



Rolling Hills

Community Services Region

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

October 15, 2014

8:00 am

Sac County West Annex

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – Chair, Rick Hecht

2. Roll Call of Counties;

Buena Vista: Paul Merten

Calhoun: Scott Jacobs

Carroll: Neil Bock

Crawford: Cecil Blum

Ida:

Sac: Rick Hecht

Advisory Board Representatives: Pat Laursen,

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

Guests: Karen Timm, Lisa Langlitz, Dennis Busch, Maggie Johnson

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

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

4. Approval of Agenda

Motion by Cecil Blum to approve proposed agenda. Second by Neil Bock. Carried

5. Old Business

a. Take Action on provider contracts

i. St Anthony Regional Hospital

A lengthy cost report from St. Anthony was emailed to Dawn Mentzer. Karen Timm will request her financial department to write a letter of justification for the requested rate increase, as previously requested. Tabled until next meeting.

ii. Amend Howard Center to add Work Skills

The attachment to the Howard Center contract was amended to include “work skills” at a cost of \$2.75 per 15 minute incremental unit.

Motion to approve amendment by Scott Jacobs. Second by Paul Merten.

Discussion: Cecil Blum asked if the rate was for one year, Dawn Mentzer answered that yes, it was for one year (FY15). Carried.

b. Other

Maggie Johnson, Ida Services Inc., brought the new bus over for the Board to see and presented a thank you card to the Region made by the Day Habilitation group.

6. New Business

a. ICAP recommendation - Transportation Policy

Dawn Mentzer met with the ICAP representative and an issue of liability of regional staff transporting consumers was identified. ICAP is recommending a policy be written that staff cannot transport (including the Judicial Advocate) using personal vehicles. As Buena Vista County is the payer of the Advocate they would be responsible for any liability the Advocate may have. Dawn Mentzer presented the idea of each county paying the Advocate to release some liability from Buena Vista County. Discussion of how to relieve Buena Vista County of liability: can an insurance policy be purchased to cover the issue; who is liable for the Advocate- the State as they employ and govern or the Region as they pay her wages, IPERS and Workman’s Compensation.

For the interim, Paul Merten would like to implement a policy that regional staff not transport consumers in their private vehicles.

Dawn Mentzer suggested a policy that if a male is transported by female staff, another staff be along and vice-versa, and the client has to be stable or transportation by other means will be arranged.

Cecil Blum, should we require the advocate to submit a letter from her insurance company that will indemnify her for transportation of clients.

Scott Jacobs asked if we could ask the Advocate to provide proof of insurance and proper coverage.

Dawn Mentzer will check with John Kameric, underwriter, to make sure staff are covered prior to seeking other coverage as to not duplicate any current coverage.

Neil Bock suggested a letter be drafted to the Advocate that will prohibit transporting clients.

Dawn Mentzer will draft a letter, and ask for Roger Sailer to review it, to Sandy Sweeny that she is not to transport clients, the letter will be signed and sent from the Board.

b. Judicial Mental Health Advocate

Lisa McNeil maintains we cannot have a summary (narrative) of clients due to HIPAA.

Dawn Mentzer presented a summary of issues to the Board and reviewed Roger Sailer’s opinion. Neil Bock suggested the Board demand, as the payer, to have a reconciliation

of what is being paid (summaries) and that we must have detailed billing or we cannot pay it.

Rick Hecht – legislature needs to correct the problem, the Governor vetoed it before. It is on the ISAC legislative priority list for the legislative session.

Cecil Blum– follow Roger Sailor’s advice to have affidavits done and for Roger to send a letter to the Chief Judge.

Paul Merten – call for an audit? Dawn Mentzer asked if we have enough information as some counties have only been served for 3 months, Sac and Calhoun have more history.

Cecil Blum– build a file and call for an audit at a later date, after the first of the year.

A letter to the Chief District Court Judges, District Court Administrators, and Sandy Sweeny drafted by Dawn Mentzer in collaboration with Roger Sailer, calling for client specific information be available to the counties/region to justify payment of services rendered by the Advocate.

c. Cherokee County Request to join RHCS Region

Dawn Mentzer provided a copy of the letter from Cherokee County requesting to join Rolling Hills Community Services Region, and reviewed the process outlined in our 28E. The process calls for a resolution from the Governance Board, as well as a resolution from each county. Dawn provided a sample resolution for counties to use.

Cherokee would like to join January 1, 2015. The Sioux Rivers Region voted to allow Cherokee to leave their Region as soon as they are accepted into the Rolling Hills Region.

Neil Bock would like to have discussion with Cherokee County and go over the details of the resolution. The following questions were asked of Cherokee county, Dennis Busch, County Supervisor and Lisa Langlitz, Coordinator:

How will this affect the clients in Sioux Rivers and the Rolling Hills?

