



Rolling Hills

Community Services Region

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

February 26, 2015

2:00 pm

Sac County Support Services, Sac City

Meeting Minutes

1. Call to Order – Chair, Rick Hecht

2. Roll Call of Counties – Introductions

Buena Vista: Paul Merten

Calhoun: Scott Jacobs

Carroll: Neil Bock

Cherokee: Dennis Bush

Crawford: Cecil Blum

Ida: Rhett Leonard

Sac: Rick Hecht

Advisory Board Members: Pam Haberl

Regional Staff: Dawn Mentzer, Leisa Mayer, Louise Galbraith, Lisa Bringle, Rosie Stotts

Guests: Randy Huegerich, Kristin Nehring, Melissa Drey, Ken McClure, Ken Pingrey, Bill Davis, Doug Bass, Angela Chandler, Pam Moldovan, Melissa Patten, Terry Johnson, Cindy Wiemold, Patrick Schmitz

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion to approve agenda by Neil Bock, second by Cecil Blum. Carried

4. Approval of Agenda

Additional items to be added to the agenda: Proposed system funding solution by CSA affiliate, and House File 91 (mental health advocates)

Motion to approve amended agenda by Dennis Bush, second by Scott Jacobs. Carried

5.

a. ID Waiver Waiting List – Legal Opinions

Dawn Mentzer provided an opinion from Gary Jones, Attorney from Cedar Falls who provides legal consultation to the Iowa Association for Community Providers. His opinion is that Regions are not required to pay for services for individuals on the ID Waiver waiting list. Roger Sailer concurs with Gary Jones legal opinion.

Dawn suggested the Board consider the following:

Option 1. Set a criteria of who and what services would be funded.

Option 2. Take a hard stance to not fund services at all for those on the waiting list based on these opinions.

Discussion ensued regarding the criteria for funding services for individuals meeting an emergent/urgent level of need for services. Dawn Mentzer expressed a concern of not paying for services if we have the funds and that there could be repercussions from the State, legislation may be enacted yet to address this. If the Region does fund these services, it could be costly and hinder the development of new services.

Dennis Bush would prefer to set criteria and fund services that emergent. Neil Bock reminded the Board that the attorneys provided their opinions not advice. He would like to see if legislation will address this during the current session. Dawn Mentzer has a meeting tomorrow in Des Moines with the Regional CEO's, including a conference call with the State, she hopes to receive more information then.

Effective 2/5/15, the State reported that our region has 7 adults and 7 children on the waiting list. We do not know if all of the adults on the list are deemed eligible and if so what services they are seeking. Cecil Blum suggested approving the budget as it is today and amend it in the future if needed, and would like to follow the opinion of the attorneys and not fund the services.

A motion was made by Cecil Blum to deny funding for those on the ID Waiver waiting list. Second by Paul Merten. Discussion: Neil Bock added support of the motion with the understanding that we may have to make changes. Dawn Mentzer suggested forming a committee, from the Advisory Board, to set criteria for emergent needs and accessing core services and funding. Vote: Aye: Paul Merten, Rick Hecht, Cecil Blum, Scott Jacobs, And Rhett Leonard. Nay: Dennis Bush. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Dennis Bush to form a committee to set criteria for those on a waiting list to access services and funding. Second by Paul Merten. Discussion: who would serve on the committee? Dawn Mentzer said Case Managers, providers, regional staff and possible board members. Vote: Aye: Paul Merten, Rick Hecht, Cecil Blum, Scott Jacobs, Rhett Leonard, Dennis Bush. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

b. Crisis Stabilization Recommendation from Advisory Board Subcommittee

At the last Advisory Board meeting, a sub committee was formed to make a recommendation to the Board concerning moving forward with a Crisis Stabilization Home. Patrick Schmitz represented the subcommittee. Patrick informed the Board that Dawn provided budget projections and the levy at \$35.00. It was clear to the committee that at the current levy and budget there are funds to begin the service. There would still be over a million dollars to move forward and maintain the 25% fund balance. There is broad based support from the community as to the need for the service. Cindy Wiemold stated that it fits the mission of the Region and redesign efforts to begin important services that we do not have within the Region.

Ken McClure has been attending the crisis task force meetings. He stated that he could have filled the room with law enforcement in support of such a service to minimize the unnecessary transports for inpatient beds across the state. On behalf of the county Sheriffs within the region, Ken expressed their support for a crisis home within the Region.

Dawn Mentzer reported that \$300,000 is included in the budget for a Crisis home based on the budget for the home in Centerville. She indicated that it is most likely underestimated since we are a seven county region in comparison to their 3 rural counties. Pam Haberl asked what is in the budget for committals next year. \$185,000 is budgeted including advocate, transport and attorney fees. Discussion of rental vs. purchasing a home and then becoming property of the provider.

Plains Area Mental Health has submitted a proposal, Mallard View is waiting to hear from their board as to make a proposal or not. Cecil Blum recommended that out of fairness to providers all proposals should be discussed at the same time.

