

**Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board**  
**Minutes**  
**July 18, 2016**

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board Meeting was held Monday, July 18, 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, Matthew Ung, Mark Monson, David Van Ningen, Shane Walter, Julie Albright

Members Absent: Mike Wood

Others present: Aaron Haverdink, Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Sharon Nieman, Jim Rixner, Dan Gillette, Don Nore, Jolie Corder, Patrick Schmitz, Jennifer McCabe, Gary Turbes, Stephanie Schade, Greg Stallman

2. APPROVAL OF THE MEETING AGENDA

- A. Motion by Jim Henrich, second by Dennis Wright to approve the agenda as submitted for July 18, 2016. Carried 3-0.

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 28, 2016 GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING

- A. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Dennis Wright to approve the minutes of the June 28, 2016 Board meeting as presented. Carried 3-0. (Ung abstained as he was not at the last meeting.)

4. UPDATES: WORK ALTERNATIVES COMMITTEE/ADVISORY BOARD/CRISIS CENTER

- A. David Van Ningen updated on the Work Alternatives Committee

- I. The Customized Employment Training was completed this spring.

- a) The cost was shared between the Region and Northwest Iowa Care Connections Region.

- b) Over forty staff members were in attendance and many of those staff members are in the process of getting their National Certification.

- II. The outcome data is in the process of being completed and they will have a full report at the August Governance Board Meeting.

- III. The campaign entitled "A Valued Workplace" is underway and ads have been on television, on the radio and various local newspapers.

- IV. The second year of the project is underway they have met to discuss the budget for this second year and to review our goals.

- V. They have spent a great amount of time talked about the effects of Medicaid Modernization and how the managed care as impacted employer services and providers in general.

- VI. The Advisory Committee's next meeting will be held Monday, August 22nd.

- B. Jim Rixner updated on the Regional Assessment & Stabilization Center.

- I. Thirty-three people have now gone through the program now.

- II. They have had two individuals who were referred by the Sioux City Police Department and one from the Hinton Police Department.

- III. Staffing continues to be a bit of a dilemma, trying to keep the Center staffed 24/7.

- a) They are still using temporary nurses, which they prefer not to use.

- IV. Patty Erickson-Puttmann reported on signage for the Assessment & Stabilization Center.

- a) She did get back in touch with Avery Brothers to see about getting the figure closer to \$5,000. She has not heard anything back from them yet.

- V. Patty was asked to come up with a daily rate for other Regions who want to utilize a bed at the Assessment & Stabilization Center. The rate that was decided on was \$400 per day.

- VI. Shane Walters shared that he will come up with a contract for the Regions who want to use the facility and bring it back to the Board for approval. It will be an ongoing contract with the ability to adjust rates up or down on a yearly basis.
5. APPROVAL OF WILLIAMS & CO. SIOUX RIVERS AUDIT CONTRACT.
- A. Motion by Jim Henrich, second by Mark Monson to approve the contract with Williams & Co. Carried 3-0.
6. FOLLOW UP ON PROVIDER FINANCIALS: BRIDGE LOANS FOR PROVIDERS
- A. Patty Erickson-Puttmann shared with the Board information she received from Ken Beekley of the Siouxland Economic Development Corporation regarding his knowledge and experiences with bridge loans.
- B. Chair Mark Loutsch asked the providers how things were progressing regarding getting paid from the MCOs.
- I. Jolie Corder expressed that communication with the MCO's is getting better.
- II. David Van Ningen shared that things are difficult. He is on the Iowa Association of Community Provider Board. Providers have expressed they are not getting paid at the correct rates.
- III. Jennifer McCabe shared that they have been paid for April and May from two of the MCOs. They are still struggling with getting paid by the third MCO. They are not able to submit bill electronically due to issues with codes.
- C. Mark Loutsch indicated that the Board will follow this closely and if the need for loans becomes a necessity in the future the Board will follow through.
7. FRIENDSHIP HOUSE/DROP-IN CENTER ADDITION ON ASC CAMPUS: APPROVAL TO MOVE FORWARD
- A. Patty shared with the Board that four of the six contractors have responded affirmatively they would like to be considered for the project.
- I. Of those four contractors three have the in-house capabilities to do the drawings and specs for the project so an architect would not be needed. The fourth contractor indicated that they work with an architect in Sioux City and that is who they would utilize.
- B. Patty has looked into the preliminary zoning requirements and asked City Hall specifically if we had to have an architect and was told no, an experienced general contractor will know all of the regulations and will work hand in hand with the City of Sioux City on the setbacks and zoning. Zoning will not be a problem because it is zoned properly now.
- C. Mark Loutsch said it would like the Board to be able to see a draft of the floor plan.
- I. Patty said she would provide a floor plan at the next meeting. In addition, the contractors who responded with references and the projects they have done in the past.
- D. Dennis Wright tossed out a suggestion of possibly creating office space in the Friendship House for the Regional mental health employees currently located at the Tri View Building.
- E. It was decided that the final approval on the Friendship House will wait until next month. Patty will forward to the Board members the information she receives from the contractors before the next meeting so they will have time to review.
8. SERVICES TO LAW ENFORCEMENT: MEDICATION FOR MENTAL ILLNESS DIAGNOSTIC GROUPS
- A. Shane Walter shared that they have had a couple of meetings with sheriff departments.
- I. They discussed ways to effectively reduce the population in the Jails, which is the ultimate goal.
- II. Currently in each of the jails there is a significant cost in medications for those inmates with bona fide mental illnesses. They have talked about paying for some of those medications.
- B. Shane asked that the Board look at approving getting some dollars to the Sheriffs to cover those medications, but need to determine what diagnostic groups the Region will be funding.
- C. Patty shared that the diagnostic groups that have been discussed to fund are schizophrenia, bipolar disorder, clinical depression and schizoaffective disorder. Any inmates who have a diagnosis are currently on medications to treat one of these disorders need to make sure they stay on those medications, which is very costly.

- I. What they would propose is paying the pharmacists directly for the medications that are reviewed and approved under those four major diagnostic groups.
  - a) Those inmates who are on medications for substance abuse, detox and anxiety the Region would not reimburse.
- D. Patty asked Major Stallman to provide their intake forms so that we can merge them with the Region's forms, eliminating duplicate information and allowing the ability to track information that needs to be provided to the State regarding the program and number of clients served.
- E. Motion by Mark Sybesma, second by Mark Monson to allow payment for medications out of the Region's mental health fund for inmates with any of the four major mental health diagnoses. The program will be up and going by September 1 and the Region will pay retroactive back to July 1, 2016. Carried 3-0
- F. Shane added that they are also looking at exploring the possibility social worker in the jails to be able to interface with the jails to make sure that those individuals have their needs met and once they are discharged they would be connected with the necessary services. The idea being that it would keep them from reoffending and keep them out of jail and potentially reduce the jail population.

*Julie L. Albright*

Julie Albright, Secretary

Approved by Board: 8.23.16