



Rolling Hills

Community Services Region

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

May 12, 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: Not present

Sac: Rick Hecht

Representatives from Advisory Board: Pam Haberl, Pat Laursen

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

Guests: Angela Chandler, Cindy Wiemold, Jim Coats, Deb Bush, Calvin Carver, Patrick Schmitz, Terry Johnson, Maggie Johnson

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

Motion to approve minutes of previous meeting by Cecil Blum. Second by Dennis Bush. Motion carried.

4. Approval of Agenda

Dawn added the Regional Social Worker Contract to the agenda under item D.

Motion to approve agenda with the addition by Neil Bock. Second by Scott Jacobs. Motion carried.

5. Order of Business

a. Crisis Stabilization Home

Dawn Mentzer requested clarification regarding the purchase, ownership, maintenance and proceeds of a crisis stabilization home. Cecil Blum suggested Rolling Hills should hold the mortgage and essentially be the banker with Plains Area Mental Health Center (PAMHC) owning the home and providing all maintenance. He felt it was a safeguard of the taxpayer dollars.

Rick Hecht questioned Patrick Schmitz as to whether he thought that the Region would need to be the banker. Patrick Schmitz responded that he didn't think so as the proposal includes the facility and cost of operation; the Region is supplying the funding through the proposal. Rick Hecht concurred with Patrick that Rolling Hills would just provide the funds and not be the banker.

Paul Merten commented the proposal included the money to purchase the home. Patrick Schmitz made it clear that this project isn't about retaining the house as an asset. He agreed that an arrangement should be made on the disbursement of the proceeds if the home were ever sold. Dennis Bush agreed that the arrangement needs to be clear.

Neil Bock commented he doesn't want to be the banker and suggested a lease back to PAMHC.

Scott Jacobs commented there appears to be a consensus to have PAMHC buy the home and asked Patrick Schmitz if they are willing to work on an asset agreement and he concurred.

Patrick Schmitz described the home they are currently looking at as a home for 8 with the possibility of 2 extra beds.

Terry Johnson cautioned the board to not lock the provisions so tightly that there isn't enough flexibility to be able to make any changes in the future. He also commented that there needs to be a commitment from the board to move forward.

Cecil Blum asked Patrick Schmitz if he was willing to look at rental and Patrick Schmitz said with the ample homes within the price range they haven't looked at rentals. Patrick Schmitz also clarified they are looking at providing a long term service.

Dawn Mentzer suggested looking at the house in the same manner as the ISI van. Dawn Mentzer did not believe that the Region should hold assets. She discussed providing quarterly payments to PAMHC with a cost settlement in the last 6 months of the year for any costs less than the proposal.

Neil Bock concurred with Dawn's perspective and thought it was better we do not own the home or be the banker.

Cecil Blum recommended having 2 points outlined in a separate contract:

1. Request to have PAMHC request permission to resell the property.
2. Distribution of assets upon sell of the property.

Rick Hecht and Neil Bock reiterated they didn't want to be involved in the daily issues of the home.

There was discussion by Cecil Blum regarding whether Sac City was the ideal place for the crisis home. Patrick Schmitz commented that the properties are large and at a reasonable cost. Dawn Mentzer thought it was ideal that the PAMHC Crisis Coordinator has been a lifelong resident and has strong connections in the community.

Neil Bock recommended contacting Roger Sailer to write up an agreement outlining the split of the proceeds should the property be sold in the future. Cecil was in agreement.

Neil Bock motioned to give permission for the PAMHC CEO, Patrick Schmitz to proceed with the purchase of a home with the Region providing the funding through FY'16 contract. Proceeds of the selling of the property will be worked out in a contract with Roger Sailer, Attorney for the Region. Scott Jacobs seconded.

Rick Hecht called for discussion. Dawn Mentzer requested clarification on when funds can be disbursed to PAMHC. Does she have the ability to release funds prior to July 1 or have PAMHC take out a mortgage and release funds after July 1? Cecil Blum did not want to release funds in this fiscal year since it wasn't in our current budget. Dawn Mentzer reminded Cecil Blum our budget is not under the Department of Management and we have the necessary funds to provide in this current fiscal year. Paul Merten wanted clarification on the timeframe for payment. It is necessary to follow up sooner rather than later on a potential house so we don't lose it.