A motion was made by Cecil Blum to support moving forward with the recommendation of the subcommittee in creating the crisis center. Second by Scott Jacobs. Discussion: Neil Bock would like to support and publicize it so other providers have opportunity to submit proposals knowing the Board is in favor of moving forward with development. Dawn Mentzer had previously sent notice to all providers in the Region asking for proposals and to attend crisis task force meetings. At the crisis task force meeting this week, it was stated again that proposals need to be submitted by the end of February. Dawn Mentzer asked for a time frame for the proposals. Neil Bock would like another notice sent to inform providers that the Governance Board has voted to move forward, if this motion passes. Scott Jacobs asked if the Region provides funding for the purchase of a home, could it be in the contract that if the service ends the proceeds for the resale of the home comes back to the Region.

Vote: Aye: Paul Merten, Rick Hecht, Cecil Blum, Scott Jacobs, Rhett Leonard, Dennis Bush. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

Discussion followed on keeping the proposal period open until the next Board meeting and taking action at that time or hearing the proposal from PAMHC today. Time frames and the project have been discussed and providers have been well aware of goals and expectations. Neil Bock expressed concerns with making the best decision in the long run, having more time may save money if providers know that the timeline for the project is flexible. Dawn Mentzer stated the time frame is lofty, however, we have people that need the program and it will benefit the Region and better serve our consumers. Also the amount of referrals to RCF's are increasing as there is no other place for people to go.

Dennis Bush suggested waiting until next board meeting for proposals and come prepared to take action at that time. Paul Merten asked if we are looking to finalize the budget at the March meeting; without the proposals it would be difficult to ascertain an amount to include in the budget. Neil Bock stated that counter proposals may be brought to the Region.

Patrick Schmitz recommended a subcommittee to go over proposals and bring a recommendation to the Board.

Scott Jacobs asked to move the meeting date for the March meeting to earlier in the month to help with the decision and timelines. There are other proposals for other services from providers that if approved will need to be included in the budget.

A meeting was set for March 10th, 2:00 pm in Sac City for regular monthly meeting and to review proposals.

A motion was made by Dennis Bush to set a deadline of end of business day March 6, 2015 for proposals to be submitted, and for CEO to inform providers. Second by Neil Bock. Vote: Aye: Rick Hecht, Cecil Blum, Scott Jacobs, Neil Bock, and Dennis Bush. Nay: Paul Merten. Motion carried.

Dawn Mentzer will send an email to all providers to inform them of the board decision to move forward with crisis home and the deadline for submission of proposals. Pam requested that the Chapter 24 guidelines be sent out to the board to enable them to make a sound decision on the proposals and Dawn will email them.

Patrick Schmitz decided to wait until the next Board meeting to present/discuss the Crisis Service proposal from Plains Area Mental Health Center.

c. Home Care Options Supported Employment Funding Request

Kristen Nehring provided information concerning current services and the history of Home Care Options. HCO is requesting \$35,000 to fund the salary for a job development coordinator for one time funding.

Other providers (Genesis, ISI, and Howard Center) have sent a proposal to the Board concerning job development and this group was asked if there was any way to tie the two proposals. It would overlap services but not in the geographic area and one person would most likely not be able to provide the service for the entire region.

No action taken on this request and the item was tabled until March meeting.

d. Plains Area Mental Health Center FY'16 Budget Request

Patrick presented the FY16 block grant request for PAMHC. The contract now covers Cherokee County, the Denison Clubhouse, and an increase for the Carroll Clubhouse. The total request is \$560,730, with a portion to be diverted to Counseling Services and new services in Calhoun County.

Discussion: Neil Bock suggested at some point to look at fee for services for applicable items. Rick Hecht asked if PAMHC is awarded the crisis home proposal, would that effect the crisis services line item. Patrick said it may but not is projected in the request. Rick Hecht asked if the increase was in the budget and Dawn Mentzer stated that the budget would have to be adjusted.

e. FY'16 Budget Discussion

Dawn Mentzer asked for any changes or concerns with the budget as it is today. There will be changes based on proposals and moving forward with the Crisis Home.

6. Action Items:

a. Appoint Calvin Carver and Cindy Lauritsen from Cherokee County to RHCS Advisory Board

Cindy Lauritsen is a consumer and Calvin Carver is a provider.

A motion to appoint Calvin Carver and Cindy Lauritsen to the Advisory Board was made by Dennis Bush. Second by Cecil Blum. Vote: Aye: Paul Merten, Rick Hecht, Cecil Blum, Scott Jacobs, Rhett Leonard, Dennis Bush. Nay: None. Motion Carried.

b. Crisis Stabilization Service

Tabled until March 6 meeting

c. Take Action on FY'16 Budget

Tabled until March 6 Meeting

d. House File 91

If this passes it would move the jurisdiction of the advocate under counties and they would be subject to county personnel policies and compensation. It has bi-partisan support and the Governor is expected to sign the bill.

e. Proposed funding solution by the CSA board.

The Board discussed any concerns or additions to the document. The only item was lifting the limit from the 1996 base year levy rate for counties that are not receiving the equalization funds any longer.

7. Motion to adjourn by Rhett Leonard second by Neil Bock. Carried.

Minutes recorded by Louise Galbraith, RHCS Coordinator of Disability Services