



SOUTHWEST HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES  
GOVERNING BOARD

MINUTES

Date: June 15, 2022  
Place: Lyon County Government Center  
Commissioners Room  
Marshall, Minnesota

Opened: 9:28 a.m.  
Adjourned: 10:40 a.m.

The monthly meeting of the Governing Board for Southwest Health and Human Services was held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 in the Commissioners Room in the Lyon County Government Center Marshall, Minnesota. The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Anderson.

Members present:

Jeane Anderson  
Rick Anderson  
Steve Hauswedell  
Les Nath  
Jim Salfer  
Lois Schmidt  
Corey Sik  
David Thiner  
Dennis Welgraven  
Greg Burger  
Corey Sik  
Dan Wildermuth

Members absent:

Joan Jagt  
Steve Schulze  
Charles Sanow  
Sherri Thompson  
Rick Wakefield

Staff present:

Carol Biren	Michelle Buysse
Lisa DeBoer	Cindy Nelson
Nicole Slegers	Beth Wilms
Nancy Walker	Chris Cauwels
DeLani Gylling	Amanda Lanners
Leslie Anderson	Andrea Gorter
Ryan Lupke	Cindy Buchert

**P. Call to Order**

**Q. Consent Agenda-**

Chairperson Anderson asked if there were any changes to the agenda. There were none indicated. Anderson asked if anyone had a conflict of interest to identify. None were identified. He asked if there were any corrections or additions to the minutes of the May 18, 2022 meeting. There were none. Motion by G. Burger second by J. Salfer to approve the agenda and the board minutes as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

**R. Financials-**

Chairperson Anderson asked if there were any questions or comments regarding the financial report as given during the Community Health Board meeting. There were none. Motion by L. Nath second by D. Wildermuth to approve the financial report as forwarded by the Human Services and Community Health Boards. The motion carried unanimously.

**S. Human Resources Statistics**

Chairperson Anderson asked if there were any questions regarding the statistics given. There were none.

**T. Discussion/Information Items-**

1. MCO Procurement Update- Beth discussed that the resolution is asking we just go with a single source rather than what CMS is requesting of two sources. Blue Plus is our second choice if we need to have two sources. Lincoln, Lyon, Pipestone, and Redwood have asked for Prime west but it was denied so we have requested mediation. This means DHS is aware that we are unhappy with their findings. Beth has not heard anything more from DHS except that they received our request. Beth received an email from the procurement team about the low scores that were received. Beth stated that our needs are very different out here with rural area vs. other regions that don't have the same barriers or lack of resources. Rick Anderson asked Region 6 and 8 how many that encompasses. Cindy and Beth figured it was approximately 14 counties. Beth has concerns about the rural awareness. Rock and Murray will not be included in on the mediation. G. Burger asked if we have a choice with more than 1 provider who ultimately makes that choice. The client makes the choice. G. Burger is wondering why we are making this so hard when the client has the final choice. SWHHS is not able to suggest the clients pick one provider over another provider. Statute states that Southwest Health & Human Services gets to pick the providers available in our counties but now DHS is trying to say who we have to take, this seems to be where the difficulty comes in. D. Thiner asked who picks the mediator and who pays for the mediation? Beth stated that DHS picks the mediator and Prime west will pay for the mediation in this. There is no financial responsibility to Southwest Health & Human Services for the mediation.

2. Information on Cremains- Nancy reached out to Jeff Hartquist, funeral director at Hartquist Funeral Home. Jeff Hartquist stated that the next of kin does the arrangements. There is a process through the state for unclaimed cremains. We are not responsible for the cremains even if we paid for the county burial. There is a Minnesota statute that addresses the process on how to dispose of the cremains and the funeral home would handle this process.

Recess: 9:53 a.m.

Reconvene: 10:03 a.m.

#### U. Decision Items-

1. Kristin Heltzel, Child Support Officer, probationary appointment (12 months), \$19.43 hourly, effective 6/6/2022
2. Tannen Kanengieter, County Agency Social Worker (LTC), probationary appointment (12 months), \$24.36 hourly, effective 6/20/2022
3. Brittney Ormberg, Accounting Technician, probationary appointment (12 months), \$17.28 hourly, effective 6/20/2022
4. Alexandra Dvorak, County Agency Social Worker (Circle), probationary appointment (6 months), no change in rate of pay, effective 6/6/2022
5. Marissa Brown, Public Health Educator, probationary appointment (6 months), \$26.25 hourly, effective 6/20/2022

