



## SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

### GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025

The Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board met via zoom. Those in attendance via zoom included: Sue Duhn, Beth Will, Brenna Koedam, Carl Vande Weerd, Travis Sheridan, Kim Wermersen, Cory Altena, Abby Wallin, Don Kass, Joe Van Tol, Dennis Vanden Hull, Denise Driesen, Shawn Scholten, Sarah Heinrichs-Wurm, Sarah Jackson, Jami Van Voorst, Kimber Patterson, Kim Keleher, Barry Whitsell, Ray Wolfe, Mike Van Otterloo, Janelle Hultquist, Tammy Bruinsma, Todd Lange joined at 2:03.

**1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS-**

Wermersen welcomed the group to the meeting and called the meeting to order at 1:30 pm.

**2. APPROVE AGENDA-**

Driesen made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Altena seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

**3. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 12/17/24 MEETING MINUTES-**

Vande Weerd made a motion to approve December 27, 2024, minutes as presented. Vanden Hull seconded the motion. Kass abstained from voting as he was not in attendance at the meeting. The remaining members voted ayes.

**4. REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF 12/30/24 MEETING MINUTES-**

Kass made a motion to approve December 30, 2024, minutes as presented. Van Voorst seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

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

No discussion-

**6. FISCAL AGENT REPORT AND REGIONAL EXPENDITURES-**

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

**7. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS-**

Koedam shared the information about the withholding of funds for the third and fourth quarters. Vande Weerd asked what sustainability funds were within the claims report. Koedam shared those are dollars to maintain a service. Kass made a motion to approve the claims listed. Altena seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.



## SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

### GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025

#### 8. MONTHLY EXPENDITURE REPORT-

Koedam shared the monthly expenditure report for December. This is a report HHS is asking for monthly. Duhn will continue sharing the monthly expenditure report with the board.

#### 9. PROVIDER FUNDING REQUESTS-

Koedam discussed the first funding request. This is a request to provide an exception to the management plan to allow for outpatient services for flooding victims to be provided to individuals regardless of eligibility. This would be for individuals that have sustained trauma due to flooding. The request is for up to \$50,000 to be used for outpatient services for individuals with trauma from the flood. The request would be for a one-page application as well as a questionnaire to go with that application. Koedam would like to approve three therapy sessions, and an evaluation if one has not already been provided. This will work similar to an EAP service. This would be a contract addendum to the provider's contracts as a final contract date of June 1, 2025. Altena did ask if \$50,000 was enough. Koedam did state it was a starting point but could be increased if needed. Koedam also wants to make sure there are dollars for other provider requests as well. Koedam did state we could also increase the number of sessions if there were individuals that needed that, as an exception as well. Bruinsma did state her issues started as she got back in her home. Driesen is concerned about spring rains and individuals having some trauma there. Kass made a motion to approve an exception to policy to remove the eligibility to the management plan for this service as well as a contract addendum to approve the \$50,000. Vande Weerd seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes, except for Driesen who abstained from voting as a potential provider receiving dollars from this service. (COA 42305)

Koedam discussed the next funding request for \$30,000 for Creative Living Center. Creative Living Center has been going into the schools in Rock Valley, with a licensed provider, weekly to check in with students, teachers, staff, and administrators to let individuals share their stories and obtain additional services and referrals if needed. In the beginning teachers were dealing with their own trauma, teaching in rooms not in the school, and then dealing with kids as they came back to school. Vande Weerd made a motion to approve the request. Bruinsma seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. (COA 43301)

Koedam discussed four requests for education and training services. Koedam discussed Emmet County Emergency Management's request. They are asking for canine training and certification. The dog is currently being handled by Crystal Clark, an EMT in Emmet County. The request is for \$6,300. Crystal shared information about the canine. It was used for a kayaking rescue in Estherville this fall. The children rescued did not want to talk to anyone after the rescue. As they were petting the dog they began opening up and



## SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

### GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025

letting the EMT's assess them. The dog has also been utilized in the ER in Estherville as a distractor of stressors. The money would go to training from Canines of the Midlands. (COA 04422)

Koedam shared the Plains Area request. Plains Area is asking for training costs at a total of \$16605.24. This would be to train therapists in an evidence-based practice. (COA 04422)

