



MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING
Northwestern Mental Health Center, Crookston, MN –March 2, 2018

MINUTES

Members present: Brad Bergstrom, Randy Bruer, Maureen Hams, Sarah Kjono, Catherine Johnson, Kathleen Johnson, Lon Jorgensen, Chris Kujava, Kristi Nelson, Shauna Reitmeier, Shawn Yates

Absent: Jeff Bisek, Jason Carlson, Jim Guetter, Andrew Larson, Ken Yutrzeika

Others present: Faye Auchenpaugh; Colleen MacRae

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 9:35 am by Randy Bruer, Chairman.
2. **Agenda: M/S/C:** (Jorgensen/Kujava) to approve the agenda as presented.
3. **Approval of minutes of February 2, 2018: M/S/C:** (Bergstrom/Yates) to approve with addition of motion/second/carried to approve payment of \$4,000 to NW Mental Health Center for grant writing.
4. **Financials and Bills:** MacRae will send the February NW Mental Health Center support services invoice out for approval via email.
Action: M/S/C: (Kujava/Jorgensen) to approve payment of February 2018 invoice for facilitator services.
5. **2018 Dues:** Auchenpaugh reported that dues are coming in more quickly this year. Invoices were sent via postal mail with the request that payments be mailed directly to the offices of our fiscal agent, Tri-County Community Corrections. Thus far, only three checks have been mailed to Auchenpaugh rather than the fiscal agent, which makes for more efficient accounting.
6. **Facilitator Office Hours:** Auchenpaugh requested approval from the board to conduct regular office hours from 8:00-10:00 am four days per week in an effort to better manage the part-time nature of the facilitator position. Approval granted.
7. **Grant Opportunities and Reports:**
 - **School-Linked Mental Health:** The Department of Human Services (DHS) is reviewing the grants submitted and is on target having notices of awards posted in March. Reitmeier reported that all Minnesota schools currently have mental health services under the MN Department of Education (MDE) that are administered by DHS. There is a movement afoot to have it administered by MDE so that funding doesn't get cut in the future. If we hear anything about this, that is the intent.
 - **Early Childhood Care and Education – Health Equity in Action:** The Blue Cross Foundation will provide grants of up to \$100,000 per year. Applicants can apply for one- or two-year grants and a total of up to \$1,000,000 will be available over two years. Successful applicants will focus on creating or contributing to systems change in early childhood care and education settings to decrease inequities. Work could include, but is not limited to, increasing the access and quality of early childhood childcare and education and/or supporting the early childhood workforce to meet the needs of Minnesotans. Applications must focus on: 1) Health equity, which is defined as a state where all people can reach their highest level of health; 2) Early childhood care and education, and 3) Systems change, which refers to intentionally changing parts of systems, structures, policies, or processes, as well as shifting resources, values, power, mindsets, and infrastructures to advance health equity. Applications must create or contribute to systems change rather than provide direct services. The Foundation welcomes applications that implement, continue, or expand proven approaches as well as those that develop and implement new models. Both new and existing efforts are eligible. Each organization may only submit one application for this opportunity. Fiscal sponsors may apply on behalf of other projects, as well as on behalf of their own project. The Family Navigator workgroup will look to see if this opportunity would work for our project, but we are not ready yet with our data. We will see if Tri-Valley Opportunity Council is applying and, if not, see if they would consider being the fiscal host. Deadline is April 10 with two application cycles per year.
 - **Small, Rural School Achievement (SRSA):** This is a formula grant from the U.S. Department of Education with an application period from February 20 – April 20, 2018. SRSA grant funds are allocated to eligible LEAs based on the following formula:
 - The number of students in average daily attendance, minus 50.
 - Multiply this number by \$100.
 - Add \$20,000.

- If the total is above \$60,000, this amount is capped at \$60,000.
 - From the amount above, subtract the sum of the allocations received by the LEA during the prior fiscal year under: a) Title II-A and b) Title IV-A.
8. **Meeting with Legislators at Capitol:** Bruer reported that he and Reitmeier were part of a group of sixteen superintendents speaking to legislators at the Capitol on March 1. The two big issues were school safety and mental health. Student violence is increasing in every part of our region. There is approximately \$330 million in state funds to work with, but more is needed. Currently, 78% of the state budget is spent on health and education. Kathy Johnson suggested that NW Mental Health Center staff come in to schools to talk with teachers on workshop or inservice days so that teachers understand what services are available and how to access them.
 9. **Family Navigator Workgroup:** The Wilder Foundation would like to compile a stakeholder questionnaire/survey in the next week and a half with the workgroup fine-tuning the survey. Respondents, which would include parents and guardians, would then have a two-week window to take the survey. The question is how best to reach this group of respondents – public health? Community action agencies? Wilder would also like a face-to-face workshop with staff and Collaborative members – a representative sample of “champions” – in April. MacRae has sent System of Care and Austin’s Success Coach job descriptions to Wilder.
 10. **Teen Homelessness:** Catherine Johnson reported Inter-County Community Council is working on this \$1.2 million Cargill Foundation grant which will roll out the end of this month. They will be focusing on youth who are “doubled up” – i.e., sleeping with various friends and families. They will also apply again this year for the HUD youth demonstration grant with a focus on LGBTQ training and assessment.
 11. **21st CCLC:** Bruer reported there are some “hiccups” in this grant project right now. Getting junior and senior high students to attend is a struggle, while at the same time recognizing that having this group involved gave us the extra points needed to secure the grant. The project director, Lenore Pietruszewski, is also feeling pressured through conversations with Eric Billiett from MDE.
 12. **Next meeting: April 6, 2018, 9:30 am, NWMHC Community Room.** The new UMC chancellor, Mary Holz-Clause, will be inaugurated from noon to 1:30 on this same date. All members are encouraged to attend.
 13. **Meeting Adjourned at 11:30 am. [M/S/C](#) (Kujava/Yates)**

Faye Auchenpaugh, Facilitator