

Eastern Iowa MH/DS Region  
Governing Board of Directors Board Meeting  
Scott County Administrative Center  
December 21, 2020  
3:00-5:00pm  
Zoom Meeting

The MH/DS Governing Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 3:04pm by Chair Beck. Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorenson, Willey, Nauman, Cobb and Roome were present. Absent was McGovern. Management Team present: Elam, Bopes, Eskildsen and Toppert. Absent was Tischuk. Fiscal Agent: David Farmer. Guests: Amy Groth, Angela Ganzer-Bovitz, Charla Hollowell, Cheri Sexton, Cheryl Plank, Francie Tuescher, Jill Westhoff, Lisa DuFour, Mary Peterson, Mary Wolfe Yay, Novia Anderson, Richard Whitaker, Todd Lange, Waylyn McCulloh and other call in guests not identified.

Chair Beck informed the Board the Agenda Item IV could be taken off today's agenda, as action was taken at the October Governing Board meeting to confirm members from the Children's and Adult Advisory Committees to serve on the Governing Board.

Moved by Smith, seconded by Sorenson to approve the agenda with the noted change. Ayes: Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorenson, Willey, Cobb, Roome.

Moved by Willey, seconded by Irwin for the approval of minutes for the Special Governing Board Meeting 10/14/2020, the 10/19/2020 Governing Board Meeting, the 11/16/2020 Governing Board Meeting, and the 11/18/2020 Special Governing Board Meeting. Ayes: Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorenson, Willey, Cobb, Roome.

Lori Elam, CEO, updated the Board on the status of the CARES Act Funds. Currently \$2,240,516.66 has been awarded, which leaves \$618,563 still available. Lori is confident that all the money will be able to be spent. Clarification has been received from DHS that funds can be encumbered but the reimbursement might not be made until January 2021. This is due to some of the invoices not being able to be submitted until January, such as some of the school expenditures. Deadline for submission of claims to Scott County for reimbursement is 1/15/21, as the last claims payable date for January is 1/22/21. A question was posed by Todd Noack, Life Connections Peer Recovery Services, regarding when he could anticipate a situation getting resolved in which checks had been sent but were not received by Life Connections due to an incorrect address. Elam explained that she is working in coordination with the Auditor's Office to get the situations rectified. Elam complimented the Board on their efforts in distributing the money to help providers and school districts. Several Board members thanked everyone, especially Elam and Farmer, for their effort in distributing the CARES Act money.

David Farmer, Fiscal Agent, presented the Statement of Revenues, Expenditures and Changes in Fund Balance sheet and the Monthly Fund Flow Spreadsheet to the Governing Board. David reviewed these documents and let the Board know that the Region collected \$5,840,371 in revenue and has \$2,865,236 in expenditures as of 11/30/20. The current total fund balance is \$5,804,144. The Region's fund balance is \$1,387,429, which is partially due to remaining CARES Act dollars and that the distribution to RYC has not occurred as frequently as budgeted. David reviewed the Monthly Fund Flow Spreadsheet, and as of this meeting is projecting that there will not be any counties going into the negative during

FY21. At one time there was concern about Clinton County, but currently things are looking positive for Clinton. The projected fund balance as of 6/30/21 is \$5,629,866, which is 68.57%. It is hoped that the 2021 Legislature will address the fund balance issue. Moved by Irwin, seconded by Sorenson for approval of the Regional Financial Reports. Ayes: Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorenson, Willey, Cobb, Roome.

Lori Elam, CEO, presented an amendment to the Genesis Medical Center FY21 Contract. The current approved contract rate is \$663., however that rate is below the Medicaid rate for Genesis Medical Center; every hospital has a different Medicaid rate. To be consistent with the practice of reimbursing hospitals at their Medicaid rate, Genesis is requesting to amend their contract, changing the rate to their Medicaid rate of \$755.47. Moved by Irwin, seconded by Sorenson to approve the amendment. Ayes: Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorenson, Willey, Cobb, Roome.

Lori Elam, CEO, discussed how to approach developing the FY22 budget. She reported that the management team is working on preliminary budgets and is looking at the services where there is money budgeted in the "Other Services" category on the budget worksheet. Also, they are talking with RYC about the crisis system, including staffing and negotiated rates. Elam is proposing work sessions with the Board to discuss budget topics such as services, contracts, and any other areas of concern. Board members agreed that budget work sessions would be helpful. Elam will send out meeting invites.

Moved by Willey, seconded by Smith to change the January and February meeting dates and times to the following: January 25<sup>th</sup> at 1pm, February 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1pm. Ayes: Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorenson, Willey, Cobb, Roome.

Jill Westhoff, RYC, reviewed the financials as of 11/30/20. Mary Peterson, RYC, reviewed the metrics. She feels that COVID is affecting the crisis system. She discussed the impact of the ACQ with commitments, the usage of the pilot project in the City of Clinton and she anticipates that eventually it could be utilized in all 5 counties, the usage of peer support services and complimented providers on continuing to provide peer services virtually, and the decrease in referrals to the crisis stabilization beds. Peterson reported that Vera French now has provisional accreditation under Chapter 24 for the crisis residential stabilization service. She stated that the crisis system is working. Discussion was held. Amy Groth, Director of Business Development for Eagle View Behavioral Health, reported that on 11/16/20 the hospital opened 18 beds for ages 12-17, and will be opening 10 beds by the end of January for the ages 5-11. Peterson reported that on 11/13/20 RYC-Trinity Hospital needed to convert the adolescent unit (14 beds) to adult beds to meet the need for COVID positive adults on the behavioral health unit.

Lori Elam, CEO, presented the CEO report. In addition to the written report, she informed the Board that the Mental Health Court is expanding to Clinton and Muscatine Counties, and that the Board will be receiving a request for funding. She also talked about having learned some tips on how to manage a project like the CARES Act funding.

All agreed that it would be good to meet with the legislators via Zoom on 1/15/21. Lori will send out an invitation. Three points that Lori is suggesting for discussion are: would the legislators consider at least a temporary delay to the 40% fund balance language, delaying the start of some of the services that are required to be implemented by 7/1/21 and changing the residency laws to prevent someone from staying in Iowa for one night and be considered a resident therefore eligible for funding.

Other Items – Beck reminded the Board that there will need to be an election for Chair and Co-chair at the January meeting.

Public Comment – Rich Whitaker, Vera French, expressed appreciation for the COVID dollars. He reports 83% of services are currently telehealth due to COVID. The agency continues to see an increase in the need for services, and he anticipates the need will continue to increase significantly as there is a lot of pent up emotion. He reported 111 people were served by same day access in November. Prescribers can see people within 1-2 weeks, sometimes on the day. The Carol Center continues to provide curbside meals between 11:30am-1:00pm, and in November served 45 people in med management and 66 in the Clubhouse. He discussed a new approach available to treat depression, NeuroStar TMS (transcranial magnetic stimulation). They are taking referrals for this treatment. Todd Noack expressed appreciation to RYC and the care coordinators for the assistance and support they provide to guests of Rhonda's House. He reported that Life Connections is applying for a SAMSHA grant for a statewide consumer network.

Moved by Smith and seconded by Willey at 4:33pm to adjourn. Ayes: Beck, Irwin, Smith, Sorenson, Willey, Cobb, Roome.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Dawn Smith", written in black ink. The signature is positioned above a horizontal line.

Dawn Smith, Secretary, Eastern Iowa MH/DS Region