

**Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board**  
**Minutes**  
**April 28, 2015**

The April Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board Meeting was held, Tuesday, April 28, 2015 at the Plymouth County Courthouse Annex Building, 215 4<sup>th</sup> 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 Sybesma, Dennis Wright, Jim Henrich, Mark Loutsch, Mark Monson, and Matthew Ung

Others present: Shane Walter, Sharon Nieman, Jim Rixner, Dennis Butler, Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Aaron Haverdink, Julie Albright, Dan Gillette, Ed Gilliland, Kim Keleher, Gary Turbes, Don Nore, David Van Ningen, Shawn Scholten, Jillian Britt, and Jolie Corder.

2. Motion by Jim Henrich, second by Matthew Ung to approve the minutes of the March 24, 2015 Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried 6-0
3. Motion by Mark Loutsch and second by Jim Henrich to approve the County Regional Mental Health Expenditures for March 2015. Motion carried 6-0
4. ADVISORY BOARD – DAVID VAN NINGEN
  - A. The Advisory Board met on April 7<sup>th</sup>. Things discussed at the meeting were: Registrations, Equalization Dollars, and Managed Care.
  - B. Also, conversations began on how outcomes will be set for the Region.
5. KEYA HOUSE VISIT AND CRISIS RESPONSE PLANNING UPDATE - PATTY ERICKSON-PUTTMANN
  - A. Keya House Tour, Monday April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015.
    - i. Eleven people from the Crisis Planning Committee visited the Keya House in Lincoln, NE. The house is located in the heart of a residential neighborhood. If you were not aware of the facility location, you would never know that this home houses mentally ill people who are in some type of cycle or are in crisis. It is a four bedroom house (will soon be opening up to 6 beds). It has been operational for six years.
    - ii. The House is totally run by peer support persons. There are no treatment professionals involved at all. The Lincoln Police Department has a good working relationship with the Keya House staff and plays an important role in interventions and making referrals to the House.
    - iii. It gives consumers who are struggling in their own homes or at a facility, the opportunity to stay at the Keya House. Approximate length of stay is 5 days. While there, the consumer sets goals for themselves and comes up with a plan on how to achieve those goals. They are required to do things on their own. None of the peer staff tells them what to do, but are there to offer support and guidance through similar shared experiences.
    - iv. Of the people there that we talked to, the Keya House had made a huge impact in their lives.
    - v. Peers Support Staff treat the consumers like guests in the house, not as clients or patients. It is very self-directed, so consumers can do things for themselves.
    - vi. The Keya House does not charge for their service. The Nebraska Department of Health and Human Services did provide the money to get the program up and going and the Mental Health Associates of Nebraska are the ones providing the services.
    - vii. They will be opening up a 9 bed facility and have contracted with the Department of Corrections for folks coming out of prison and are on parole or probation. This will be a 90 day program.

- B. Currently looking for a location for the Crisis Observation and Crisis Stabilization Programs as well as the Friendship House.
  - i. Preferable location would be easily accessible for both Plymouth and Sioux counties.
  - ii. The Wellmark building on Tri View was looked at. St Luke's/Unity Point is putting the PACE Program in this building. They currently have 20,000-27,000 square feet they would consider leasing out. It's a wonderful building. St. Luke's came back with a square footage cost to us. Improvements would be the Region's responsibility. It gets pricy to pay \$7/square foot, plus utilities, plus all of the renovations and then not end up owning the location. We either need to proceed with that and try to negotiate St. Luke's down or we need to look at possible lots. With the rough numbers we've looked at it appears it might be almost cheaper to build.
  - iii. Shane asked for guidance from the Board.
  - iv. Dennis Wright suggested to keep looking but to pursue negotiating with St. Luke's regarding the Wellmark building.
  - v. Minimum amount of space needed is between 15,000 to 20,000 square feet.
  - vi. The Crisis Committee is meeting tomorrow and should decide on the size and program content.
  - vii. Shane Walter: Bottom line, we need to keep moving forward and fairly quickly. If something comes available, we need to have the ability to make a move and possibly contact the Board between meetings.
  - viii. Jim Rixner: Backroom planning has already started as far as how we are going to staff, how much it is going to cost in addition to the location/building.

C. Motion by Mark Munson to table #5, supported by Matthew Ung. Carried 6-0

#### 1. FISCAL AGENT REPORT – DENNIS BUTLER

- A. Fiscal Agent report as of March 24, 2015 was presented.
- B. Fund 720, which is the Sioux Rivers Region Operating Statement, is set up and will start July 1, 2015.
- C. Each County will need to set up an administrative fund (Fund 721). According to the 28E Agreement, it states you are to send your accrued balance over by July 1<sup>st</sup>, but you will not know your accrued balance until September. Dennis recommended changing the wording in the 28E to say September (for this year only) due to the fact that each county will still have warrants of payments to write for July and August that pertain to the previous fiscal year.
- D. There will be administrative charges that will have to be worked out with the Governance Board including Fiscal Agent costs, AP costs and Social Services costs that should be reimbursed to Woodbury County through the Region.
- E. Shane: That is one of the amendments we are suggesting for the 28E which would pay Woodbury County the Fiscal Agent fee.
- F. Dennis: Next month there will be a discussion and possible action on this.

