



**MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING**  
**Northwestern Mental Health Center, Crookston, MN – January 5, 2018**

**MINUTES**

**Members present:** Brad Bergstrom, Jeff Bisek, Randy Bruer, Jason Carlson, Jim Guetter, Sarah Kjono, Catherine Johnson, Kathleen Johnson, Lon Jorgensen, Chris Kujava, Andrew Larson, Shauna Reitmeier, Shawn Yates, Ken Yutrzenka

**Absent:** Maureen Hams

**Others present:** Faye Auchenpaugh; Colleen MacRae

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 9:30 am by Randy Bruer, Chairman.
2. **Agenda: M/S/C:** (Carlson/Kujava) to approve the agenda with addition of “Posting Minutes on Website” and “School-Linked Mental Health Grant.”
3. **Approval of minutes of December 1, 2017: M/S/C:** (Jorgensen/Bergstrom) to approve.
4. **Financials and Bills:**  
**Action: M/S/C:** (Bisek/Jorgensen) to approve payment of December 2017 invoice for facilitator services and November and December 2017 NW Mental Health Center invoices for Colleen MacRae’s services. Reitmeier abstained.
5. **Grant Opportunities and Reports:**
  - **21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers:** Bruer reported that programming is going well, but it is difficult to get high school students involved.
  - **Improving Student Health and Academic Achievement through Nutrition, Physical Activity and the Management of Chronic Conditions in Schools:** Department of Health and Human Services has issued this RFP for which state education agencies are eligible. They expect to award 20 grants nationally. MacRae suggested that our member districts reach out to the Minnesota Department of Education if they are interested in participating. Applications due March 5.
  - **Cargill Foundation and Homeless Youth:** Catherine Johnson was excited to announce that while the application for the HUD homeless youth grant was not awarded, the project garnered the interest of the Cargill Foundation. Cargill would like to fund the project with community action agencies in Northwest Minnesota via state flow-through dollars, and it appears the state is willing and will remain as hands-off as possible. Homeless supportive monies already go through Mahube, so that mechanism is in place. The focus will be on youth ages 14-24 with the goal of preventing homelessness among this population. While there are many details to work out yet, it should be operational within the next few months. Reitmeier said this could lead to making internal changes without our organizations that could lead to systemic change.
  - **School-Linked Mental Health:** Reitmeier said the NW Mental Health Center is in the final stages of writing this proposal (will submit next Friday) to the MN Department of Human Services (DHS). Pennington and Roseau County schools have asked to be involved in addition to the majority of those in the NWMHC service area. The challenge is that the state wants expansion, but is providing no additional funding, with a big emphasis on maximizing resources in partnership with schools. NWMHC is already doing that, and there are no further resources available in our area. In fact, our current program is being looked at by DHS and other grantees for its use of existing workforces in schools and other resources. This is the grant opportunity for which the Governing Board approved grant writing support dollars at our December meeting and NWMHC is grateful for that. Bruer will write a letter of support on behalf of the Collaborative.
  - **School Crisis or Emergency Situation:** Bruer asked if there are any grants available in this area. Systems were put in place during the Safe Schools grant, but there have been staff turnovers since that time and crisis plans need to be reviewed and updated. Jennifer Olson, emergency operations planning director for the Northwest Regional Development Commission, works with communities in this field. Auchenpaugh will ask her to attend our February governing board meeting.
6. **“Family Navigator” funding:** MacRae has sent copious amounts of data to The Wilder Foundation and they are sifting through this data to develop a possible structure for moving ahead. They will then hold community-

based meetings to gather input from the ground level. The board will be asked for input on how we can get the appropriate people to these meetings. We should have a timeline from Wilder by March.

7. **Membership Directory:** Auchenpaugh asked the board to look at the 2017 membership directory provided in the meeting packet and note corrections or changes that need to be made. Changes: Ryan Baron, new superintendent at Tri-County School; Tim Anacabe, new director of Northwest Community Action; Mahube OTWA; and Norman-Mahnomen Public Health. She will be sending 2018 dues invoices out the middle of January.
8. **Dues Invoices and Meeting Minutes:** Auchenpaugh suggested that historic and current Governing Board minutes be uploaded to our Council of Collaboratives website. Once minutes have been approved, she will notify the membership that they have been posted. The board agreed and thought it would also generate more traffic to the website. Auchenpaugh will send MacRae all of the approved minutes with corrections.
9. **Next meeting: February 2, 2018, 9:30 am, NWMHC Community Room.**
10. **Meeting Adjourned at 11:00 am. M/S/C (Guetter/Kujava)**

---

**Faye Auchenpaugh, Facilitator**