex Building, 215 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, Le Mars, Iowa.

1. Chairman Mark Loutsch welcomed attendees and called the meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Members present: Mark Loutsch, Dennis Wright, Jim Henrich, Mark Sybesma, Mark Monson, Julie Albright

Members Absent: Matthew Ung, Shane Walter, Mike Wood, David Van Ningen

Others present: Aaron Haverdink, Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Sharon Nieman, Jim Rixner, Nate Vander Plaats, Dan Gillette, Jaime Holmes, Dayton Vogel, Don Nore, Jolie Corder, Patrick Schmitz, Jennifer McCabe, Don Kass

2. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA
  - A. Motion by Dennis Wright, second by Jim Henrich to approve the agenda as submitted for June 28, 2016. Carried 3-0.
3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE MAY 24, 2016 GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING
  - A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Dennis Wright to approve the minutes of the May 24, 2016 Board meeting as presented. Carried 3-0.
4. UPDATES: WORK ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE/ADVISORY BOARD/CRISIS CENTER
  - A. Aaron Haverdink updated on the Work Alternative Committee meeting.
    - I. They discussed getting the budgets together for the second year of the grant.
    - II. The ad campaign is actively going on.
    - III. There are stickers being placed in the windows of those employers who are employing Sioux River's ID clients.
  - B. Patty Erickson-Puttmann reported that the Sioux Rivers Assessment and Stabilization Center (ASC) is doing well.
    - I. Twenty people have been served and the stays have been anywhere from twenty-two hours to five days.
    - II. There have not been any referrals from law enforcement.
    - III. Jim Rixner recommended additional training for the police and sheriff's departments.
    - IV. The Region has been contacted by Northwest Iowa Care Connections Region about allowing their clients to utilize beds/recliners if they are available.
      - a) Dennis Wright asked that Shane and the service coordinators come up with a rate for Northwest Iowa Care Connection's clients to utilize ASC and bring back their rate recommendation to the Governance Board.
      - b) Mark Loutsch indicated he would add the recommendation on a future agenda.
5. REVIEW OF PROVIDER RATES APPROVED FOR FY17
  - A. Aaron Haverdink has compiled a list of the FY17 rates, but it was not included in the meeting packet.
    - I. The list of provider rates will be emailed to Board members prior to the next meeting.
6. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF WILLIAMS & CO. SIOUX RIVERS AUDIT
  - A. Mark Loutsch has looked over the audit report and did not see any inaccuracies.
  - B. Motion by Jim Henrich, second by Mark Sybesma to accept the Sioux Rivers audit as presented by Williams & Co. Carried 3-0

7. AVERY BROTHER'S SIGNAGE CONTRACT FOR ASSESSMENT & STABILIZATION CENTER
  - A. Patty Erickson-Puttmann reported on the signage and cost estimates from Avery Brothers.
    - I. The main sign is 48 in. x 90 in. x 18 in. It is double faced steel angled frame, illuminated with LED lights.
      - a. The cost for this sign would be \$9,270.
      - b. It does not include the cost electrical going to the sign.
    - II. The smaller sign to be located by the driveway entrance is a 2 x 3 single sided sign and is not illuminated.
      - a. The cost for this sign is \$515.
  - B. Jim Rixner expressed the need for visible signage for law enforcement, individuals and family members to be able to find the Center when someone is in crisis.
  - C. The Board discussed the possibility of looking at less expensive options.
  - D. Patty agreed to go back to Avery Brothers to see about getting the price closer to \$5,000. She will bring it back to the Board.
8. PROVIDER FINANCIALS: CONSIDERATION "BRIDGE" LOANS FOR PROVIDERS WITH LARGE RECEIVABLES
  - A. Mark Loutsch shared that Shane asked that the consideration of bridge loans be brought to the Board for discussion.
  - B. Nate Vander Plaats reported that Goodwill is doing well at this point.
    - I. They opted to go through a clearinghouse vendor in Ohio
    - II. Currently approximately 80% of their claims have been paid.
  - C. Jolie Corder indicated that 40% of NPI claims have been paid.
    - I. They are waiting on approximately \$100,000 to be paid plus June as well.
    - II. She expressed her concern of NPI having to close their doors due to unpaid claims.
  - D. Don Nore reported that approximately 60% of Life Skills claims have been paid and they use a clearinghouse.
  - E. Jennifer McCabe reported that at Opportunities Unlimited they have been really struggling. They have been trying different clearinghouses.
    - III. They have not been paid for April with the exception of nine claims out of forty claims.
    - IV. They are currently waiting on about \$800,000 to be paid.
  - F. Mark Sybesma asked that more details be provided such as how much money and the length of time for these loans.
  - G. Patty Erickson-Puttmann told the Board that Shane and the service coordinators will come up with a definite plan for the bridge loans and present it to the Board at the next meeting.
9. SUBSTANCE ABUSE CLAIMS: REGIONAL BOARD DIRECTIVE REGARDING PAYMENT
  - A. Patty Erickson-Puttmann explained that the claims are strictly for substance abuse commitments, evaluations and transportation.
    - I. Judge Andreasen specified that effective July 1, 2015 he was sending the orders to be in compliance with Iowa Code. Substance abuse commitment claims are to be sent to the counties and mental health commitment claims are to be sent to the regions for payment.
  - B. Mark Monson shared that the Woodbury County attorney does not agree.
  - C. Mark Sybesma made the motion, subject to further litigation or appeal, the Regional Board stipulates that substance abuse claims be paid by individual counties rather than through regional mental health funds. Second by Dennis Wright. Carried 2-1 (Monson/Woodbury Co. opposed)
10. FRIENDSHIP HOUSE ADDITION ON CRISIS CAMPUS; CONTRACTOR; FEASIBILITY/COST TO LOCATE ON SITE.
  - A. Patty reported that she did go look at the old Pace building to see if it was a viable alternative for the Friendship House.
    - I. The old Pace building has a lot of space and is good for transportation.
    - II. The issue with the building is a purely lease only. The current lease is up in two years with the option of the organization Health Inc. to purchase the building for one dollar.
    - III. Patty has had no response from Health Inc. as to how much the lease would be, how long and the cost of remodeling.

