

The October 23, 2025, Mental Health/Disability Services of the East Central Region Governing Board (Disability Access Point District 7) meeting was brought to order at 1:01 pm. The meeting was located at Johnson County Health and Human Services, 855 S. Dubuque St., Iowa City, IA 52240 and by Teams.

Board Members Present: SHIRLEY HELMRICH, CHAIR DELAWARE CO | SAMI SCHEETZ, VICE CHAIR LINN CO | DIANE BRECHT ADULT PROVIDER REP | LAURA SEMPRINI ADULT & FAMILY PEER REP (TEAMS) | RON TIPPITT BENTON CO (TEAMS)

Board Members Absent: JOHNNY HILL LAW ENFORCEMENT REP | LORI SHEELER PARENT REP

Public Comment: None

M/S/C: Scheetz & Brecht to approve the October Regional Governing Board agenda.

M/S/C: Scheetz & Brecht to approve the previous meeting minutes of the Regional Governing Board.

No conflict of interest noted.

Deb Seymour-Guard requested approval of August and September claims for the Disability Access Point in the amount of \$361,392.14, and for the region closeout in the amount of \$927,007.60.

M/S/C: Scheetz & Brecht to approve the August and September claims presented.

Deb Seymour-Guard requested approval of the 1st quarter payment to the fiscal agent for the regional close out in the amount of \$6971.28 with 248 checks issued between July 1st and September 30th. For the Disability Access Point, approval for payment of \$5247.20 for the 1% access fee to Linn County Community Services with 179 transactions was requested.

M/S/C: Scheetz & Brecht to approve the 1st quarter payment to the fiscal agent and Linn County fee.

Deb Seymour-Guard presented the August and September Financial Reports including total revenues for Disability Access Point and regional closeout. August expenses were higher for DAP due to both August and September payrolls being paid that month. The region expects to have sufficient funds to complete closeout by December 31, with remaining balance to return to the State.

M/S/C: Scheetz & Brecht to approve the August and September Financial Reports.

Julie Davison presented the new Linn County MOU showing additional staff who have recently been hired, noting one employee has resigned and will be removed from the list.

M/S/C: Brecht & Scheetz to approve the new Linn County MOU with additional staff.

Julie Davison shared initial findings from the District 7 assessment conducted under the HHS directive. Staff completed 19 interviews with providers and stakeholders across various entities. The assessment identified key strengths, barriers, and challenges. A group session was held with providers, advisory council members, and stakeholders to complete a matrix of findings and identify priority goals for improvement. The next phase, due November 15, will refine these goals into specific objectives for the next 18 months.

Julie Davison provided an Advisory Council update. Applications for the Disability Access Point Advisory Council were reviewed and appointments made. The first meeting was held via Teams earlier in the day. The Council will meet monthly to build a cohesive group.

Julie Davison brought forward the discussion of the CEO position. The board had agreed to revisit the role after 3-6 months of operation. Staff recommended proceeding with the appointment, noting the transition to a single-employer model and reduced financial administration needs, with CFO duties to be distributed

among the CEO, program manager, and fiscal staff. The board expressed strong support for maintaining internal leadership.

M/S/C: Scheetz & Brecht to approve Julie Davison as CEO of the Disability Access Point.

Julie Davison reported on the 28E agreements with the 14 counties. To date, agreements have been signed by Buchanan, Jackson, Clinton, and Louisa. Linn, Johnson, Scott, Muscatine, Jones, and Dubuque have declined. Cedar requested a minor change that would require re-signing by all counties. The board is not in favor of making changes at this time. Julie will confirm if they'll accept the current version. Meetings with Delaware and Blackhawk are coming. With current signings, the two-county approval threshold is met. Based on information from HHS and the regional attorney, Julie recommended delaying the new governing board's transition from November to January to allow the current regional board to oversee the closing of regional business.

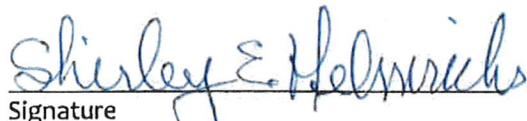
M/S/C: Scheetz & Brecht moved to approve that the existing board continue to serve until January 1.

The CEO provided updates:

Board and Staff Updates: Lori Sheeler, Rick Colpitts, and Jon Degen have submitted their resignations from the board. Two new individuals in Dubuque County were hired to support the transition from funding navigators to service navigators at Hillcrest, as required by HHS. Additional hiring is underway to support the Johnson County hub and southern counties (Des Moines, Muscatine, and Louisa).

M/S/C: Brecht & Semprini moved to enter closed session at 1:56 pm, pursuant to Iowa Code Section 21.5(1)(c.) to discuss strategy with counsel in matters that are presently in litigation or where litigation is imminent where its disclosure would be likely to prejudice or disadvantage the position of the governmental body in that litigation. Roll Call: Aye: Helmricks, Scheetz, Brecht, Semprini

The Board Chair ended the closed session and the meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM. These minutes were approved by the Regional Governing Board.



Signature

Shirley Helmricks, Board Chairman



Signature

Submitted by: Juli Cameron, Clerical Operation