

Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board
Minutes
May 24, 2016

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board Meeting was held Tuesday, May 24, 2016 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 2:30 p.m.

Members present: Mark Loutsch, Dennis Wright, Jim Henrich, Mark Sybesma, Mark Monson, Matthew Ung, Shane Walter, David Van Ningen, Julie Albright.

Member Absent: Mike Wood

Others present: Aaron Haverdink, Dennis Butler, Jim Rixner, Nate Vander Plaats, Shawn Scholten, Dan Gillette.

2. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

- A. Motion by Jim Henrich, second by Mark Monson to approve the Agenda as submitted for May 24, 2016. Carried 3-0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE APRIL 25, 2016 GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

- A. Motion by Dennis Wright, second by Jim Henrich to approve the minutes of the April 25, 2016 Board meeting as presented. Carried 3-0.

4. UPDATES: WORK ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE/ADVISORY BOARD/TELE-HEALTH

- A. David Van Ningen reported on the Work Alternatives Committee.
 - I. The second of the two part training in customized employment will take place in June. All five of the providers in the Region will participate.
 - II. The multifaceted marketing campaign entitled "A Valued Workplace" has started. It was developed by a firm in Sioux Falls.
 - a) The concept is to increase the opportunity for people who are served by our agencies to access employment by specifically marketing to area employers.
 - b) An ad was placed in the Sioux City Journal and will be placed in a number of other area newspapers.
 - c) The campaign will also be seen in public service ads on television and other ways in the business communities.
 - d) The primary campaign will run through the end of July.
- B. Aaron Haverdink updated on the Advisory Board meeting that was held on April 27th.
 - I. The group discussed the public meetings; when and where they wanted to meet.
 - II. They talked about the potential needs the Region could look at addressing down the road.
 - a) Sustainable housing is something that Rolling Hills Region (Cherokee County) is currently doing and Sioux Rivers may want to look at something like that in the future.
- C. Dr. Gillette indicated that there was no update on Tele-Health.

5. WILLIAMS & COMPANY AUDIT RESULTS

- A. The audit packets were distributed to all of the Board members.
 - I. Board members were asked to review the packets before the June Governance Board meeting and the audit will be added to the agenda for more discussion.
 - II. The auditor would be willing to attend the next Governance Board meeting if necessary.

6. SUBSTANCE ABUSE CLAIMS TURNED OVER TO COUNTY FOR PAYMENT.
 - A. The Region can no longer pay substance abuse commitment claims (attorney and physician evaluation claims) with mental health dollars. The substance abuse claims in Woodbury County have now been turned over the County Auditor for payment.
 - I. The judges have begun separating out the substance abuse claims from the mental health claims.
 - II. In the past substance abuse commitment claims and mental health commitment claims were paid together with mental health funds, but effective 7/1/15, the Iowa Code changed stating that mental health commitment claims need to be paid by the mental health & disability services regions and substance abuse claims need to be paid by the counties. (Code References- Mental Health Commitments: Iowa Codes 229.8 & 229.10. Substance Abuse Commitments: Iowa Codes 125.78 & 125.80.)
7. FRIENDSHIP HOUSE DROP-IN CENTER ADDITION ON CRISIS CAMPUS.
 - A. Mark Loutsch, Shane Walter and Patty Erickson-Puttmann met with the owner of the funeral home located next to the Assessment & Stabilization Center and toured the facility last week.
 - I. Mark Loutsch shared with the group that the assessed value to the funeral home property is approximately \$865,000. The funeral home has an asking price of \$2.9 million so this is no longer an option for the Friendship House.
 - II. The funeral home has also completely ruled out an easement from their parking lot to the crisis center.
 - III. They looked at the possibility of building behind the Assessment & Stabilization Center.
 - B. Jim Rixner discussed other options for the Friendship House, but asked that the Board continue to look into building on the existing land behind the Assessment & Stabilization Center.
 - I. If the Friendship House is built at that location, Jim asked for some assurances from the Board that there be adequate transportation for Friendship House members, other than totally relying on public transportation.
 - C. Chair Mark Loutsch asked that a contractor be contacted to draw up plans showing how the Friendship House could be built on the existing land.
 - D. The Board agreed to move forward to explore how much it is going to cost and how it is going to fit.
8. REGIONAL ASSESSMENT AND STABILIZATION CENTER UPDATE.
 - A. Jim Rixner updated the group on the progress of the Center.
 - I. The Center has been open for one month and they have served seven people who had an average length of stay of 5 days.
 - II. Of the people served, five were from Woodbury County, one from Plymouth County and one from Sioux County.
 - III. The Center currently meets accreditation standards. They put a letter in to DHS yesterday requesting their survey team to come to the Center and provide them accreditation. Once they are accredited they can begin to bill Medicaid.
9. SCHEDULING PUBLIC INPUT MEETING IN EACH COUNTY.
 - A. Aaron Haverdink shared that the Advisory Board has recommended June or July to hold the meetings.
 - B. Shane talked about holding the meetings in September so that they could receive input on the budget process as the budgets will be looked at about that time.
 - C. Ideally the meetings would be held in each county within the same week.
 - D. All county boards of supervisors are encouraged to attend the public input meetings as well as all Governance Board members.
 - E. Chair Mark Loutsch recommended that Shane come up with dates and times for the meetings between July and September and the subject will be visited again at the next meeting.