Dennis Busch – Sioux Rives has never embraced the regional concept so Cherokee is still working as an independent county, but they are aware that there will be changes.

Why is our Region going to be better?

Lisa Langlitz – Cherokee has similar philosophies as our region, Cherokee wants to follow the intent of the law, and they have a good reputation with Cherokee MHI and the State and want that to continue. Dennis Busch replied if Sioux Rivers Region does not follow the intent of the law pertaining to regions there could be repercussions from the State and or legal issues. In the future clients will be best served in this region.

Rolling Hills has spent a quite a bit of funds upfront, what do you think is fair of your county to contribute to assist with those costs?

Dennis Busch – Cherokee County would be comfortable with contributing the balance of the current year levy (levy less FY15 expenditures).

Is there a chance that Sioux Rivers will still want funds (scoop them)?

Dennis Busch – CEO of Sioux Rivers is looking at a new 28E with the three remaining counties. Before they withdraw from Sioux Rivers they will go the county attorney to release liability of financial, they want to make sure it is a clean break, with no encumbrances to the Sioux Rivers Region. They have not sent a formal letter to withdraw at this time.

Discussion concerning the effective date of Cherokee joining the region, January 1, 2015 vs. July 1, 2015, financial contribution, and stipulations to include in the resolution.

Dawn Mentzer asked if Sioux Rivers would remit equalization dollars for FY15. Dawn Mentzer reviewed the Sioux Rivers 28E and it states termination of June 30. Would like legal opinion if the date can be waived, and possibly a letter from the Sioux Rivers releasing the Equalization funds.

Paul Merten is fine with a joining date of January 1, 2015 or earlier date with assurances from Sioux Rivers.

Rick Hecht – there is consensus for Cherokee to join, how we will proceed. Cherokee needs the commitment that we will accept so they can proceed with withdraw from Sioux Rivers.

Dawn Mentzer drafted a resolution for the Board to consider today. Neil Bock would also like mention that the balance of Cherokee County that has not been spent it be paid to the Region, which would be fair to cover the upfront costs of Rolling Hills, and assure that all counties have contributed \$47.28. (Make quarterly per capita payments - \$47.28, in addition to the last two quarterly payments any balance not spent needs to be paid to the Region for startup costs.)

Motion by Neil Bock to approve resolution as presented. Second by Scott Jacobs. Discussion: None. Roll call vote: Hecht – aye; Merten – aye; Jacobs – aye; Bock – aye; Blum – nay. Motion carries.

Dawn Mentzer will send a copy of the resolution signed by the Board and a county resolution to the County Auditors.

d.

RESOLUTION

Recommending approval of Cherokee County, Iowa's Request to join the Rolling Hills Community Services Region effective January 1st, 2015.

WHEREAS, the Rolling Hills Community Services Governance Board has received a written request from Cherokee County to withdraw from the Sioux Rivers Region and enter into partnership with the Rolling Hills Community Services Region; and

WHEREAS, Cherokee County is willing to join the Rolling Hills Community Services Region by entering into a 28E agreement,

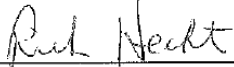
WHEREAS, Cherokee County accepts the terms and conditions of the 28E agreement established by the Rolling Hills Community Services Region,

WHEREAS, Cherokee County accepts the Regional Plans as approved by the Governance Board and the Department of Human Services,

WHEREAS, Cherokee County agrees to provide a financial contribution to the Rolling Hills Community Region based on the terms of the 28E agreement or other pro-rated means if accepted into the Region prior Fiscal Year 2016,

WHEREAS, Cherokee County agrees to provide quarterly payments of the per capita contribution for the remainder of Fiscal Year 2015 upon entrance into the Region including any balance of the unspent per capita contribution for the first six months of Fiscal Year 2015.

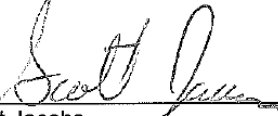
PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this 15th day of October, 2014

 *yes*

Rick Hecht, Chairman

 *Aye*

Paul Merten, Vice Chair

 *Yes*

Scott Jacobs

 *YES*

Neil Bock

 *NO*

Cecil Blum

Bob Paulsrud

Future Meeting with Legislators - Dawn Mentzer would like to hold a forum with Legislators and the Board prior to the legislative session. Neil Bock suggested getting an agenda together and make it a meaningful meeting for them.

d. Other

Tomorrow the Region is hosting a supported employment forum in Buena Vista. 2 staff from the Iowa Coalition for Integrated Employment are coming to provide training.

Date and time of next meeting:

The date for the November meeting will be on hold, if Dawn Mentzer has business that needs to be addressed she will notify the Board to meet on normal date and time.