

Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board
Minutes
January 31, 2017

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board Meeting was held Tuesday, January 31, 2017 at the Plymouth County Courthouse Annex Building, 215 4th 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, Mark Sybesma, Don Kass, Jeremy Taylor, Keith Radig, Shane Walter, David Van Ningen and Julie Albright.

Members absent: Dennis Wright, Mike Wood

Others present: Aaron Haverdink, Sharon Nieman, Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Dennis Butler, Shawn Scholten, Mark Monson, Jim Rixner, Patrick Schmitz, Kim Keleher, Jennifer McCabe, Don Nore, Gary Turbes, Greg Stallman, Todd Harlow and Dave Drew.

2. APPROVAL OF MEETING AGENDA

- A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Keith Radig to approve the Agenda as submitted for January 31, 2017. Carried 3-0

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 22, 2016 GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

- A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Mark Loutsch to approve the minutes of the November 22, 2016 Governance Board meeting. Carried 2-0 (Woodbury County abstained)
- B. Jeremy Taylor requested that a draft of the Governance Board minutes be sent out to Board members within a week or two after the meeting.

4. FISCAL AGENT REPORTS

- A. Dennis Butler presented the local Fund 110 report and the Fund 720 report to the Board.
- B. Motion by Don Kass, second by Jeremy Taylor to approve the Fiscal Agent reports as presented. Carried 3-0.

5. ELECTION OF REGIONAL GOVERNANCE BOARD OFFICERS FOR 2017

- A. Mark Sybesma moved that the Board reappoint the current officers to those positions: Mark Loutsch, Chair; Dennis Wright, Vice-Chair; Julie Albright, Secretary. Second by Don Kass. Carried 3-0

6. DESIGNATION OF REGIONAL FISCAL AGENT FOR 2016

- A. Motion by Mark Sybesma to retain Woodbury County as Fiscal Agent, second by Don Kass. Carried 3-0

7. UPDATES: ADVISORY BOARD, ASSESSMENT CENTER, WORK ALTERNATIVES

- A. David Van Ningen reported on the Advisory Committee and Work Alternatives.
 - I. The Advisory Committee met on January 18th and discussed a number of issues.
 - a) They discussed the recommendation for provider rates and progress on provider improvements.
 - b) They learned about the SOAR Program which stands for SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery.
 - i. This program is sponsored by Social Security and increases access to Social Security disability benefits for people with behavioral health issues or at risk for homelessness.
 - ii. The program allows for staff to be trained at no cost through an online program.
 - iii. The advisory committee will continue to look at that program.
 - c) The group talked about the issue of the Statewide ID Waiver waiting list, which continues to grow, and how as a Region we may need to respond when a person cannot get critical services on a temporary or emergency basis.

- II. David reviewed for the new Board members, the Employment Alternatives Committee and the grant the Region supported to help in getting people out of sheltered workshop employment and into competitive employment within the community.
 - B. Jim Rixner reported on the Assessment and Stabilization Center.
 - I. Brittany Stearns resigned as Director of the Assessment and Stabilization Center.
 - II. Currently Elizabeth Gurnett is acting as interim Director. They have hired a new Director who will be taking over on February 1.
 - III. The number of admissions continues to grow with 30 admissions in the month of January alone. To date they have had over 200 admissions.
 - IV. The Stabilization Center is now fully accredited by the State of Iowa. They received their accreditation notice six weeks ago.
 - a) They have been billing for the medical provider services and the therapy services and are now in discussions with the managed care organizations in establishing a per diem for the people who stay there overnight.
8. REVIEW AND APPROVE THE ANNUAL REPORT TO DHS
- A. Shane told the Board that the Annual Report needs to go to DHS on a yearly basis.
 - B. Motion by Keith Radig, second by Mark Sybesma to approve the Annual Report that was sent to DHS in December. Carried 3-0
9. COMMITTEE REPORT: POSITION TO COORDINATE SERVICE IN COUNTY JAILS
- A. Shane reported that the position was already approved but wanted to update the Board on changes.
 - B. Chairman Loutsch asked that Greg Stallman update the Board on the possible changes.
 - I. Greg Stallman reported that they are to the point where they are ready to advertise and do the hiring.
 - II. He stated the differences between the Coordinator Position for the Region and the Advanced Correctional Healthcare (ACH) position.
 - a) ACH is a medical provider coming into the jail. It is strictly in-house at the Woodbury County jail and has to do with the inmates that are coming into the jail.
 - b) The Coordinator position will serve all three county jails in the Region to prevent recidivism and to help inmates after they are released.
 - III. Greg informed the Board that Jennifer Peckover, Jail Alternatives Coordinator, and Sheriff Lonnie Pulkrabek from Johnson County are coming up February 23rd to put on a presentation in Woodbury County. It is being held from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. in the north conference room of the Law Enforcement Center.
 - C. Mark Loutsch, Shane and Greg discussed how to move forward with advertising the Coordinator Position.
 - I. Shane said he would follow up with Ed Gilliland since Woodbury County will be the employer of record.
10. PROVIDER IMPROVEMENT GRANTS FY17
- A. Chairman Mark Loutsch told the group the grant requests are due February 10, 2017.
11. NPI EMERGENCY FUNDING FOR REMAINDER OF FISCAL YEAR
- A. Jolie Corder spoke to the Board and attendees offering a background about New Perspectives and their emergency funding request.
 - I. She told the Board that the New Perspectives Board of Directors has been taking this very seriously and this has been a process that they have been going through since October.
 - II. Jolie shared that they needing to do strategic planning and research to see what new programs NPI wants to add.
 - III. New Perspectives has always been vocationally focused since the 1970s. With Employment First, they have already placed about half of their people out into integrated employment, leaving about fourteen left in Pre-Voc that will need to be moved because their two year limit is up.
 - IV. They do have their Life Enrichment Center, but they are going to have to have other programs to provide services to the CMI, BI and ID clients.

