



SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, APRIL 23, 2024

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board met in person at the O'Brien County Courthouse in Primghar as well as via zoom for those unable to attend in person. Those in attendance via zoom and in person included: Carl Vande Weerd, Kim Wermersen, Brenna Koedam, Sue Duhn, Joe Van Tol, Don Kass, Denise Driesen, Shawn Scholten, Dennis Vanden Hull, Tim Schumacher, Kim Keleher, Sherri Bootsma, Sarah Wurm, Crystal McHugh, Shelly Thomson, Christina Eggink-Postma, Cory Altena, Rob Aiken, Kimber Patterson, and Brianna Zandstra.

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS-

Wermersen welcomed the group to the meeting.

2. APPROVE AGENDA-

Vande Weerd made a motion to approve the agenda. Vanden Hull seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 3/26/24 MEETING MINUTES-

Altena made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as presented. Kass seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

4. GENERAL DISCUSSION/UPDATES: INPUT FROM REGIONAL STAFF, PUBLIC, PROVIDERS, ETC.

No discussion from anyone in the room or on zoom.

5. FISCAL AGENT REPORT AND REGIONAL EXPENDITURES-

Van Tol reported on the financial report. Vande Weerd made a motion to approve the fiscal agent report. Driesen seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

6. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS-

Kass asked about Lakes Lifeskills and the number of claims listed. Duhn explained it was several months of an empty bed at the IRSH that had not been invoiced. Koedam confirmed providers are finally submitting invoices for those previously approved services. Kass made a motion to approve claims as listed. Vanden Hull seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

7. SEASONS CENTER QUARTERLY REPORT-

Wurm, from Seasons Center, reported on the quarterly report and the number of individuals receiving services this fiscal year. There have been thirty-six mobile crisis individuals, one hundred eighty-six talk line individuals, and two community crisis service individuals served so far, this fiscal year. There have also

been eleven referrals to crisis stabilization services this fiscal year. Wurm shared a recent success story regarding mobile crisis. Seasons Center was called out for a suicide of veteran. The family was stabilized on the scene. Seasons Center staff worked with the family into the next day and attended the funeral to assist the family. The family stated they would not have made it through time without the assistance provided by mobile crisis. Seasons Center did collaborate with Plains Area as well. Koedam confirmed the process worked as it was supposed to, and the provider response was great.

8. IRSH REDESIGNATION-

Koedam worked with Linda at Lakes Lifeskills to work on IRSH redesignation. One February 22, 2024, the redesignation was completed. Currently there are 8 beds, but in FY25 it will likely be lowered to 7 beds. Koedam discussed the one house has a basement room with separate entry and kitchen. Linda and Koedam will continue conversations about how this space may look and be utilized differently in FY25.

9. PLAINS AREA MOBILE CRISIS START-UP COSTS-

Koedam discussed this was a follow up to the last meeting. Plains Area will be doing Plymouth County mobile crisis starting July 1, 2024. The money paid in FY24 will get the staff hired and the northern team ready to start by July 1 and not have to wait six months to get the program up and running at the start of FY25. Keleher discussed the need for a second team as the territory is getting too large to respond in that area. Plains Area also needs to move to a two-person team and therefore will need additional staff for the service and to promote the mobile crisis services. Keleher did state the regions will still be responsible for crisis residential services even if the state gets the demonstration grant. Kass made a motion to approve the funds to Plains Area in FY24 to begin hiring staff for the northern mobile crisis team. Schumacher seconded the motion. Vanden Hull asked about the startup costs and if Seasons Center had been provided with the same opportunity. Duhn confirmed they weren't really start up costs as they are coming out of the FY25 service costs in order to get staff hired to begin July 1, 2024. The motion carried with all ayes. **Approved amount \$322,383.**

