

Eastern Iowa MH/DS Region
Governing Board of Directors Meeting
Scott County Administrative Center
Electronic
March 30, 2020

The MH/DS Governing Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 1:38PM by Chair Beck. Beck, Irwin, Sorensen, Smith, Willey, Hilgendorf were present. Management Team present: Lori Elam, Becky Eskildsen, Lynn Bopes, Julie Tischuk and Felicia Toppert. Fiscal Agent: David Farmer. Guests: Ed Askew, Beth Stoffer, John Rohlf, Richard Whitaker, Wade Stierwalt, Mary A. Petersen, Jill Westhoff, Jacie Wherry, Julie Jetter, Representative Mary Wolfe, Todd Noack, Cheryl Plank, Kelly Herd, Jen Tamayo, Jim Hayes, Ashley Velez, Senator Chris Cournoyer, Henry Maquard, Margaret Stadtwald, Angela Ganzer-Bovitz

Chair Beck asked if the order of agenda items #5 and #6 could be switched in order. He felt that one depends on the action of the other and it would make sense to change the order. Discussion was held. Moved by Smith, seconded by Willey to approve the agenda with items #5 and #6 order switched. Ayes- Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorensen, Willey.

Moved by Willey, seconded by Irwin for approval of minutes from the 2/24/2020 Governing Board Meeting and from the 3/16/2020 Governing Board Work Session. Supervisor Irwin noted that he struggles with the wording of the motion from the 2/24/20 meeting: to accept with regret Richard Whitaker's resignation as an Ex-Officio member of the Governing Board. He felt the word regret should not be in the motion. Supervisor Willey commented that is what he said when he made the motion. Supervisors Sorensen and Beck both felt that it accurately reflects what was said and Supervisor Smith had no comment. Ayes-Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorensen, Willey.

David Farmer presented the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balances sheet ending 2/29/20 to the Governing Board. Farmer reviewed the current statement and let the board know that the Region has collected \$5,682,901.00 so far in revenue through the levies and miscellaneous fees and has had \$7,283,937.00 in expenditures. David let the board know that 2nd installment payments will be coming from the counties and will hopefully be posted by the next meeting. David also let the board know that he is monitoring the fund closely due to the impact of COVID-19 Virus and extending the property tax due date to April 15, 2020. David noted that in some areas it has been moved to April 30, 2020. David shared that that Scott County has collected 85% of the property taxes for the year prior to the COVID-19 Virus delay of payment. David will see where the other counties are with property tax collection when the March month end numbers are sent to him. David reviewed the Monthly Fund Flow Analysis. David is projecting a fiscal agent fund balance of \$609,503.00 as of 6/30/20. He reminded the board that with the delays in collecting revenue, this could affect his projections. David pointed out that Clinton County may need a draw of around \$240,000.00 to finish this fiscal year and pay bills for the first three months of FY21. He shared that Scott County remains committed to transferring an additional payment of at least \$800,000.00 to the fiscal agent fund but it may be in June due to COVID-19 and the delay of revenue coming into the fund. Discussion

was held. Moved by Irwin, seconded by Willey for approval of Regional Financial Reports. Ayes- Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorenson, Willey.

Chair Beck presented to the Governing Board a letter received from Muscatine County dated March 16, 2020 notifying the Region that they rescind their withdrawal from the Eastern Iowa MHDS Region, as set forth in letter dated November 4, 2019. Chair Beck asked for a motion to accept the letter and then said further discussion can be held prior to voting. Moved by Irwin, seconded by Willey for discussion only to accept the letter dated 3/16/20 from Muscatine County to rescind their withdrawal letter. Discussion was held. Chair Beck explained that each county spoke with their county attorney on their interpretation of whether or not Muscatine County can rescind the November 4, 2019 letter to withdraw and stay in the Region. Scott, Cedar, and Jackson County Attorneys' stated that the November 4, 2019 letter was voted on and accepted. By voting on the letter, it then became a contract and the 6/30/20 withdraw date still stands. There would need to be action in July 2020 for Muscatine County to then petition to come back to the Region. If the Region does not accept Muscatine County then it would go to DHS to make the decision. Clinton County Attorney stated that if the board accepts the rescind letter, then Muscatine would still be part of the 28-E agreement and can continue with the Region. The board asked Julie Jetter, Community Systems Consultant MHDS Division, if the board decides not to accept Muscatine County back into the Region how soon will DHS make a decision as to where they should be. Julie stated that DHS will move swiftly to take care of this situation. She let the board know that she will be notifying Director Garcia and Bureau Chief Theresa Armstrong of the decision today and they will notify the Region of their decision. Chair Beck clarified the vote as Aye accepts the letter and Muscatine County is in the Region. Nay is not accept the letter and DHS would then need to determine where Muscatine County is placed. Ayes-Irwin, Sorenson Nays-Beck, Smith, Willey.

CEO Lori Elam presented the FY21 Budget for approval to the board. Lori reminded the board that the budget is for 4 counties. Lori let the board know that the management team and Robert Young Center met and put together a budget with the directives from the work session held March 16, 2020. Lori walked the board through each crisis service area in the budget. Lori pointed out that training has been taken out of the budget, Peer Drop-In services and the JRJ position at Vera French will end but Peer Drop-In services in Clinton County will continue. Rhonda's House will be fully funded and Crisis Stabilization Residential beds will be capped at \$438,000.00. This will include a monthly stipend fee and a Fee For Service model depending on the amount of beds filled each month. It was discussed with the board that Robert Young Center will be negotiating and managing the crisis services contracts with each agency. Lori reviewed that the FY21 expenditure total is \$7,887,077.00 and is 97% of revenue generated in FY21. Lori shared that the budget has been trimmed and each individual county looked at their budget and trimmed as much as they could. Discussion was held. Chair Beck asked for a vote from the 4 counties in the budget. Supervisor Sorensen stated he would recuse himself from the vote. Moved by Willey, seconded by Smith to accept the FY21 Budget as presented. Ayes-Beck, Irwin, Smith, Willey.

Other Items: None

Public Comment: Ed Askew asked a question about the process with Muscatine County and how transferring of funds will work. Supervisor Irwin let Ed know that they can't address the question due to it not being on the agenda.

Richard Whitaker- commented in the chat feature that Vera French regrets the loss of Peer Drop-In services and the JRJ position. Vera French agreed to provide Crisis Stabilization Residential services on the pretense of an adequate base of funding. Medicaid reimbursement will offset some of the expenses but he feels that the cost he will need to continue operating is \$588,000.00 not the cap that has been set in the budget.

Todd Noack- due to COVID-19, he has had to deny one person at Rhonda's House. He is accepting people but has put in place a policy to keep the staff and residents there safe and will be screening referrals. Peer Drop- In services are moving to virtual sessions instead of meeting in person.

Dawn Smith- it might be helpful to put information regarding crisis services and mental health resources on the County COVID-19 websites and social media to assist people during this stressful time.

Jack Willey- Thanks to the management team and Robert Young Center for their diligent work with the crisis services and having services available to people. He is hopeful that the future is bright and not as bleak as some anticipate with the virus.

Meeting Adjourned: 2:58PM

Dawn Smith, Secretary
Eastern Iowa MH/DS Region