- B. Shane explained that this would be a one-time block grant, not ongoing.
- C. Jeremy Taylor questioned how NPI would not be facing the same situation in one year.
 - I. Jolie said that it all came in 2016 and that is why they are looking at other programs for revenue. Also they are looking at leasing some space in the three buildings they own to bring in income. She added that all of the research for the programs takes time. She asked the Board to consider NPI's request to give them that time.
 - II. Jolie explained that before the MCOs came into play, NPI had a good working relationship with Woodbury County Case Management. Now that the MCOs are in charge, the number of referrals from their case managers has dropped dramatically because of all of the changes.
 - III. Shane pointed out in subsequent years, since 2013, the Region has continued to fund vocational programs at Hope Haven in Sioux County and Life Skills in Plymouth County but not fund any vocational programs in Woodbury County. These agencies that have continued to receive Regional dollars have not been forced into the same financial situation as NPI.
- D. Mark Loutsch asked if eventually some more money from the MCOs will start to come in to reimburse NPI.
 - I. Jolie stated that it should eventually happen.
- E. Mark Sybesma asked for additional thoughts from the Board members from Woodbury County regarding the grant.
 - I. Jeremy Taylor expressed his trouble with approving the request using one-time tax dollars in an ongoing expense predicated on a plan in the future in order to be sustainable.
 - II. Mark Sybesma asked Jeremy if NPI would come next month and present a plan, laid out where their services were going to be used and needed, if he would be amenable to consider approving NPI's funding.
 - III. Mark Loutsch asked Jolie if she would be able to present a plan next month. Jolie replied she could provide that.
 - IV. Don Kass asked Jolie if it would be possible for Jeremy to look at NPI's books, sharing that he (Don) had the opportunity to look at a provider's books in Plymouth County and look at what they have done to stay afloat and they are still running at a loss. Don added that the Region is tasked with providing mental health services to their citizens and they can't do that without providers.
 - V. Jolie told the Board they are more than welcome to tour the NPI facility and look at their books.
- F. Chairman Loutsch asked that NPI come back next month with a detailed plan.

12. PLAINS AREA MENTAL HEALTH, INC. PROPOSAL FOR ADDITIONAL FUNDS

- A. Kim Keleher presented Plains Area's proposal for additional funds.
 - I. The proposal outlines Plains Area's loss. There have been significant problems with the Iowa Medicaid Enterprise (IME) and the Managed Care Organizations (MCOs) systems that have prevented Plains area from receiving payment and issues with enrollment rules.
 - II. Jeremy Taylor questioned the possibility of duplication in payment if the Region pays the \$84,685.57, and then later the MCOs end up paying the back log of claims. Kim explained that it is not all back log of claims, it is also the enrollment rules they have imposed and now they are being told they just won't get paid at all.
 - III. Patrick Schmitz stated that the chances of any of the \$84,685.57 being paid by the MCO's are slim to none because of the loop holes and the things the MCO's continue to do.
- B. The Board and attendees discussed how all providers are suffering due to lack of payment by the MCO's and what responsibility does the Region have when providers are providing services and not being reimbursed.