Koedam discussed the next two requests. Both of those are from Seasons Center. Seasons Center is requesting CPI Train the Trainer in the amount of \$6,671. Heinrichs-Wurm did state the region did approve money for a trainer previously. This is to add another trainer to Seasons Center. Jenelle Hultquist did state Alex's Place did open this morning as of 8am this morning. The second request from Seasons Center is for Relias Training in the amount of \$15,000. Vande Weerd asked about paying for salaries to go to training and why that isn't part of the provider costs. Kass asked if any of these individuals are getting paid for a contracted service already. Koedam stated this was not the case. Vande Weerd believes the money for staff wages should be covered in the utilization the region is already paying for in other services. Heinrichs-Wurm did state they would be willing to remove the staff salary costs if needed. Instead of \$6,671 the request would be \$5280 due to a decrease in staffing costs. (COA 04422)

Kass believes this would be the same for Plains Area. But Heinrichs-Wurm suggested Plains Area keep their staff money as those are therapists and are losing productivity if they are training. Kass agreed this makes sense.

Vande Weerd made a motion to approve the training requests with the adjustment to the staffing with Seasons Center as discussed. Van Voorst seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Koedam discussed the final requests included in public education. The first request is Chalk the Walk from Healthy Sioux County Coalition. The total request is \$1,600. (COA 05373)

The next request is from Creative Living. The request is for \$80,000 to continue to fund Rog's Corner. Creative Living is asking for roughly half of the total request. (COA 05373)

Kass made a motion to approve four months of Rog's Corner at \$26,666 and Chalk the Walk at \$1,600. Vande Weerd seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Altena asked if additional funding requests would be coming to the board in the future. Koedam confirmed she made it clear with providers in the Provider Meeting that funding requests were due prior to the January



## SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS

### GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES

TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025

board meeting, and that no additional requests would be entertained due to timing and the need to amend the budget for any additional requests.

#### **10. OPEN MINDS UPDATE-**

Koedam discussed Open Minds. Open Minds is planning to provide training for providers, staff, board, etc. The training will be provided in March and April. These training courses have been opened up to Rolling Hills and Care Connections of Northern Iowa staff only. Ray Wolfe introduced himself from Open Minds. Ray discussed his background and experiences with health. Ray is willing to support the region in anyway he can. Ray will have a teaser of the training to Koedam before she terminates her position next week.

#### **11. DISSOLVING OF ASSETS PER 28E-**

There are seven vehicles, office furniture, and some computer equipment. Vande Weerd would like to see one of the blazers go to Wallin in O'Brien County if O'Brien County would like to pay a little for it since it is worth a little more. Vande Weerd believes the only assets we have are cars. The board discussed keeping the other blazer and the Rogue in Dickinson County as well as the blazer in O'Brien County and getting an estimate of the sale of the rest. The board discussed disposing of IT equipment and copy machines. Vande Weerd made a motion to dispose of all equipment unless a county needed the equipment to remain in a county. Van Voorst seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

#### **12. ADVISORY BOARDS UPDATE-**

Koedam discussed the Adult and Children's Advisory Board meetings. Those committee members decided to disband with the understanding they could attend the board meeting or provider meetings going forward.

#### **13. KOEDAM LETTER OF RESIGNATION AND TRANSITION PLAN-**

Koedam did state it is bittersweet to be leaving Sioux Rivers. Wermersen thanked Koedam for her time with Sioux Rivers and let her know how proud everyone is of her. Vande Weerd made a motion to give a severance package of \$5000 to cover miscellaneous expenses upon Koedam's resignation. Bruinsma seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. Altena made a motion to accept Koedam's resignation. Driesen seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes.

Koedam discussed the transition plan. Koedam will send a clean version to the board as well as HHS. Sarah Heinrichs-Wurm thanked Koedam for her management.



**SIoux RIVERS REGIONAL MHDS**

**GOVERNANCE BOARD MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2025**

**14. ADJOURN GOVERNANCE BOARD MEETING-**

Van Voorst made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Kass seconded the motion. The motion carried with all ayes. The meeting adjourned at 2:56 pm.

Sue Duhn, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Sue Duhn".

Sioux Rivers Regional MHDS Governance Board