Request for County Agency Social Worker-Family Group Decision making- Cindy is requesting this new position. This position is not in our budget. We share a grant with 5 other counties. They are asking that we have a dedicated worker for this position. \$123,000/year grant for two years with a possibility of 3 year extension. Child protection families with suspected alcohol and drug use in the household where a child would be put into placement. This would help the family get on track. Brings families and supports together. We are looking to build on the strengths of families and keep them together. Michelle Buysse stated that we will get the 3 year extension. Michelle believes that this position will be so beneficial and relieve our placements in Child Protection. C. Sik is asking if the parents are receiving any charges out of these out of home placements. Cindy stated that we see some but not necessary neglect. Beth stated that we have supervisors who are willing to come to board and discuss how this position is forward. D. Thiner asked if we are looking at the families and actually stating no to the families and that this will not work for every family. Michelle Buysse stated that we do realize this won't work for every family. This person will be trained in this part of the family engagement to see if it will work or if it will not work. Motion by D. Wildermuth second by G. Burger to approve the request for a county Agency Social Worker-Family Group Decision Making worker. The motion carried unanimously.

#### 6. Personnel Policy 6 Reimbursement Lodging and Other Expenses

Nancy stated that this has a slight change to this policy due to an audit recommendation. Nancy stated number 3 Letter a. had a change allowing a 15% tip for transportation and refreshments when it is agency provided services. Motion by L. Nath second by D. Thiner to accept the changes to Personnel Policy 6 as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

7. Personnel Policy 28 COVID-19 Staffing Considerations Operations

Nancy stated that the Personnel Committee discussed the elements of this policy. The Personnel Committee suggested that we sunset this policy. Nancy highlighted Number 3 Letter a number 5, that any staff with comp hours from 22.5-75 would be allowed to burn balances down to 22.5 comp hours in the next 6 months without losing it. Section 3 letter a number 6, a day for a day of vacation. Nancy requested any staff member who have already submitted a request be approved since the paperwork is already in and approved. G. Burger asked how many people had requests out there. Nancy and Beth stated approximately 12 requests. Motion by G. Burger second by J. Salfer to sunset Personnel Policy 28 and approve the requests that have already been submitted. The motion carried unanimously.

8. Donations:

9. Contracts -

1. **DHS Child & Teen Check Up – 01/01/21 to 12/31/23;** Second Amendment to the original grant agreement that provides C&TC administrative services to children birth through age 20 that are MA eligible, \$26.50/child reimbursement; Amendment 1 \$128,949 for Jan-Jun and Amendment 2 for \$82,468 for Jul-Dec, total for CY2022 \$211,417 (renewal).  
*Fiscal Note: grant CY2021 \$262,270*
2. **Avera McKennan d/b/a Avera Behavioral Health (Sioux Falls, SD) – 07/01/22 to 06/30/23;** provide for mental health orders and civil commitment beds and services, rate of \$985.60/day for hospital services (\$90/day increase) plus 75% medical care expenses up to limit of \$10,000 (renewal).  
*Fiscal Note: 2021 \$28,672; 2020 \$4,480; 2019 \$7,168*
3. **DHS Family Group Decision Making (FGDM) Grant – 07/01/22 to 06/30/24;** State grant that provides family support, family preservation, and family reunification services, awarded \$246,064 (\$123,032/SFY) (renewal).  
*Fiscal Grant Award: 2021 \$39,780; 2020 \$39,780; 2019 \$39,780; 2018 \$40,560;*

Director Wilms came forward to present the contracts that were presented in the board packet.

Motion by L. Nath second by G. Burger to approve the contracts as presented. The motion carried unanimously.

10. Closed Session – Labor Negotiations Strategy - motion by D. Wildermuth second by C. Sik to go into closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

Closed session 10:29 a.m.

Motion by L. Nath second by D. Weigraven to go out of closed session. The motion carried unanimously.

Out of closed session at 10:35 a.m.

11. A motion by D. Thiner second by D. Wildermuth to approve the MOA to be presented to the collective bargaining group. The motion carried unanimously.

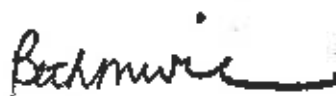
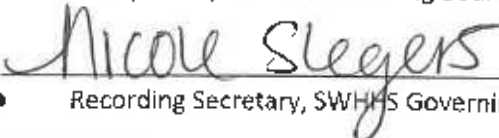
G. Burger gave an update on the Southwest Mental Health Center. There was some discussion on how they will survive or what is next for them.

V. **Adjournment**

Motion by Chairperson Anderson: to adjourn meeting. Chairperson Anderson asked if there were any other questions. Hearing none he adjourned the meeting at 10:40 a.m.

Approved Date 7-20-2022

Authorized   
Chairperson, SWHHS Governing Board

   
Recording Secretary, SWHHS Governing Board

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Director