13. APPROVAL OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS (\$66,000) FOR SIOUXLAND MENTAL HEALTH (NURSING/JAIL SERVICES)

****Motion by Don Kass, second by Jeremy Taylor to table Agenda Items 11, 12, and 13 until next meeting in February.
Carried 3-0**

14. CONSIDER \$58,000 REIMBURSEMENT TO NICC REGION FOR A SIOUX RIVERS CONSUMER
 - A. Shane explained to the Board that he received a letter from Kim Wilson, the CEO of Northwest Iowa Care Connections. The letter is asking the Sioux Rivers Region to reimburse the NICC Region \$58,000 for payments they made for a consumer that they mistakenly accepted residency on back in June of 2014. The consumer is legitimately a Woodbury County resident and the Sioux Rivers Region started paying for this consumer starting January 1, 2017 after the mistake was brought to light.
 - B. Board members asked if the Sioux Rivers Region was legally required to pay back NICC for this consumer. Aaron Haverdink stated that the Region is not required to pay because we did not authorize any of those services the consumer received between June 2014 and December 2016.
 - C. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Don Kass to deny the request from NICC Region for reimbursement of \$58,000. Carried 3-0
15. TRI VIEW BUILDING: PROGRESS ON CONFERENCE ROOM/RECONFIGURATION
 - A. Patty reported that the cubicles have been reconfigured. Some of excess furniture was given to non-profits in the Region and the remaining Woodbury County Building Services retrieved and stored at the Courthouse.
16. COMMITTEE REPORT: FRIENDSHIP HOUSE/DROP-IN CENTER
 - A. Former Governance Board member Mark Monson requested that the Board table the report and he will present it next month. Chairman Loutsch agreed.
17. FY18 BUDGET WITH LEVY RECOMMENDATIONS
 - A. The Board and members held a detailed conversation regarding the budget and levy recommendations that was presented.
 - B. Mark Sybesma made a motion to accept the FY18 Budget and levy recommendations, second by Keith Radig. Carried 3-0.
18. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR PROVIDER INCREASES IN FY18
 - A. Shane asked the Board to approve a 3% increase for the providers saying the amount has already been built into the budget.
 - B. Motion by Don Kass, second by Jeremy Taylor to approve the 3% increase for providers in FY18.
19. VISIONING/STRATEGIC PLANNING MEETING (11/23/16) SUMMARY AND DISCUSSION
 - A. Shane provided a summary of the meeting to Board members and offered to discuss in greater detail in the future.
20. REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES: NOVEMBER & DECEMBER, 2016
 - A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Keith Radig to approve the November & December 2016 Regional Mental Health expenditures. Carried 3-0
21. CONSIDER WOODBURY COUNTY'S REQUEST TO MOVE THE MENTAL HEALTH PLACEMENT OF JUVENILES UNDER THE DIRECTION OF THE REGION ON A 50% FTE BASIS.
 - A. Don Kass made a motion to table this agenda item until the next Governance Board meeting in February in order to give the Board more time to look into this position.
 - B. Jeremy Taylor asked if there was any specific information the Board would like Woodbury County to provide.
 - I. Shane responded that they need to see how this position would benefit all three counties in the Region.
 - II. Patty pointed out that this position is for juveniles and the Region currently deals with adult services.
22. CEO GENERAL DISCUSSION: LEGISLATIVE UPDATE, TRANSITION, JAIL SERVICES, TELE-HEALTH, HIPAA
 - A. Due to time constraints Shane opted to save his updates for the next Board meeting in February.

Chairman Mark Loutsch asked if the new Board members would like to attend an orientation to become more familiar with the Sioux Rivers Region.

- A. It was decided that Board members would meet for orientation at 12:30 p.m. before the next Governance Board meeting on Tuesday, February 28th. This will be a posted meeting.

Chairman Loutsch informed Board members and attendees that the deadline for submitting agenda items for the next Governance Board meeting will be on February 17, 2017.

Meeting adjourned at 3:40 p.m.



Julie Albright, Secretary

Approved by Board: 2.28.17