



Rolling Hills

Community Services Region

Buena Vista * Calhoun * Carroll * Crawford * Ida * Sac

July 16, 2014

2:00 pm

Sac County West Annex

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – Chair, Rick Hecht

2. Roll Call of Counties – Introductions

Buena Vista County: Paul Merten

Calhoun County: Scott Jacobs

Carroll County: Neil Bock

Crawford County: Cecil Blum

Ida County:

Sac County: Rick Hecht

Advisory members: Pam Haberl; Pat Laursen

RHCS Region Staff: Dawn Mentzer, CEO; Leisa Mayer, Coordinator; Louise Galbraith, Coordinator

Guests: Clay Adams, Wesco Ind.; Dana Kanne, Mallard View; Shari Kitt, Mallard View; Pam

Moldovan, DHS TCM; Brenda Berens, SRTS; Diana Ossman, ISI; Maggie Johnson, ISI

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion to approve minutes of previous meeting by Cecil Blum. Second by Paul Merten.

Discussion: none. Carried

4. Approval of Agenda

Under old business Dawn Mentzer, CEO, would like to have Clay Adams from Wesco present information concerning forthcoming rule changes to HCBS and other federally funded programs.

Motion to approve proposed agenda by Neil Bock, second by Scott Jacobs. Motion carried.

5. Old Business

a. Election of Board Chair

Motion by Cecil Blum to nominate Rick Hecht to serve as Board Chair, second by Neil Bock. No other nominations. Carried

b. Election of Board Vice-Chair

Motion by Scott Jacobs to nominate Paul Merten to serve as Board Vice-Chair, second by Cecil Blum. No other nominations. Carried

Motion by Cecil Blum to appoint Louise Galbraith as secretary, second by Neil Bock. Motion carried.

c. Take action on remaining provider service contracts

- i. **Counseling Services** – same rates as previous
- ii. **Wesco Ind.** – no modifications, same rates as previous
- iii. **New Directions** – no modifications requested, added an in-take fee
- iv. **St. Anthony** – not received yet, will request a rate increase
- v. **Plains Area Mental Health Center** – to be discussed later in meeting
- vi. **Ida Sheltered Ind.** – to be discussed later in meeting
- vii. **Family Resource Center** – Not received yet

Motion by Cecil Blum to approve, and for the Chair to sign contracts for Counseling Services, Wesco Ind., and New Directions. Second by Paul Merten. Discussion: None. Carried

d. Ida Services – Maggie Johnson and Dwight Lange from SIMPCO

Maggie Johnson presented the Board information on the history of transportation issues ISI has been dealing with for many years. Ida County has been paying \$1.47 a mile for the last year, prior to that ISI was losing money on transporting mentally ill individuals from Ida Grove and Holstein to the work site in Battle Creek. Maggie Johnson presented the Board three scenarios of funding transportation (see attachment). Brenda Berens from SRTS reported that their trip rate is \$9.46 per one way trip (a charge of two trips per day per person), this is a non-negotiable rate.

Cecil Blum asked if there was money in the budget for this service. Dawn Mentzer stated that the amount Ida County had budgeted is in the Region Budget, but this proposal would be far more than what is budgeted. Dawn also gave suggestions to purchase van(s).

Clay Adams, Wesco Ind. Director, gave an overview of how Wesco transports. Wesco purchased an ADA - handicap accessible 11 passenger van with a lift. It was purchased used about a year ago and has proven to be cost effective. Crawford County has not paid for any transportation to Wesco.

Paul Merten asked about the City of Ida Grove who pays part of the block grant with SRTS to provide services (for citizens of Ida Grove). Maggie reported that the issue has not been resolved with SRTS as to how Ida Grove will be affected if ISI pulls out. SRTS reports that if ridership is down (ISI pulls out) the cost per person would be increased.

Cecil Blum would like the issue to be about the Region services and cost and have Ida Grove and Ida County deal with transportation of other citizens.

ISIS transports 6 Habilitation people and SRTS transports 12 ID Waiver people.

Dawn Mentzer recommended purchasing a vehicle, and suggested a three month time period to see what the actual costs are so the Board can make an informed decision.

Rick Hecht – if we go this path would we have this issue with other providers that may want the same. Dawn Mentzer reports that it shouldn't since this have been an issue for ISI for years and the Region would not be in the business of buying vehicles for all providers, providers would have to justify the need.

Cecil Blum would like to ask Clay Adams to help with decisions of what to buy if that is the outcome, and also to continue with one of the three options from ISI (see attachment) for up to 90 days (3 months) to investigate and have time to make a decision, secure a vehicle, get drivers trained and operational by October 1, 2014. Neil Bock likes the direction this is taking but instead of 90 days, go more to a day by day or shorter time period.

Dawn recommended paying current costs until a vehicle is purchased and running.

