

Eastern Iowa MH/DS Region
Governing Board of Directors Work Session
Scott County Administrative Center, Room 605
February 10, 2020

The MH/DS Governing Board of Directors Work Session was called to order at 1:01PM by Chair Beck. Beck, Smith, Sorensen, Willey, Hilgendorf were present. Irwin arrived at 1:12PM and Whitaker arrived at 1:20PM. Management Team present: Lori Elam, Becky Eskildsen, Lynn Bopes, Julie Tischuk, and Felicia Toppert. Fiscal Agent: David Farmer. Guests: Todd Lange, Todd Noack, Jill Westhoff, Mary A. Petersen, Waylyn McCulloh, Beth Stoffers, Tim Manning.

Chair Beck let the board know that there is a power point presentation today to review and update everyone regarding the FY20 Budget and the FY21 Budget. CEO Lori Elam let the board know that FY21 Budget has been developed as a four county Region; it does not include Muscatine County. Lori let the board know that Muscatine County is waiting on a decision from the Southeast Iowa Link Region regarding joining that region July 1, 2020. Lori and Fiscal Agent, David Farmer, discussed the following from the power point: the Legislative impacts resulting in fiscal challenges from the start of Regions in 2014 to present, the Children's Core Behavioral Health Services to be implemented July 1, 2020 and July 1, 2021, the FY19 Regional Unaudited beginning fund balance starting 7/1/18 to the ending projected fund balance as of 6/30/19, the FY20 budget and how the unfunded mandates began to impact the FY20 budget, where the FY20 budget stands currently, the 2020 Legislative Session regarding the Governor's Proposal (SSB 3116) and how that impacts the Region, the financial impact of a Braided Model on the counties in the Region, the MHDS Regions map showing what the current per capita caps are as well as what the caps would be if the Governor's Proposal is passed, \$38.04 Region cap does not support new mandated services in the Region, what the key budget assumptions are, and the 2021 Budget Summary. David Farmer reviewed a multiyear budget with the Governing Board for FY 21, 22, and 23. Discussion was held.

Supervisor Jim Irwin let the board know that he recently met with DHS Director Kelly Garcia and two Region CEOs to discuss funding for the Regions. He shared that he would like to find a per capita number that the Regions feel would work to sustain their services and continue to add new services. Once a number was reached, all of the Region CEOs and their boards would then propose it to the Legislators. His thought was to propose 2/8 or 1/4 of the one cent sales tax would go to mental health regions generating \$112.5 million and the \$80 million from the Governor's proposal would fund the adult services. The remaining dollars generated could go into a pool to use for the children's services to be paid out as the services were being implemented over the next few years. Jim has been asked by Legislators to put something like this together and he wanted to get input from the board to see if there is interest to work on this. The Governing Board asked that he add this to the agenda for the 2/24/20 Governing Board of Directors meeting to discuss further. Discussion was held regarding a Region wide per capita cap amount that might be accepted by the Legislators and to put this proposal together in a timely manner so that there is enough time to present it and consider passing it at the State level.

CEO Lori Elam let the Governing Board know that she has received a request to place a letter in the local newspapers highlighting the struggles the Region is facing and the positive services that the Region is

providing in the 5 counties. Supervisor Dawn Smith shared that the request came from Cedar County in hopes of correcting the misinformation that has been shared over the last few months with Muscatine withdrawing from the Region. Dawn asked if the other Governing Board Members would be in favor of signing the letter and putting it in all of the county newspapers to help educate people on what the Region is providing for the citizens in each county. The question was asked if there would be any objection to signing the prepared letter as a Governing Board. Chair Beck shared that he misunderstood that the document in the packet was going to be shared in the paper. He asked that he have time to read the letter again and felt that if there wasn't any issue everyone could email Lori by the end of this week if they are in favor of signing the letter. Chair Beck said that if there is a consensus, it would then go to the papers. Supervisor Willey felt that it would be helpful for the public to have factual information about the Region and the services it provides. Chair Beck stated that he felt the letter was factual for the most part but wanted to read it over again. Lori will contact the paper to see if there is a word limit to submit the document as a letter to the editor.

Other Items: None

Meeting Adjourned: 2:59 PM

Dawn Smith, Secretary
Eastern Iowa MH/DS Region