



Present: Angela Youngerberg, Phil Claussen, Tom Henderson, Kathy Werner, Brian Buhmann, Sue Rynda, Cassie Sassenberg, Mark Shaw, Tamra Rovney, Naomi Ochsendorf

Others Present: Amy Haas, Gloria Smith, Jamie Grohman, Teri Herder-Blahnik

Mark Shaw called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m. Tamra Rovney was welcomed as the new Director of Public Health & Human Services for Sibley County. Her official start date is April 22.

Approval of Minutes: Phil Claussen moved to approve the minutes of the March 15, 2019 JPB meeting. Naomi Ochsendorf seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of Agenda: Sue Rynda moved to approve the agenda. Tom Henderson seconded. Additions to the agenda: Funding request added by Angela Youngerberg. Motion carried to approve the agenda with additions.

Public Comment: None.

Change of Vice Chair to Joint Powers Board:

The position of Vice Chair became vacant following the resignation of Brian Buhmann. Tom Henderson nominated Sue Rynda for the position of Vice Chair. Sue accepted the nomination, and Phil Claussen seconded the nomination. Sue Rynda was elected Vice Chair of the Joint Powers Board per unanimous consent.

RMT Report: Amy Haas reported on the April 17th RMT meeting that took place prior to Stakeholders.

- Reports given at the meeting included LAC, DHS & JPB updates.
- Members were provided copies of table tents to promote Mental Health Awareness Month in May.
- Data included in the 2016-2017 Legislative Report was reviewed and determined to be inaccurate.
- There was continued discussion about county data not being pulled by DHS via the SSIS method of data reporting.
- Discussed planning for AMHI reform.
- U of M students will distribute a test survey to 10 consumers (non-RMT members) at the Stakeholder meeting in preparation for their final project on program evaluation.
- There is an opportunity for MI&D training to be offered.
- Workgroup Reports
 - SET Committee – Final preparations for Stakeholders meeting took place. Stakeholder survey was updated. LuAnn Rasmussen is new committee Chair. Freeborn County will host Brown Bag Lunch on June 5th, and Brown County will host Brown Bag Lunch on Sept. 20.
 - Integrated Services – Presenters included Chris More of Mental Health Minnesota and providers of school-linked mental health services.
 - Crisis Committee – School-linked mental health providers from Sioux Trails and Counseling Services of Southern Minnesota spoke about their services. Their largest obstacle is finding a provider willing to work/travel to the rural locations in and around Faribault & Martin Counties.
- Rice County requested \$200 in flex funds to rent meeting space at the Senior Center during their clubhouse Mental Health Walk in May. The request does not fit criteria for flex funds, so Jamie will look for funding under 10-County Activities or education.
- The RMT approved a flex funds request for \$1,100 to assist a client in purchasing a new engine for her car. She already used several sources, including personal savings, to fund most of the \$5,300 bill.
- Horizon Homes Crisis Center open house is Tuesday, May 7 from 2-4pm. Statements from local and state leaders (including Amy Haas) will start at 2:30. A private open house will be offered to Case Managers from 10am-Noon and it includes a tour, Q&A session and lunch.
- Amy thanked the Joint Powers Board members who attended the Stakeholders meeting, with added appreciation for Sue Rynda's help in planning and developing the skit and Mark Shaw's participation on stage.

DHS Report: Gloria Smith gave the DHS report.

- Neerja Singh is the Behavioral Health Division's new Deputy Director. Stacy Twite was named interim Assistant Commissioner for Community Supports Administration. Anab Gulaid was named Deputy Assistance Commissioner. Steven Wilson is the new Community Relations and Engagement Specialist.
- Gloria responded to concerns about the cancelled AMHI meetings. DHS feels the meetings are no longer necessary following the addition of another Program Consultant position. It is expected that people will be able to receive assistance directly from one of the two consultants. JPB members are concerned that a line of communication to dialog about reform has been cut off. We need more information about what the reform discussions look like. Jamie added that AMHI Coordinators meet only twice per year, but those meetings are very helpful. Jamie requested that DHS provide additional regular, planned opportunities for Coordinators to communicate and prepare for reform.

March Vendor Report: Brian Buhmann moved to approve the March vendor payments. Sue Rynda seconded. Motion carried.

Data Improvement Grant: The grant was approved, but DHS decided to use CSP funds and then sent the money to Blue Earth County instead of SCCBI, creating an administrative/accounting challenge necessitating the addition of a 3% fiscal host fee (which was approved by DHS) along with 9 contracts with the counties. Some funds will go to ten mental health centers, with the majority going to Qualifacts to create software allowing CareLogic to interface with MHIS, hopefully reducing current data reporting challenges. The money must be spent by the end of June.

SCCBI Contracts with Counties: The contracts are not quite finalized. Jamie received recommendations for changes and asked Directors to review the recommended changes to sections 3a, 10b, 10c, 13a and 16. There was talk about adding a line referencing the JPB Agreement in lieu of listing SCCBI duties. Directors were asked to complete the contact information worksheet at the bottom of the recommendations list and return it to Jamie at the meeting's conclusion or via email.

AMHI Reform & Data Subcommittee Update: The Data Subcommittee is looking at creating an exercise to show what services will look like if there were a budget cut. The committee would like to know if County Directors are willing to participate. It was suggested that instead of focusing on and highlighting the worst case scenario, the committee start discussions about innovation and efficiencies that we have already created and show where we are going and where innovation has led to savings. Perhaps we tell DHS exactly what we need to continue to do great things and improve services. The subcommittee would like more direction from the JPB.

