

Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board
Minutes
March 24, 2015

The March Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board Meeting was held, Tuesday, March 24, 2015, at the Plymouth County Courthouse Annex Building, 215 4th Avenue SE, Le Mars, Iowa.

1. Chairman Dennis Wright called the meeting to order at 2:00 p.m. and introductions were made.

Members present: Dennis Wright, Jim Henrich, Mark Loutsch, Matthew Ung, Mark Monson

Members absent: Mark Sybesma

Others present: Shane Walter, Sharon Nieman, Dennis Butler, Patty Erickson-Puttmann, Julie Albright, Aaron Haverdink, Dan Gillette, Nate Vander Plaats, Ed Gilliland, Kim Keleher, Kermit Dahlen, Gary Turbes, Don Nore, David Van Ningen, Dayton Vogel.

2. Motion by Jim Henrich and second by Mark Monson to approve the minutes of the February 24, 2015, Board Meeting as presented. Motion carried 5-0
3. Motion by Mark Loutsch and second by Jim Henrich to approve the County Regional Mental Health Expenditures for February 2015. Motion carried 5-0
4. Discussion was had regarding the difficulties Board members and attendees are facing trying to open Board meeting emails which were being sent in secure mode. The matter will be discussed with the Woodbury County HR director and corrected prior to any future mailings.
5. David Van Ningen stated the Advisory Board has not met since the last Governance Board meeting. Their meeting is scheduled for April 7th. Sharon and David are currently working on the agenda for that meeting.
6. Discussion regarding the March 11th tour of the Crisis Observation Center in downtown Des Moines.
 - a. Polk County/Eyerly Ball Crisis Services include:
 - I. Crisis Observation Center – Offers recliner therapy. They have six recliners and two quiet rooms. Staffed by a nurse and tech 24/7. Provides observation and stabilization to adults who are in a mental health crisis (up to 23 hours).
 - II. Crisis Stabilization Center – Offers ongoing care. They have 6 or 7 beds. Length of stay is anywhere from 3 to 90 days, based on need.
 - III. Mobile Crisis Response Team – Offers on-site crisis assessment. Team includes a Des Moines police officer who is trained in mental health response and a mental health professional.
 - b. They have been open since July 1, 2014, and share a building with Central Iowa Shelter & Services (homeless shelter).
 - c. The program has made a huge impact. They have never had to turn anyone away and have had no problems with violence or aggression, even with minimal staff.
 - d. The majority of the cost for the Crisis Center is staff, not so much maintaining the facility. It was pointed out that any service provided by a nurse or therapist is a billable service as long as the provider is licensed.
7. Patty Erickson-Puttmann updated on the progress of Crisis Response Planning Committee.
 - a. The goal is to try to get under one roof, Crisis Observation, Crisis Stabilization and combining these with other programs such as Peer Support.
 - b. The facility needs to be easily accessible for Sioux and Plymouth counties. The committee is currently looking for a building to lease.

