



Rolling Hills

Community Services Region

Governance Board Meeting

Cobblestone Inn and Suites, Holstein

*Face to Face Meeting attendance available for those who wish to attend in this manner.
Social distancing and the wearing of face coverings is encouraged.*

August 26, 2020 – 2:30 p.m.

Draft Minutes

- 1) Call to Order –Chairman, Paul Merten**
- 2) Roll Call of Counties – Introductions**

Buena Vista: Paul Merten

Calhoun: Scott Jacobs (via phone)

Carroll: Neil Bock (via Zoom)

Cherokee: Dennis Bush

Crawford: Cecil Blum

Ida: Creston Schubert

Sac: Brent Wilhelm

Woodbury:

Advisory Board Voting Members: Joleen Schmit, Parent Representative, Joan Hansen, AEA

Advisory Board non-voting member: Kim Keleher, PAMHC

Regional Staff: Dawn Mentzer, CEO; Leisa Mayer, Lisa Bringle, Theresa Jochum, Julie Albright, Coordinators

Staff present by Zoom: Cindy Wiemold, Woodbury County Mental Health Advocate

Guests: Clarence Siepker, Pocahontas County Supervisor; Alex Leu, Fonda Police Chief; Allison Hauser, CSS Region, Diana Ossman, Teresa Magnussen, Crossroads; Ashley Miller, Melissa Drey, PAMHC

Guest present by Zoom: Trey Weaver, Joel Peterson, Sheila Martin, Nicky Eaton, SMHC; Anita Schlender, Imagine the Possibilities; Kelle Wedeking, Child Care Provider Rep; Brittany Krause, Seasons Center; Steve Kremer, Juvenile Court Services; Shawn Fick, Goodwill; Todd Lange,

Amerigroup; Amy Riesberg, Counseling Services; Cindy Duhrkopf, Partnership for Families; Jessica Stangl, Clay Adams, Deidra Brown, Wesco.

3) Minutes of Previous Meeting

Dawn stated the balance from last month will increase due to a county sending funds after the report was developed for the last meeting. This will be reviewed during the financial report discussion. A motion by Wilhelm to approve the minutes of the previous meeting as presented. Second by Bush with amended change to the ending balance. Discussion: none. Motion approved unanimously

4) Approval of Agenda

Additions/changes: none requested

A motion to approve the agenda as presented by Blum, seconded by 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) Unfinished Business

a) Monthly Financial Report – Action

Dawn shared the financial report which showed the amendment Dawn mentioned during the approval of minutes.

Previously reported June 30, 2020 balance: \$4,084,846.35 (Buena Vista increased by \$1,220.08 due to timing of tax apportionment.

Cash balance as of July 1, 2020: \$4,086,066.43

Cash balance of as July 31, 2020: \$3,874,225.07

Regional Expenditures for July 2020: \$352,119.05

Neil asked about a response on a letter that was sent out on August 10 requesting removal of Rolling Hills from a collections agency. No confirmation has been received to date. Wilhelm motioned to approve, Bock seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

b) Stepping Stones Update – Status of Stepping Stones #2 Development – Clay Adams, Wesco

Jessica shared some statistics from Stepping Stones #1.

Clay provided an update on Stepping Stones #2. Upper level is complete and waiting for a review by the Fire Marshall. Lower level is starting to be remodeled. Clay has sent a request to Brian Wines for an exception to allow having 5 beds under Habilitation/HCBS. Clay would like to open in October but it will depend on when they are given the blessing to move forward with HCBS funding.

c) Status of ACT – Kim Keleher, Plains Area Mental Health

Kim stated that they began the hiring process on July 1 for the Clinical Team Lead. They are making an offer today for that position. There is a nurse practitioner who will be hired as well and her time will be split between ACT and clinic. Potential start date for ACT will be November. The SAMSHA model will be followed to meet fidelity standards for Evidenced Based Practices. They are working with Abbe Mental Health Center to move things forward.

Kim also stated with the CCBHC Grant, they are having to hire a lot of different people for the positions.

d) Access Center Update – Dawn Mentzer/Nicolle Eaton

Adult Advisory Board made a recommendation at the July meeting to have a sub-committee meet to visit about an Access Center. Originally, the Access Center was supposed to be an actual building but then decided to look at a virtual program due to the high expense of a physical model. Things have shifted back to possibly providing services at the Sioux Rivers Assessment Center to utilize bed space. Nicky shared they are looking for confirmation to have Access Center beds with Assessment Center beds to include sub-acute beds. Dawn will be working with Siouxland Mental Health to set up a meeting with DIA/DHS to look at being dually licensed. There will likely be some physical changes to the building to accommodate separate programs. A contractor will meet with Siouxland Mental Health Center and the Assessment Center to look at what a cost would be to make those modifications. They will also be looking into whether the zoning of the building would need to be changed. Sioux Rivers Region is open to working with Rolling Hills on this project as long as we are meeting access standards. This will need to be reviewed and negotiations would need to be made between the two regions. Paul asked for confirmation on what the physical location would look like vs the triage for a virtual program. This would include all eight counties in Rolling Hills. The triage would be done through MCAT (Mobile Crisis Assessment Team).