Community Based Coordinator Updates:

Le Sueur County – Everything is moving along status quo. The Sheriff's Department is becoming more accepting of the program. The CBC is working part-time in the jail and screened 18 people in February-March. Looking at all people who were screened, none of the people who chose to work with the CBC have returned to jail. Ten people who were screened but opted not to work with the CBC have returned to jail.

Brown County – The CBC position has been struggling to find its niche in Brown County. They are looking into ways to restructure the position because there does not seem to be a high need for diversion services in Brown County. The CBC has been trained in Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) which focuses on de-escalation of behaviors during law enforcement interactions. She has been assisting with this training with New Ulm Police Department and will soon be expanding to the rest of the police departments in Brown County. They have revised the position to be ½ CBC and ½ case management. Client engagement has been difficult due to clients and law enforcement not understanding the program. There seems to be some confusion with law enforcement that they are also working with adolescents. Fortunately, the adolescents they have referred were already working with a case manager in the children's unit, so the referral was diverted to the current worker. It has been a frustrating and slow process. But on a positive note, the CBC has built some good relationships with law enforcement.

Nicollet County – Screening numbers have been down in the jail. The CBC will move to the Sheriff's Department for ½ days to help make the program more visible. The Sheriff recently attended a LAC meeting to

ask for resources or contacts to refer families to following a suicide, and he was referred to the CBC. Adult Protection, Chemical Dependency and Vets Services are communicating better. A monthly newsletter was started to serve as a reminder about the program. It highlights statistics and successes. Melanie has started sitting at the back of the room when court is held in order to provide information to people. Since the program is voluntary, need to ensure the judge doesn't start ordering people to meet with her.

Rice County – The program continues to improve. The Coordinator is very active and connected in the community. The goal is for law enforcement to see the CBC as a useful tool to assist with their work. Her office is next to the Sheriff. At the program's onset, the CBC screened everyone in the jail. Twenty-eight of the first 31 people screened had chemical or mental health issues. There has been a spike in Rule 25's. The CBC performs all of them. As a testament to how well she is doing, the jailer wants the county to budget for someone to work in the jail to screen everyone. Outside of the CBC position, but worth taking note, Northfield EMTs keep a list of patients most frequently requesting emergency services, and they go out during their spare time to check on the ten who are most frequently seen.

Blue Earth County – They are turning their focus to data and looking at where they can improve. Currently, there are two FTEs at the "front door." Looking at recidivism data at three, six and twelve months following initial screening for the program; 6% returned to jail. The success rate for individuals who participated in a plan with a CBC is 82%. 81% were assessed as MI/CD. A trend is emerging of people reaching out to the CBC upon return to the community, after refusing screening while in jail. The CBCs are now tracking information & referrals, breaking them down by topic: housing, churches, counseling.

- Brown County Detox Center – Anyone picked up in Blue Earth County or living in BEC are being offered voluntary screenings (completed after intake when client is sober). Screenings are done over the phone and are initiated by the individuals who have been provided the phone number.
- 1 to 3-Day – Starting to look at offering CBC services that could be considered in lieu of electric home monitoring, bail, or complimentary to the court-ordered plan. This could add an additional 500 people to the program annually.
- 50/50 Concept – Still defining and re-defining but looking at 50% diversionary and 50% 1 to 3-day focus for the CBCs.
- Safety Plan – Safety plans are completed on anyone participating in Yellow Line Project.

Legislation: Sen. Julie Rosen is sponsoring a bill that would allow counties across Minnesota to start their own version of the Yellow Line Project. Under Rosen's bill (SF 1), DHS would get \$150,000 to award 10 grants of up to \$10,000 to counties setting up their own Yellow Line Projects. The remaining \$50,000 would go toward a county already running its own program in a one-time expenditure. Tribal nations also could take advantage of state resource to set up similar programs. The legislation would also make the services MA billable, and language was included stipulating that the county will not be held responsible for paying the State's share.

Crisis Text Line:

Canvas Health operates the statewide crisis text line and has allocated promotion of the text line to agencies who market the product within regional boundaries set by Canvas. Eight SCCBI counties are included in the region covered by Counselling Services of Southern Minnesota. Two counties are covered by Zumbro Valley. Laura Gaffer, newly hired Regional Coordinator from CSSM, spoke at the Crisis Committee and Integrated Services meetings. She explained that her role is to promote the crisis text line and facilitate QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) trainings, but she was unable to answer questions about who staffs the crisis text line, the wait time for a text response, the process when texter needs medical intervention, use of location services, Canvas knowledge of services in the region, intended audience of QPR trainings. Canvas Health did not provide Ms. Gaffer any detailed information about the crisis text line. She was provided the promotional materials and trained in QPR with the expectation to complete a set number of training each quarter. Cassie Sassenberg said she will reach out to Tom McNeely (Exec. Director of CSSM) to touch base about QPR trainings and mention our concerns about the lack of information Canvas shared with Laura.

Funding Request: Angela Youngerberg suggested that the SCCBI fund the cost of the lunch that Horizon Homes is providing to County Case Managers during the open house at the new crisis center on May 7th. Brian

Buhmann moved to fund lunch for the Horizon Homes Crisis Center open house event up to the amount of \$1,000. Sue Rynda seconded. Motion carried. Jamie reported that 12 people have registered for the private tour and lunch so far.

Brian Buhmann: Brian Buhmann was recognized for his contributions to the Joint Powers Board over the past 13 years. Brian informed the group that pending Board approval, Charity Floen is slated to serve as Interim Director for 90 to 120 days. Brian will request that she be appointed JPB Rep. for Freeborn County.

As there was no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:12 p.m.

Next JPB Meeting:

Friday, May 17, 9:00 AM – 12:00 PM, Nicollet County Human Services, North Mankato

Respectfully submitted,

Teri Herder-Blahnik, SCCBI Administrative Secretary/Office Support