

The October 28th, 2021, Mental Health/Disability Services of the East Central Region Governing Board meeting was brought to order at 1:08 pm. The meeting was located at the Durgin Pavilion at Camp Courageous, 12101 190th St. Monticello, IA 52310 and by Zoom.

Board Members: GARY BIERSCHENK BENTON CO | DUANE HILDEBRANDT BREMER CO | GARY GISSEL BUCHANAN CO | SHIRLEY HELMRICHS - DELAWARE CO | ANN McDONOUGH DUBUQUE CO | JOHN GAHRING IOWA CO | PAT HEIDEN JOHNSON CO | NED ROHWEDDER JONES CO | BEN ROGERS LINN CO | DIANE BRECHT ADULT PROVIDER REP | JENN DAY ADULT & FAMILY PEER REP | AMY GRASK CHILDREN'S PROVIDER REP | MELISSA O'BRIEN CHILDREN'S EDUCATOR REP (ABSENT) | ANGELA ZIMPHER PARENT REP (ABSENT)

M/S/C: Gahring & Helmrichs to approve the October Regional Governing Board agenda.

M/S/C: Rohwedder & Gahring to approve the September minutes of the Regional Governing Board meeting.

No conflict of interest regarding agenda items.

Diane Brecht presented an Advisory Committee update noting information on the Access Centers quarterly reporting was presented at the meeting and expressing that the law enforcement buy in has been exceptional. Mae Hingtgen informed the committee about the ECR Service Development and Expansion Projects. Next month Dr. Brown will provide an overview of skill system training offered by Amerigroup.

Julie Davison requested approval of September claims in the amount of \$1,575,829.54, with fund balance projects in the amount of \$33,599.89. There were 4 quarterly reimbursements. CARES Funds have ended.

M/S/C: Gahring & Gissel to approve the September claims presented.

Deb Seymour-Guard requested approval of the September Financial Report: FY22 budget revenue is \$18,451,633. Regular operations \$2,511,399 and Fund Balance Projects in the amount of \$93,039. Year to date revenues are \$7,996,305, Fund Balance Projects are \$1,356,896, and CARES Act funds are a - \$817,164 for a total FY22 revenue at \$8,536,036 (46%). Expenses regular operations are at \$22,517,570. For the month of September expenses were \$1,542,295 with year to date in the amount of \$3,564,746 (16%). Fund Balance Project budget is \$525,872 with September expenditures in the amount of \$33,535, totaling \$167,931 year to date. There were no CARES Act expenditures and final total is \$1,003,072. The overall budget is at 21%. Deb noted there is 4% of unbudgeted CARES Act expenditures that would reflect a 17% overall budget. Fiscal Agent cash balance is \$17,535,724.

M/S/C: Bierschenk & Gahring to approve the September Financial Report.

Deb Seymour-Guard presented the FY21 County Accrual Reimbursement Requests:

- Iowa \$1,243.50
- Delaware \$13,736.36

M/S/C: Heiden & Bierschenk to approve the reimbursements.

Deb Seymour-Guard presented the FY22 County Accrual Reimbursement Requests:

- Benton \$48,004.96
- Iowa \$18,309.60
- Dubuque \$96,358.95
- Jones \$70,284.31

M/S/C: McDonough & Helmrichs to approve the reimbursements.

Julie Davison presented the Bremer County Fund Balance Project request in the total amount up to \$1,000 for payment to Mary Foy and Brad Hjemland for counseling in the schools during FY21.

M/S/C: Gahring & McDonough approve the payment for the Bremer County Fund Balance Project.

Lucia Herman presented two Jones County Fund Balance Projects in the total amount of \$123,000. Requesting \$70,000 for Life Connections to hire additional Brain Health Therapists, retention compensation, and specialized training.

M/S/C: Heiden & Gahring approve the payments for the Life Connections Projects - 8 in favor, 1 opposed.

Requesting \$53,000 for Advancement Services of Jones County to purchase vans, employee incentives for retention and new hires, membership to Iowa Associate of Community Providers, and technology.

M/S/C: Gahring & Rogers approve the Advancement Services of Jones County Projects.

Jody Bridgewater presented several Linn County Fund Balance Project requests in the total amount of \$818,111. Fifteen organizations were presented with an explanation of each project and amount requested.

M/S/C: McDonough & Rogers approve the payments for the Linn County Fund Balance Projects.

Provider contracts and rates were presented by Ann Cameron Williams for A1 Taxi and Delivery, Challenge to Change for yoga and mindfulness program in the schools (\$160,000) and in the juvenile detention centers (\$54,947), New Insights Community, and Norse Transportation. Mae Hingtgen noted the funding for Challenge to Change is a quarterly amount, with total fiscal year funding in the amount of \$214,000.

M/S/C: Rohwedder & Heiden to approve the contracts and rates.

Abbey Ferenzi provided the 1st quarter utilization data update for both Access Centers. The presentation included number of encounters, data on Crisis Stabilization, Medically Monitored Withdrawal, Sobering, Law Enforcement, and Diversion. Information shared on where people would have been served if not for the Access Centers, also noting goals and challenges.

Mae Hingtgen presented a proposal from Hillcrest for A New Day Walk-in Center. Mae mentioned this could be an access hub partnership with the Access Centers in Linn and Johnson Counties and would meet the identified needs of Dubuque County. The center will provide crisis assessment, de-escalation, and referral to other services. The funding request is to support extended operational hours. The total funding cost of this project is \$218,146.06 and \$113,796.36 would be the prorated cost through June 2022. Also noted there is an amount already included in the ECR budget to support access hubs. Review of outcomes and utilization data will be provided for continued funding.

M/S/C: Gahring and Helmricks to approve A New Day Walk-in Center Proposal.

The CEO provided updates on the following:

- Priority Initiatives – 1st Quarter
 - Noting there has been a lot of progress this first quarter.
- Service Development & Expansion
 - Updates on all 9 projects.
- Workforce Taskforce
 - Short term & long-term strategies being prepared.
- Children's Navigator Hire
 - Rashell Amos will start Monday in the Buchanan County Office.

The Board Chair opened discussion on the 28E Agreement section 4.3 Voting Procedures for Governing Board Members.

M/S/C: Gahring and Gissel to approve suspending the 28 E requirement, for a period of 3 months, that Directors may only attend 2 meetings per year via electronic means as long as in-person attendance is impossible or impractical per Iowa Code 21.8.

The Board Chair opened discussion on the RGB meeting location though the remainder of the fiscal year. An alternate location to be considered, while the primary location in Linn County has a mask mandate in place, is Kirkwood – Linn County Regional Center in Hiawatha at the rate of \$80 per meeting.

M/S/C: Heiden and McDonough to approve the meeting location at Kirkwood – Linn County Regional Center through the remainder of the fiscal year or until the Linn County mask mandate has been lifted and payment for use of the facility.

Public Comment: None

The meeting adjourned at 2:47 PM.

These minutes were approved by the Regional Governing Board.



Signature

Board Chairman, Duane Hildebrandt



Signature

Submitted by: Chelle Klootwyk, Administrative Assistant