- c. Contacted Telemed out of Sioux Falls which is like a virtual hospital, there are no doctors present. They make it all come together via Telemed using psychiatrists out of New York and Florida. Obtained valuable information on where to look for and utilize these services in the Region's crisis center.
 - d. Spoke with a Sioux City police officer regarding their department's procedures and protocol when responding to calls dealing with a person with a mental health crisis.
 - e. Once a plan is in place for the Region's crisis center a recommendation will be presented to the Governance Board.
8. Work Alternatives – David Van Ningen: Initial meeting was held on March 23rd to talk about the Individual Placement Services (IPS). Twenty-five people attended.
9. Dennis Butler presented the current Regional Fund Report and actual bills paid.
 - a. Earned a little bit of interest and rates are very low.
 - b. Questions from the Board about who has control of credit cards and details of credit card expenses.
 - c. Dennis will get an itemized detail of credit card expenditures and mail it out to all Board members.
10. Discussion regarding Service Coordinator contracts and job descriptions.
 - a. Service Coordinator contracts and job descriptions were passed out at the last meeting and also emailed to all Board members.
 - b. Concern was raised regarding the shift in responsibilities from county to Region for service coordinators and other staff. It was pointed out that for county related business, employees report to their county; when they are doing Regional business, they report to the CEO.
 - c. Chairman Dennis Wright asked that Board members, CEO and other relevant parties meet to discuss and work out issues prior to the next Governance Board meeting.
 - d. Vote was postponed until next Governance Board meeting in April.
11. Discussion of remaining provider FY16 contracts and rates.
 - a. Rates that were asked to be approved were straight forward. Some providers had no increases and others had 3% increases.
 - b. Shane Walter will send out provider contracts and rates electronically to all Board members and also to all providers. The contracts read the same; the rates are different.
 - c. Shane asked that an electronic meeting be held to approve the provider rates prior to next Governance Board meeting.
 - d. No vote was taken, but the Board all agreed that an electronic meeting would work for them.
 - e. Hard copies of the provider contracts were passed out to all providers in attendance.
12. Review and approval of the Annual Service and Budget Plan for 2016.
 - a. Annual Service and Budget Plan needs to be submitted to the State by April 1st.
 - b. No changes to Plan other than dates.
 - c. Motion by Jim Henrich and second by Mark Monson to approve the Annual Service and Budget Plan. Motion carried 5-0.
13. Discussion was had regarding changes to the 28E language regarding funds and funding/levy decisions.
 - a. It was proposed that further discussions be held as a group to work through things prior to a vote on changes to the 28E language.
 - b. Per request of Chairman Dennis Wright, highlighted changes were discussed.
 - I. On July 1st, the counties, whatever they have in their fund, would transfer those funds to the fiscal agent (Woodbury) and funds will be deposited into the Regional Fund.
 - II. Each county will maintain an administrative budget from which they will pay their support staff and service coordinators.
 - III. New language reflects the fact that Plans, Policies and Procedures are completed. They are in place perpetually until deemed necessary to change and need to be submitted to DHS yearly by April 1st.

- IV. Each year the Governance Board would determine what needs to be levied because that impacts what services will be delivered in the Region.
 - c. It was pointed out that there is currently talk at the Capitol suggesting ways to fix the funding mechanism in place now, assuring ongoing funding in the regions. There is a proposal to lift the tax levy cap and have a new cap of \$47.28.
 - d. Dennis Butler discussed how the new Regional Fund (Fund 720) would work.
 - I. All APs from the service providers will go to the individual counties; they will forward these down to Lisa Wilson in Woodbury County.
 - II. All bills will be processed as one batch.
 - III. Deadlines will be in place to get the APs to the fiscal agent for payment.
 - IV. Possible changes in tax levy by each county. In the future the levy could potentially go down, depending on what the balance is the Regional Fund.
 - e. Dennis Wright recommended waiting until next meeting to approve. Encouraged Board members to discuss changes with their individual boards before the next meeting.
 - f. Changes need to be approved by the Governance Board first and then go to the individual board of supervisors.
 - g. Shane will electronically send out the 28E changes and will put it on the agenda for next month.
14. The Sioux Rivers website and renovated logo was discussed.
- a. The renovated logo is complete (minus Cherokee County).
 - b. The website is in progress. Cost for the website is approximately \$2,500 for the entire site and includes ten pages.
 - c. Documents such as plans, agendas and minutes will be posted on the website to be available for providers and consumers.
 - d. When the website is completed it will be presented to the Board for approval.
15. It was decided the meeting time for the next Governance Board Meeting and future meetings would be changed from 2:00 p.m. to 1:30 p.m. (The fourth Tuesday of each month.)
16. Motion by Mark Monson and second by Mark Loutsch to adjourn the meeting. Motion carried 5-0
Next meeting will be Tuesday, April 28th at 1:30 p.m., at the Plymouth County Courthouse annex building.



Julie Albright, Secretary

Approved by Board: April 28, 2015