



MINUTES OF GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

September 10, 2021

Via Zoom

Members present: Brittney Bimler, Randy Bruer, Jason Carlson, Aaron Cook, Jim Guetter, Catherine Johnson, Sarah Kjono, Karla Langaas, Donita Stepan, Kirk Thorstenson, Frances Tougas, Lisa Weber, Shawn Yates

Absent: Maureen Hams, Kathleen Johnson, Andrew Larson, Kristi Nelson, Shauna Reitmeier

Others present: Faye Auchenpaugh, Colleen MacRae

1. **Call to Order:** Meeting was called to order at 11:00 am by Randy Bruer, Chair.
2. **Agenda:** **M/S/C:** (Cook/Yates) to approve the agenda.
3. **Approval of Minutes:** **M/S/C:** (Carlson/Tougas) to approve the August 6, 2021 minutes.
4. **Financials and Bills:** **M/S/C:** (Weber/Guetter) to approve payment of the August 2021 facilitator invoice.
5. **Grant Opportunities and Reports:**
 - **BJA's STOP School Violence:** Auchenpaugh said that stipend reimbursement requests are coming in. Grant funds paid for two Threat Assessment trainings with a maximum of 100 participants in each. We can offer another training session for staff from any of our member agencies using the 51 remaining slots at no extra charge. The Advisory Committee will meet again in October to determine next steps. Weber had a question about using the staff, student and parent videos. Auchenpaugh will arrange a Zoom meeting with Dr. Dewey Cornell to answer questions.
 - **21st Century Community Learning Centers:** Waubun-Ogema-White Earth is working with Extension and White Earth DNR on an outdoor environmental/cultural program that includes indigenous learning, maple syruping, making outdoor ovens, doing soil and water sample studies, etc. The learners become teachers and the district is using lessons learned to create a 5th grade environment pilot program.
 - **Family Partners:** MacRae said DHS has been awarded a 4th year from SAMSHA through December 31, 2022. We now have three family partners who are CFPS and are planning to hire an additional one or two.
6. **RentHelpMN.org:** Carlson said this is the place renters can go for help with back rent and utility arrears. There is also a possibility for an advance for future rent. In contrast to the CHAP program from 2020 that was deployed in large part by Community Action, RentHelpMN is administered by a third-party vendor. Wait times have been extremely long and the backlog for payment is currently around two months. Minnesota does have an eviction off-ramp that can help protect renters with the help of Legal Aid. To get help with an eviction, it is important for a renter to have proof of application through the RentHelpMN website. Community Action is ready to help with applications, but their ability to shepherd the process has been severely curtailed in comparison to the CHAP program.

Adjournment: **M/S/C** (Cook/Carlson) to adjourn.

Next meeting: **Friday, October 1, 2021, 9:30 – 11:30, either in-person at the Alluma Community Center or via Zoom.**

Faye Auchenpaugh, Facilitator