



Rolling Hills

Community Services Region

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

Governance Board

August 1, 2018 – 1:30 p.m.

Howard Center – Harry Rasmussen Building, Sac City

Meeting Minutes

1) Call to Order – Chair, Rick Hecht

Closed session Chapter 21.5(1)(i) of the 2015 Code of Iowa - To evaluate the professional competency of an individual whose appointment, hiring, performance, or discharge is being considered when necessary to prevent needless and irreparable injury to that individual's reputation and that individual requests a closed session.

Motion to go into closed session by Cecil Blum at 1:35 p.m. Second by Scott Jacobs. Motion carried.

Motion to go out of closed session by Cecil Blum at 1:53 p.m. Second by Dennis Bush. Motion carried.

2) Roll Call of Counties – Introductions

Buena Vista County: Paul Merten

Calhoun County: Scott Jacobs

Carroll County: Neil Bock

Cherokee County: Dennis Bush

Crawford County: Cecil Blum

Ida County: Creston Schubert

Sac County: Rick Hecht

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

Guests: Jan Heikes (DHS), Eric Weinkoetz (Manning Family Recovery Center), Lisa Meyer and Deidra Brown (Wesco) Sandy Pingel and Terry Johnson (Genesis Development), Pat Larson (Howard Center), Diana Ossman (Ida Services, Inc.), Leann Taylor (New Hope Village), Melissa Drey and Ashley Miller (Plains Area Mental Health Center), Ben Shubert, Theresa Magnuson and Clint Sargent (Crossroads of Western Iowa)

3) Minutes of Previous Meeting

Dawn Mentzer brought to the Board's attention that the minutes of the previous meeting need to be amended concerning the mental health advocate's salary. Sandy Sweeney is not an exempt employee and will be working up to 2080 hours at \$19.53 per hour rather than a full-time salary. *Paul Merten made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous meeting, as amended to change the status of the court Advocate, Sandy Sweeney's from exempt with a salary to nonexempt working up to 2080 hours at \$19.53 per hour.*

Second by Neil Bock. Discussion: None. Motion carried unanimously.

4) Approval of Agenda

Changes/additions: None

A motion to approve the agenda as presented by Scott Jacobs. Second by Creston Schubert

Discussion: None. Motion carried unanimously

5) Comments from the Public: Everyone will have an opportunity to speak. Therefore, comments may be limited to three minutes on any one item.

None

6) Old Business

a) Mental Health Advocate vehicle – possible action item

Dawn Mentzer addressed the acquisition of a Dodge Caliber which has been declared as excess equipment by Buena Vista County. The vehicle was appreciated out of the case management program and was purchased with Medicaid funds. The vehicle was fully paid for and then transferred to Buena Vista County. Paul Merten reported that a value has not set by Buena Vista County. Cecil Blum would support the board making a token offer to Buena Vista County for the Caliber.

Cecil Blum made a motion to offer Buena Vista County a token offer of \$500 for the Dodge caliber. Second by Creston Schubert. Discussion: Scott Jacobs asked if the \$500 is the offer unless they decide to donate it? Paul Merten asked if the Buena Vista County Board accepts the \$500 offer would it come off of the levy asking or come as a check? Rick Hecht replied it would be a check. Motion carried 6-1 with Paul Merten abstaining.

b) FY'18 Supported Employment Grant outcomes

Sandy Pingel of Genesis Development gave a brief report to the board on outcomes of the supported employment grant. Sandy called attention to the error in the report of a row of numbers that was omitted, resulting in the numbers being skewed, but close. Average hours worked is 21.98 at Genesis and 19.43 for Ida Services. Sandy gave a few stories of how the grant has helped individuals at Genesis.

Ben Shuberg from Crossroads also reported to the board. Crossroads has had a banner year concerning community employment. Due to the support of the grant they were able to have staff get out and find opportunities for community employment. Ben also gave a few stories of how the grant as helped clients find employment. About 23 persons are working with 16 as new job placements in Cherokee.