Motion by Cecil Blum use option three (continue with the Ida County agreement with ISI) with an expiration of September 30, 2014. Second by Neil Bock. Discussion: Dawn Mentzer will modify the contract to reflect this motion. Paul Merten asked for clarification that the Region will pay the same as Ida County did last fiscal year. Motion carried.

Clay Adams was asked to research vehicles and to send information to Dawn Mentzer and then she will forward information to the Board. Neil Bock reported that Region XII has a few vehicles that they are going to sell on eBay. Clay Adams will contact Region XII and see what they have for sale.

A motion by Cecil Blum that when a vehicle for ISI is found, Rick Hecht and Dawn Mentzer will initiate a phone conference for a vote by the Board authorizing purchase of vehicle. Second by Neil Bock. Motion Carried

A motion to approve the contract with ISI, with changes to transportation, by Scott Jacobs, second by Neil Bock. Motion carried.

e. Other

- Clay Adams gave an update of a one-day summit (in Chicago) he attended that was held to discuss Federal changes to HCBS rule changes. The rule changes are very open to interpretations, and the changes need to be enacted within 5 years. RCF facilities are under scrutiny as large facilities are seen as institutional

settings and the feds are wanting community based settings. Basically the rule changes are that people with disabilities need to have the same options and opportunities as the general public. The Federal changes that need to be enacted can be costly and Regional Boards may be tasked with helping with planning and financial needs. Wesco will be transitioning their 14 bed RCF to community housing, it will be challenging and expensive. The second phase to look at day services, work services, that they will be community based as well. Wesco will look at implementing changes within 2 years, not wait.

Dawn Mentzer thanked Clay for presenting the information. A meeting was held with Mallard View with Regional Staff and Terry Johnson from Genesis Development to open the discussion concerning funding and rule changes that are coming. Dawn wanted the Board to be aware of the changes coming as there will be costs that the Board will be approached to help with by providers.

- Plains Area Mental Health – two contracts were submitted to the Region, one with the original costs approved by the Board and one with costs for rental of space in Carroll County.

Neil Bock gave an update of why the rental assistance would be needed. In the original contract between Carroll and PAMHC, space in a county building was provided for \$1 per month. That contract has been cancelled as of June 30, 2014 due to the contract with the Region. The cost of \$10.00 per square foot was reached for an estimated cost of \$15,000 per year or possibly \$1,000 per month.

Paul asked if this will open up to other providers asking for rent assistance.

Cecil Blum asked how long a lease would be at the \$10 per square foot costs.

Neil Bock answered they had discussed a 5 year lease.

Neil Bock made a motion approve the contract with Plains Area Mental Health Center including to cost of 15,000 per year rent to Carroll County. Second by Cecil Blum to move the motion to a vote. Discussion: Cecil Blum, if we amend a contract for one provider we open the door to other providers to do the same.

Paul Merten sees both sides.

Cecil Blum asked for a roll call vote:

Rick Hecht – Aye; Cecil Blum – Nay; Scott Jacobs – Aye; Paul Merten - Aye; Neil Bock - Aye

Motion carries 4-1.

6. New Business

a. Discuss and take action on ICAP Insurance coverage/bid

Dawn Mentzer provided copies of the bid from ICAP (see attachment). \$7,034.14 is the cost to the Region, a larger amount was budgeted. The coverage would start 7/1/14.

The cost was based on budget amount and staffing. Cecil Blum asked if this covers the Advisory Board, Dawn Mentzer will seek clarification on this matter.

A motion by Cecil Blum to approve the contract with ICAP for liability insurance with the understanding that our Advisory board will be covered. Second by Neil Bock. Discussion: None. Motion carried

b. Transition Plan update

Rick Hecht read a letter from DHS approving the Transition Plan. Dawn Mentzer also updated the Board on the other plans that are due. The Service and Budget Plan will be submitted this month. Changes to the Management Plan are being worked on, Dawn Mentzer has been attending management plan meetings in Des Moines.

c. Supported Employment Forum report

Pat Laursen from the Howard Center, gave an overview of the forum held last month. Concerns were lack of job opportunities and lack of Vocational Rehabilitation services. Howard Center is having a hard time recruiting younger people into services due to the lack of work in a small community. Residential services at Howard Center are not an issue. Pat asked the Board if a person wants to live in Sac City area with Howard Center providing residential services would the Board consider funding transportation to other work sites (Carroll or Storm Lake). Pat came away from the forum seeing that providers need to work together.

Maggie Johnson also stated that working together is what providers will need to do to meet the needs with all the changes.

Outcomes of the forum are that the providers need to work together, the Region is committed to assisting the providers, and the meetings need to continue.

Dawn Mentzer was encouraged by the feedback from Pat and other providers.

d. Other

None

e. Date and time of next meeting:

August 20, 2014 – 2:30 pm at the Sac County West Annex

Motion to adjourn by Scott Jacobs, second by Neil Bock. Carried

Minutes recorded by Louise Galbraith, Secretary