- IV. Jim Rixner indicated he and Patty are on the same page regarding the Pace building. He felt it would be a risky endeavor to go forward in leasing the building and that locating the Friendship House on the Assessment & Stabilization property would be a better option to pursue.
  - B. Patty discussed the option for the Friendship House being built on the Assessment & Stabilization Center campus.
    - I. Patty passed out a list of contractors along with an RFQ to Board members. The RFQ has not been sent out to anyone at this point.
    - II. She asked if the Board had any contractors to recommend and if so, she would add them to the list.
  - C. Patty was directed by the Board to move forward and send out the RFQ to the listed contractors.
11. MENTAL HEALTH BUILDING IN WOODBURY COUNTY: VETERANS AFFAIRS AND USE OF SPACE FOR RENT
- A. Mark Loutsch shared that Shane Walter received an email from Jeremy Taylor indicating that they are looking for additional space for Veterans Affairs. Shane emailed back telling Jeremy that he does not have the authority to honor that request and asked that Jeremy contact the Mark Loutsch as the chair of the Region.
    - I. Chair Mark Loutsch received correspondence from Jeremy indicating that making an offer for the amount of rent to be paid to the Region for VA space was on the Woodbury County Board of Supervisors agenda for that evening. Jeremy indicated the offer to the Region would be in the \$1600 to the \$2400 range per month for the space the Veteran's Affairs is now using and possibly some additional space the VA may need.
    - II. Patty Erickson-Puttmann commented that the final rent figure would need to be based upon the fair market rent and the actual square footage utilized by the VA to assure inclusion of the conference room space.
      - a. Dennis Wright asked if Woodbury County is talking about building another conference room for the Region's use.
        - i. Patty replied that it was quantified in Jeremy's email. In that email he said they may build another conference room in the building for the Region's use if they felt it was necessary. He noted the Woodbury County Board would decide its necessity. Patty added that the conference room currently is used on a regular basis for Regional meetings with law enforcement, Integrated Health Home, etc.
      - b. Mark Loutsch asked Mark Monson if more space was need for the VA and he replied he did not know.
      - c. Dennis Wright asked Mark Monson if they had an additional VA person hired. Mark Monson replied that they have two additional people.
    - III. Chair Mark Loutsch expressed his opinion that decisions on the building should be made by the Regional Governance Board.
      - a. Mark Monson disagreed.
      - b. Mark Loutsch stated that what he was told by Jan Heikes of DHS that because the building was purchased with Fund 10 mental health money, the bottom line is the Regional Board has the authority to rent it out to whomever. He added that he wants the ability, if down the road the MCOs fall apart, the Region has a place to accommodate the employees to do their job.
      - c. Mark Loutsch added for the time being renting the space is a good idea to get income.
      - d. Mark Loutsch expressed that he would like Jeremy Taylor or whomever from the Woodbury County Board to come and address the Regional Board with what they want as far as the building.
      - e. Mark Monson stated he would bring that suggestion back to the Woodbury County BOS.
      - f. Dennis Wright added that the Region is not set on the figures for rent.
      - g. Mark Loutsch stated that the figures for rent are adequate.
    - IV. Mark Loutsch said he had asked Jeremy if today was early enough to know what is going on with the Woodbury County BOS, but he did not respond. Mark Loutsch asked Mark Monson if he had anything to add; he replied no.

12. REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES

- A. Motion by Dennis Wright, second by Jim Henrich to approve the expenditures as presented. Carried 2-1 (Monson/Woodbury Co. opposed)

13. FISCAL AGENT REPORTS

- A. Dennis Butler was absent from the meeting so no formal action was taken on the fiscal agent reports.

14. CONSIDERATION OF ALTERNATIVE DATES FOR JULY MEETING DUE TO NACO ATTENDANCE

- A. A discussion was had among Board members as to what date would work best for the July meeting.
- B. It was decided that the next meeting will be held on Monday, July 18 at 1:30 p.m.

OTHER INFORMATION PRESENTED:

- A. Sharon Nieman spoke about the progress of the in-school therapy project.
  - I. Plains Area has written a proposal; Plymouth County schools were very interested in the program.
- B. Mike Wood got back to Sharon with the policies and procedures currently in place for Henry Mueller Hall.
  - I. The Regional staff will be meeting July 11 and the policies and procedures will be discussed and compared before anything will be brought to the Board regarding Regional funding for Henry Hall.
  - II. The Henry Mueller Hall is a unique non-traditional funding situation for males only. It would be a contract similar to Shesler Hall.
- C. Patty Erickson-Puttmann shared with the Board that they have been meeting and working with the sheriff's office regarding mental health medications.
  - I. They have looked over the expenses that the Woodbury County jail is incurring.
  - II. There will be a proposal prepared as to what medications will be paid for and which medications will not be paid and it will be brought to the Board for approval.

Mark Loutsch adjourned the meeting at 1:15 p.m.



Julie Albright, Secretary

Approved by Board: July 18, 2016