



# Rolling Hills

## Community Services Region

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

### Governance Board

January 4, 2017 - 10:00 am

Sac Law Enforcement Center

### Meeting Minutes

**1) Call to Order – Vice Chair, Paul Merten**

**2) Roll Call of Counties – Introductions**

Buena Vista: Paul Merten

Calhoun: Scott Jacobs

Carroll: Neil Bock

Cherokee: Dennis Bush

Crawford: Cecil Blum

Ida: Creston Schubert

Sac:

Advisory Board Representatives: Pat Laursen

Rolling Hills Staff: Dawn Mentzer, CEO; Lisa Bringle, Leisa Mayer, Louise Galbraith, Coordinators;  
Rosie Stotts, Social Worker

Guests: Rich Ruggles (Carroll County Supervisor), Ben Shuberg, Ashley Miller, Karla Manternach,  
Maggie Johnson, Dianna Ossman, Patrick Schmitz

**3) Minutes of Previous Meeting**

*Motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented by Neil Bock.*

*Second by Cecil Blum. Discussion: None. Motion carried unanimously*

**4) Approval of Agenda**

*Motion to approve the agenda with additional agenda items of election of chair and vice chair, approval of Cherokee County Work Services contract, and vacation/extended leave of regional employee, by Dennis Bush. Second by Scott Jacobs.*

*Discussion/changes to agenda: Additional agenda items: Election of Chair and Vice Chair; vacation payout of employee, Cherokee County Work Services contract.*

*Motion carried unanimously*

**5) Old Business**

**a) Legislative Forum Recap from Board**

Cecil Blum reported that he did not perceive any major changes to mental health funding from the legislators. Pat Laursen thought there was good representation of providers and that the point of the providers working with and needing the regions got across. Neil Bock thought the legislators that were in attendance left with the understanding that there are necessary funding changes that need to be addressed this next session and the meeting went well.

Discussion of the levy inequity was held.

**b) Stepping Stones Update – Wesco**

Wesco provided a written update as they were not able to be in attendance. Since opening there have been 978 bed days and they are currently at full capacity. 11 clients have been served in 4 months with 4 discharges. 3 people have had delayed placements for various reasons (waiting for HUD, SSI, apartment approval). 4 persons are currently on the waiting list. Stepping Stones is now fully staffed with 8 staff.

**c) Turning Point Update – Ashley Miller**

Ashley Miller gave an overview of the program for new county supervisors who were in attendance. 82 clients have been served since opening in February 2016, 7 have been readmitted, and 2 were from other regions. Referrals are coming from other regions, but they have not been appropriate. Dawn commented that Northwest Iowa Care Connections sent a complimentary letter of how well Ashley and Turning Point helped their consumer that was served. Ashley has been communicating with the crisis home in Clarinda and they are working toward starting a coalition of crisis homes.

**d) FY'18 Budget Discussion**

\$32.67 per capita was settled on at the board meeting in November. There could be increases or changes to the proposed budget due to insurance rates that have not been set by counties yet, and the yearly audit is also now included. Total budget projection is \$3,439,362.00. Projected ending balance for FY18 is \$3,165,816 or 92%. Regional reserves will be utilized to make up the revenue shortfall.

*Neil Bock made a motion to approve the budget as presented. Second by Cecil Blum. Discussion: Neil commented that having this approved in early January will help the counties with their budget process. Motion carried unanimously.*

**E. Nomination of Chairman and Vice Chairman**

*Paul Merten nominated Rick Hecht as Chairman. Cecil Blum moved to cease nominations, second by Neil Bock. Motion carried unanimously. Rick Hecht appointed Chairman for 2017. Scott Jacobs nominated Paul Merten as Vice Chairman. Cecil Blum moved to cease nominations, second by Dennis Bush. Motion carried unanimously. Paul Merten appointed Vice-Chairman for 2017.*

**F. Employee request/extended leave**

Linda White, Dawn Mentzer's administrative assistant in Buena Vista County, was on worker's compensation (sick leave) and unable to use vacation before her anniversary date. Linda requested to forfeit the excess vacation time of 65.5 hours. The Buena Vista County Board

would like to pay out the amount, however, her salary is paid by the Region so they would like direction from this board. Dawn estimates the amount to be \$1,310. Creston Schubert asked if this would be setting a precedent. Paul Merten said this is only the second request in Buena Vista, and it is looked at on a case by case basis. This was an extenuating circumstance due to a workman's compensation case. Regional staff follow the policy of the county which employs the person. Neil Bock appreciates Buena Vista County bringing this to the Board. The consensus of the board is to pay Linda the unused vacation time.

**G. Cherokee County Work Services Contract approval**

Cherokee County Work Services would like to amend their contract to include a rate for a full day of adult day habilitation services. This has come forward due to the elderly waiver reducing the amount of services they will fund. Cherokee County has funded this in the past, and it will not increase the budget at this time. Dawn Mentzer does not have the contract today, so if approved it will be signed at the February meeting by Chairman Hecht.

A motion to amend the contract by Dennis Bush. Second by Paul Merten. Discussion: Neil Bock has an issue that this may be opening the floodgate. Motion carried 5-1. Yea: Paul Merten, Creston Schubert, Cecil Blum, Scott Jacobs, Dennis Bush. Nae: Neil Bock.

**6) New Business**

**a) Telepsychiatry needs/regional funding- Karla Manternach/Jim Coats from Counseling Services, LLC**

Karla Manternach provided an overview of the request. The request is to potentially fund Telepsychiatry \$19,840 to fill the gap while the program/provider is credentialed to bill insurance. They are also working with Berryhill Center which may result in not needing this request. To avoid disruption in services that are already in place, Dawn asked if the Region could supplement the current rate with PAMHC (\$80 increasing to \$200). Patrick Schmitz of PAMHC would be open to looking at a way to make an arrangement. Neil Bock asked if PAMHC would be open to change the contract (the no compete clause). Patrick would not be open to this as it would reflect on other contacts. Neil asked Karla if the \$80 currently paid would offset the new amount (with Insight). Karla said this is the gap when they could not bill insurance during the credentialing period. If the credential process went quicker they would not request as much. Creston Schubert noted the cheapest option is to pay the difference with the PAMHC provider until the other option with Berryhill is available. Dawn would like to delay action on this request until next month when Rick Hecht is present for a full board, and it would also give a month for other options to be worked out with PAMHC. Cecil Blum is fine with paying a difference as long as there is a sunset clause. Scott Jacobs asked if there are any reserve from the block grants that can help with this. Karla reports that there is not a reserve. Neil Bock would like to wait, does not want to be a catchall for those (providers) in financial straits, and that PAMHC would make a change in policy or give Berryhill time for that option. Karla wanted to bring this to the board but not necessarily looking for a decision today.

**7) Date and time of next meeting**

Wednesday, February 22, 2017 at 2 pm, Sac City Law Enforcement Center

*Motion to adjourn at 11:50 am by Dennis Bush. Second by Neil Bock. Motion carried unanimously.*