10. FOLLOW UP TO MEETINGS WITH COUNTY SHERIFF AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS.

- A. Shane shared that there have been ongoing conversations with the sheriff and police departments, particularly in Sioux City.
- B. Jim Rixner reported that they have expanded their psychiatric time in the jail going from half of Friday morning to all of Friday morning.
 - I. They are currently looking into the medication practices at the county jails.
 - a) Good news is most of the medications are generic so the expense is not that great. The bad news is the number of people on those medications is too high.
- C. Shane indicated that they will continue meeting and communicating with the sheriff and police departments.

11. MENTAL HEALTH BUILDING IN WOODBURY COUNTY

- A. Mark Monson indicated that there was nothing new to add.
- B. Shane shared that DHS will be giving their opinion. DHS (Jan Heikes, Theresa Armstrong) would like to see it dealt with, particularly with Veteran's Affairs being a part of that building.
 - I. The regional attorney, Paul Lundberg, put it in writing his opinion: Woodbury County has title and his recommendation is that there be a sublease at fair market value with Veteran's affairs.
 - II. Mark Monson disagreed with the regional attorney's opinion because it is not a regional building.
 - III. Shane added that at some point there needs to be something done; Woodbury County can't continue to subsidize the operation of a non-mental health entity with regional mental health dollars. He added no one is arguing that Woodbury County has title to the building.
- C. Chair Mark Loutsch asked that he be informed of the ongoing costs in the building including insurance, utilities, maintenance, etc., and what Woodbury County is paying versus the Region.

12. REGIONAL MENTAL HEALTH EXPENDITURES

- A. Matthew Ung brought up his concerns regarding the contract that was signed for the former Woodbury County employees that are now Sioux County employees.
 - I. Matthew emailed the CEO and asked that that his concerns be shared with the Chair Loutsch and added to today's agenda. It was not added because regional attorney, Paul Lundberg, informed the Chair that it was not necessary.
 - II. He shared that he reviewed the minutes and recording of the February 23rd meeting, which is the date the contract was signed, and pointed out that there was no official action taken by the Board reflected in the minutes or in the recording. He added that he felt it is best practice for the Governance Board to take action and have a motion for the Chair to sign contracts. Because there was no official action taken at the February 23rd meeting, he will not be able to approve the regional expenditures.
- B. Chair Mark Loutsch stated his decision was based on the opinions of both the regional attorney and county attorney. He relayed that the issue was handled correctly with the actions that the Board took in December, 2015 approving the positions as Sioux County employees if Woodbury County did not employ them at 100%. With that, the contract was signed on February 23, 2016 based on these previous actions.
- C. Mark Sybesma motioned to approve the regional expenditures, second by Jim Henrich. Carried 2-1 (Woodbury County – Ung, Monson opposed).

13. FISCAL AGENT REPORTS

- A. Dennis Butler presented the Fund 110 and Fund 720 reports as of May 19, 2016.
 - I. Fund 110 has a balance of \$1,956,738.56. There will be a check cut next week for \$1,724,000 for Woodbury County's share of the taxes.
 - II. The balance of Fund 720, the Regional Fund, is \$5,345,192.57. It will increase by \$1,724,000, less any expenditures that come through. The other counties have paid their shares.
 - III. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Dennis Wright to approve the Fiscal Agent reports. Carried 3-0.

14. CEO UPDATE

- A. Shane updated on meetings he has attended. With the legislature ending they have begun to talk about what they are going to gear up for next year.
 - I. The legislative policy committee begins their meetings in August. They will begin to prioritize ISAC's legislative agenda.
 - II. Mental Health Advocate rules have been approved. However the reporting portion of these rules has been delayed. The Mental Health Advocates will need to start to utilize the CSN system.
 - III. As president of the Affiliate, it is within his purview to appoint a committee of Mental Health Advocates that will meet on a regular basis and have representation on the larger board.
 - IV. Shane will not be at the next month's Governance Board meeting.

15. ADJOURNMENT

- A. Mark Monson motioned to adjourn the meeting, second by Jim Henrich. Carried 3-0.



Julie Albright, Secretary

Approved by Board: June 28, 2016