Rick Hecht called for the vote. Those in favor: Rick Hecht, Neil Bock, Paul Merten, Dennis Bush and Scott Jacobs. Those opposed: Cecil Blum

Dawn Mentzer wanted clarification on how much latitude she had in order to move this process forward and wanted to know how involved the Board wants to be on these daily decisions.

Cecil Blum responded he is not into micromanaging and gives Dawn Mentzer the latitude to make the decisions until she's told differently. Rick Hecht responded he conveys the responsibility to Dawn Mentzer. Paul Merten wanted it clear that Dawn has

the ability to make decisions and report back and has the ability to spend funds prior to July 1.

b. New Hope Village Rate Increase

Dawn Mentzer referred the Board to the attachment regarding New Hope's request for rate increases for Work Activity, Day Habilitation, Prevocational Services and Transportation.

Cecil Blum motioned to approve New Hope Village's 3% increase request for Work Activity, Prevocational Services and Day Habilitation. Dennis Bush seconded. Those in favor: Rick Hecht, Paul Merten, Dennis Bush, Neil Bock, Cecil Blum and Scott Jacobs. Those opposed: None Motion Carried.

No action taken on the transportation rate due the large hike from current rate. Neil Bock would like a more detailed breakdown of the increase. Tabled decision and requested to have Rhonda Mart come to next meeting to discuss this or provide more information for the board's consideration.

c. FY'16 Regional Staff Salaries

Dawn Mentzer shared at budget time a 2% increase was incorporated for the CEO and Coordinators however no specific action was taken at that time.

Cecil Blum expressed concern about the difference in health care costs for employees between counties and what part this may play in salary and benefits. Rick Hecht reminded everyone the Board contracted with the employees at whatever their benefits were at the time the Region began. Rick posed the question to Regional staff if this was an issue with our employment. Staff responded it was not an issue.

Paul Merten made the motion to approve the 2% salary increases for CEO and Coordinators, Cecil Blum seconded. All in favor: Rick Hecht, Paul Merten, Dennis Bush, Neil Bock, Cecil Blum and Scott Jacobs. Motion Carried.

d. Regional Staff Contracts

The contracts have already been approved in the budget. The purpose for signing contracts is to allow for contractual obligation between Counties and the Region for payment.

Motion to approve CEO contract was made by Dennis Bush and to authorize chairman to sign the contract with Buena Vista County. Seconded by Neil Bock. All in favor: Rick Hecht, Scott Jacobs, Paul Merten, Dennis Bush and Neil Bock. Those opposed: Cecil Blum

Motion to approve the contract for Regional Social Worker was made by Scott Jacobs and to authorize the chairman to sign the contract with Carroll County. Second by Paul Merten. Those in favor: Rick Hecht, Scott Jacobs, Paul Merten, Dennis Bush and Neil Bock. Those opposed: Cecil Blum.

Motion to approve contract for Regional Coordinator Lisa Bringle was made by Paul Merten and to authorize the chairman to sign the contract with Cherokee County. Second by Scott Jacobs. Those in favor: Rick Hecht, Scott Jacobs, Paul Merten, Dennis Bush and Neil Bock. Those opposed: Cecil Blum.

Cecil Blum wanted it clarified he opposed approving the contracts only because the base salaries were not included in the contracts.

e. Mental Health Advocate

Discussion regarding HF 468 for the Mental Health Advocate. The Mental Health Advocate will be grandfathered in on July 1 and become the employee of counties.

The following options were discussed:

- Have each county be responsible for employing, supervising and compensate the Advocate. The concern was shared that no counties had budgeted for the Mental Health Advocate position so funds were not available within the Counties.
- Cecil Blum questioned whether we could make her a contract provider of the Region.
- Possibility of counties in the Region entering into a Memorandum of Understanding and have the Mental Health Advocate an employee of the Region.
- Regional consideration to hire their own Mental Health Advocate

The Board directed Dawn Mentzer to contact Roger Sailor to get a legal opinion on HF 468.

6. Date for next meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for June 17, 2015 at 2:00 pm at the Sac County Annex.

Motion to adjourn by Neil Bock, second by Cecil Blum. Meeting adjourned at 4:31 p.m.

Minutes recorded by Leisa Mayer, Lisa Bringle and Dawn Mentzer