Diana Ossman of ISI, Ida Works reported that since so many persons are working and transitioning into community jobs, the can redemption center was closed in June.

c) Turning Point Update

Ashley Miller reported that as of 7/31/18, 209 persons served since opening, with 338 used beds, and unused beds at 578. The daily census since January 2018 is 2.28, and the average length of stay is 12.36 days. These statistics are on the same average as other crisis homes. Staff have completed C3 de-escalation training and they felt it was beneficial. Ashley is meeting with various hospitals and providers concerning referrals. There has been an increase with referrals from Northwest Iowa Care Connection region and she is working with CSS region on an admission. A contract was received from United Health Care, and changes were made to be ready to bill United Health Care and IME. They are waiting for the other MCO to send a contract.

Cecil Blum expressed concern that the home is at 1/3 capacity and some days there would be more staff than clients, would that be financially sustainable? Ashley responded that the goal is to increase the census, they never know when referrals will come and staff will be needed, and some times staff is needed based on behaviors of person(s) served. Referral information and brochures were sent to all hospitals in Iowa and South Dakota, and now working on face to face meetings.

Cecil Blum asked if there is a reason why they are not referring? Ashley said it is lack of awareness of the program and that is why they are marketing heavily. They are also keeping track of all the reasons why persons have not been admitted.

Neil Bock commented that a face to face meeting (with referral sources) is of utmost importance.

d) Stepping Stones Update

Lisa Meyer reported a total of 54 admissions, with 4303 bed days and 119 referrals since opening. Current census is 5 with a person admitting to the 6th bed. Lisa is currently working on 2 referrals from Manning Family Recovery Center and one from Turning Point. Average stay is 76 days. Referrals come from PAMHC, Turning Point, Manning, Coordinators, hospitals and care centers. Two new staff have been hired and are in training. Lisa is working on the annual report and will come with more specifics on discharges, where persons have gone and how they are doing. The emergency bed stays full.

7) New Business

a) Fiscal Year 2017 Audit recommendations

Dawn forwarded a copy to the Board of the report. The only deficiency was segregation of duties as was last year. There was a recommendation of periodic review of claims by board members, and that expenditure and revenues be provided monthly and Dawn will forward that monthly to the board with the monthly claims. A hard copy will be sent to each county auditor and also an electronic copy will be sent to providers if requested.

b) Jan Heikes, Iowa Department of Human Services, MHDS Division

Jan Heikes reviewed legislative changes introduced this year. SF2418 changed code 223.89. Polk County is the only county exempted from a region and there is not a possibility to be exempt. No less than 3 counties per region, counties have to be contiguous and director does not have the ability to approve new regions. Gave the ability for DHS to work with counties

without a region but if they can't work it out DHS can assign them to a region. For counties joining a region they will assume the per capita expenditure target of that region.

Discussion:

Rick Hecht stated that we are looking at Woodbury joining in July 2019 with a contract and MOU that needs to be fulfilled. Jan responded that it needs to be done in a timely manner with consumers and provider contracts and so forth. Rick Hecht replied that there is a time frame set and expects that it will happen timely.

Cecil Blum inquired if there is an appeal process if a county is assigned by the director, and the assigned region does not want the county to join. Jan Heikes suggested having an attorney look at it but it appears there is not an appeal process.

Rick Hecht asked if a county is assigned to a region will they fall under the current 28E of the assigned region? Jan Heikes will double check this, but it is her understanding that is true.

Neil Bock – if Woodbury doesn't meet the MOU and they are told no (they cannot join the region) and they become an orphan county, the director will assign, at that point would they fall under the 28E or negotiate? Jan Heikes will take that question back for an answer.

Rick Hecht asked that Jan take the feeling of the board back to DHS that the existing 28E will be followed.

Dennis Bush asked if assigned, is there a provision that if they come in without adequate funds is there some kind of an adjustment they can use to raise the levy for a few years to raise funds and be on equal footing? Jan Heikes responded that is something to be decided by the counties.

Cecil Blum asked if there was an orphan county that is broke they could be assigned as a monetary burden to a region. Jan Heikes responded that yes, that happened when regions were developed.

Neil Bock stated there should be financial equity.

8) Schedule next meeting – September 19, 2018 2:00 p.m.

Motion to adjourn at 3:05 pm by Dennis Bush. Second by Neil Bock.

Motion carried