#### 2. SERVICE COORDINATOR CONTRACT TEMPLATE AND JOB DESCRIPTION

#### 3. DISCUSSION AND APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION & EXPLANATION OF NEED TO SEND TO COUNTY BOARDS REGARDING AMENDEMENTS TO 28E.

- A. Mark Monson moved that #7 and #8 be tabled. Second by Matthew Ung.
- B. It was decided that due to the timeline involved, there would be a discussion regarding the Service Coordinator contracts and the 28E wording and then a vote would be taken.

C. Discussion:

- I. First problem is getting this ready to go by July 1, 2015
- II. Significant changes would be in the funding and how you set that up, but it is really dictated by the State/DHS.
- III. The intent of the redesign is for Sioux Rivers to behave like a region. The funding that we are talking about changing would be to pool the dollars to maintain that administrative fund locally to fund your local county staff.
- IV. The only thing that changed on the wording from the 28E from last month was wording regarding contracting with staff, not the County; that has been changed to read contract with the County, not the staffer.

D. Dennis Wright – Vote Regarding the tabling of #7 and #8:

- I. Plymouth County: NO (Henrich – No Loutsch – No)
- II. Woodbury County: YES (Monson – Yes Ung – Yes)
- III. Sioux County: NO (Sybesma – No)
- IV. Dennis Wright: Motion Fails 2 – 1

E. Dennis Wright: We need a motion to approve #8 – 28E

- I. Mark Loutsch – Motion to accept 28E, with the following of the recommendation by Dennis Butler to change the date from July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 15<sup>th</sup> (first year only) for sending over a county's accrual balance to the Regional Fund.
- II. Second by Mark Sybesma
- III. Dennis Wright - Vote by counties (majority vote):
  - a. Woodbury County – NO
  - b. Sioux County – YES
  - c. Plymouth County – YES
- IV. Dennis Wright: Motion approved 2 to 1

F. Dennis Wright: What this does is send the resolution back to the individual county board of supervisors. Counties have 30 days to decide if they are going to support the motion.

G. Dennis Wright: We need vote for #7 – Service Coordinator Contracts

- I. Motion by Jim Henrich to approve
- II. Second by Mark Sybesma
- III. Dennis Wright- Vote by counties (majority vote):
  - a. Sioux County – YES
  - b. Woodbury County – NO
  - c. Plymouth County – YES
- IV. Dennis Wright: Motion approved 2 to 1

9. UPDATE ON SIOUX RIVERS WEBSITE – JULIE ALBRIGHT

- A. The website is currently in production. Hopefully we will be presenting it to the Governance Board during the June meeting.
- B. Working to make sure the website is ADA compliant.

10. UPDATE ON STATUS OF FY16 ANNUAL SERVICE AND BUDGET PLAN SUBMITTED TO DHS. – SHANE WALTER

- A. DHS sent it back because they wanted clarification on some items particularly about the budget, nothing major. We will be meeting the Service Coordinators tomorrow to discuss and will resubmit to DHS.

11. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – SHANE WALTER

- A. We will not be getting any State dollars, no equalization dollars, no State Payment dollars.
- B. We are going to get some TANIF dollars, which is assistance for needy families. This does not amount to much, maybe \$10,000. So we will be dependent on levy dollars in this next fiscal year. We do have carry over dollars and we will be able to do the things we've committed to doing.
- C. The next legislative session will settle on some things with respect to funding that will make a lot more sense to all of us. They are talking about making \$47.28 the cap and let the regions set their levy rates under that. That allows us to go up and down with what we need to do. Obviously, there are mandated services that the State will have to provide. The State is very interested in the regions being able to deliver services above and beyond core services, provided we have the funds to do that.
- D. One thing that has happened is that the Governor has signed the Mental Health Advocate Bill. That would be the Bill that states how mental health advocates are handled. The County Board of Supervisors would be in charge of appointing advocates and not the courts. The advocate would be a County employee.
- E. Federal Dollars – Waiver waiting lists are still in place. The Medicaid RFP is going forward. There will be a decision on the MCO in July. Two to four companies are vying for MCO. At the last CEO meeting we met with some of the representatives of the MCOs.
- F. Jim Rixner: Ceiling on MCO profit is \$50,000,000.
- G. Life Long Links: That would be the AAAs and the Elderbridge. They've been trying to package themselves as a player in the State that would work with the Regions to act as a referral. They want us to contribute towards that to the tune of 15 cents per head. In our case it would run us \$25,000 per year. I question that because they are already doing those things, so I'm not certain what we'd be buying. This is something the Board should talk about further at our next meeting. Connected to this is an opportunity for us to have our Service Coordinators and other staff certified as Options Counselors. We are going to pursue that for anyone that would be interested. It is online through Boston University and costs \$155 per head.

12. Motion by Jim Henrich and second by Ung to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 6-0

*Next meeting will be Tuesday, May 24 at 1:30 p.m., at the Plymouth County Courthouse annex building.*



Julie Albright, Secretary

Approved by Board: May 26, 2015