7) New Business

a) Appointment of Kelle Wedeking to Children’s Advisory Committee

Dawn introduced Kelle Wedeking as the newest member of the Advisory Committee. Deb Gimer has had to resign from the Advisory Committee and suggested appointing Kelle Wedeking. Kelle introduced herself and shared a brief background with the Board. A motion was made by Wilhelm to appoint Wedeking to the Advisory Committee, seconded by Bush. No discussion. Motion carried unanimously.

b) C3 De-escalation Training – Dawn Mentzer/Melissa Drey

Dawn received a request from Carroll County PD to have training in C3 De-escalation for his officers. Dawn suggested to open it up to all area law enforcement in our Region. At this time, Dawn has received nearly 20 responses for the training. It will be October 14 at the Carroll County Rec Center. Dawn will send out a second reminder for the training and include all Governance Board members. CARES funding will be looked at as a potential funder for this training.

Teresa Magnussen asked if it was appropriate training for providers as they could benefit from this kind of training. Dawn will ask the trainer if it would be of benefit to include providers with law enforcement.

c) CARES Act Distribution to MH/DS Regions - Process Discussion – Action

Dawn facilitated a discussion regarding the criteria on the use of CARES Act dollars. A copy of a draft application for the dollars was also presented. The Region needs to assure the funds are appropriately expended per the rules for the CARES Act as funds are subject to recoupment if not appropriated correctly. Dawn stated it is important to get the funds in the hands of our providers who continued to provide crucial services during the pandemic of CoVID-19. The request for funds must be directly connected to CoVID-19. This process needs to be laid out fairly soon looking at applications to be submitted by September 15. Documentation will be required in the application process to show the need and CoVID connection. Cecil asked who will make the decisions on who gets the funding. Dawn suggested a group to review the applications to make the decisions. Dawn opened it up for discussion.

Cecil was in favor of a committee that would be able to provide transparency in the process. Paul wondered about the ability to make the decisions to approve or deny these funds. Southwest Iowa Region has hired a firm to make the decisions.

Joan Hansen asked how the school districts would be notified of these funds to apply. Joan thought a September 15 turn-around would be difficult since we don't have a process in place. Joan thought if we could get the notification out to the schools sometime next week, an additional 2-3 weeks would be something to consider. Paul thought schools were offered CARES Act funds already. This will need to be looked at further. Joan suggested the enhancement of tele-health funds to connect the kids with providers.

Kim questioned the short time frame of being able to use the funds with an ending date of December 30, 2020. Moving the submission date later will make it more difficult to get the money used by the deadline. Brent reminded the group it goes back to March for expenses. Dennis also added that the Regions funds need to be used for mental health. Counties and cities have also received funds of their own that some of the additional expenses could be drawn from. Neil brought up the difference between applications for expenses that have already been expended prior to CARES Act and funding for expenses that are to come because funds are available. Cecil is not in favor of hiring a firm with Regional dollars to expend CoVID dollars. Cecil would also like to see a strong presence on the sub-committee since it is the Region who will have to prove the appropriateness of funds. Kim stated there is a provider pot of money to apply for through the portal. It may be a duplicate service from the portal and through the Region.

Brent volunteered to be on a sub-committee to look at applications. Neil suggested to add language that the Rolling Hills decision is final due to the short turn around time. Cecil offered the suggestion

to look at applications from providers who haven't received CoVID Relief funds. Cecil also wondered about private practices and how we get that information out to them. Dawn will look for a master list on the IME website to make sure all providers are getting this.

Cecil motioned to approve the application based on the recommended changes and a September 15 deadline made by Neil, seconded by Brent. Motion carried unanimously.

Notify Dawn if you want to be part of the sub-committee to review applications. Dawn will look at what other Regions are doing as well to review applications.

Cecil asked for clarification regarding school-based therapy and if we could fund it for the entire school year. Funds need to be incurred March 1, 2020 through December 30, 2020.

8) Schedule next meeting September 23, 2020 at 2:30 p.m.

Schubert motioned to approve the next meeting on September 23 at 2:30 PM, and seconded by Wilhelm. Motion carried unanimously.

Motioned by Blum, seconded by Bush to adjourn the meeting at 4:21 PM.

Minutes submitted by Lisa Bringle, Coordinator