10. FUNDING REQUESTS-

Koedam discussed the request by the board last month to ask for a per capita amount. The per capita amount decreased the total by a minimal amount. Koedam did state there will be another request from Crittenton Center in May as it came to her after the board packet went out last week. Bootsma believes we should pay them the full amount since Care Connections was out of funds and did not pay. Bootsma made a motion to approve the original ask of \$10,298. Schumacher seconded the motion. Kass asked how many kids are being served from our region. It was confirmed it was two kids this fiscal year. Eggink-



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Postma did state there have been twenty-three kids over the last three years for over 415 days. Hearing o additional discussion the motion carried with all ayes. **Total Approved Amount \$10,298**

Koedam reported on the request from Life Skills in Plymouth County. Shelly asked Koedam to reconsider the training costs requested at the last meeting. Shelly told Koedam the training costs had not been budgeted as the region had always paid them. Koedam did have a conversation with Shelly that going forward she can not reply on the region to pay those costs. Vande Weerd made a motion to approve the request for \$1,450 for the training costs. Schumacher seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. **Total Approved Amount \$1,450.00**

11. STAFF RESIGNATION-

Koedam reported on the staff resignation. McHugh resigned her position effective May 3, 2024. At this time Will and Zandstra will be taking over that caseload until more is known about what will happen going forward. Koedam would like the board to think about incentives to keep staff throughout this next year. Koedam would like an incentive for Zandstra and Will for the final quarter additional work as well. Koedam would like to see a quarterly incentive for staying at least the first two quarters in FY25. Koedam wants the board to think more on this as additional discussion in the May meeting. Koedam is not suggesting a hire at this time due to the end of regions in a year. Wermersen thanked Crystal McHugh for her service and wished her nothing but the best. Koedam will send an email to all contracted providers, local emergency rooms, and law enforcement notifying of the change in service coordinator. Schumacher made a motion to accept the resignation. Kass seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

12. KEVIN HINES REFLECTION-

Koedam had many people reach out to her after the Kevin Hines presentations over wishes they were able to attend. Koedam said roughly 2,200 high school students and staff were in attendance over those two days. It was touching to have 700 kids in one room and watch the power in that room. One of the students in one of the performances had asked how to cope with negative body image. Hines responded in a direct and positive way. He shared an email the next day from a student that had taken time to write an email sharing a positive outcome from a student about an answer to a question asked by that student. Wermersen shared about another student that came to Hines at that meeting sobbing, wanting to know



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what she should say to her sister her is struggling. Wermersen stated if he saved just one person this was all worth it. Koedam thanked everyone for their efforts in getting him to the area. Scholten shared he was also on Rog's corner for a couple of episodes as well. Everyone in attendance said it was a wonderful program and great experience. The board discussed the need to include the eastern side of the region in the future. Koedam offered it to all schools, but the eastern side hasn't wanted to be involved. The board agrees this is important and would like to bring him back. Kass suggested partnering with Care Connections next time as well.

13. **BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BILL UPDATE-**

Koedam shared information regarding the behavioral health bill update. Koedam shared both the house and the senate approved the behavioral health bill. The state has proposed seven districts. Koedam shared the Behavioral Health Service System Transition Timeline as well as the Disability Services Transition Timeline. There will be an ASO over the agency disability resource centers, and an ASO over the behavioral health funds. It may be advantageous to have oversight over both. Koedam, Dawn, and Melissa have been talking with Elderbridge from the aging side and Rosecrance Jackson as the IPN provider in the region. The ASO's will be designated by December 31. The disability services transition looks to be a little quicker. Koedam is having open conversations with other regions to form a district. Melissa, Dawn, and Koedam have had many conversations about how to best align the regions into one proposal. Koedam will share additional information with the board as options come together on how we align ourselves going forward. The Governance Boards will be gone. Some regions right now are talking about individual counties of records as well as becoming non-profit agencies. Wermersen wants the board to fight for the people that we serve and the only way to do that is to continue to fight for the NW corner of the state.

14. **ADJOURN GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING-**

Schumacher made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kass seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 2:36 pm.

Sue Duhn, Secretary

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Sue Duhn".

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