



## **Mental Health Advisory Board Meeting Minutes January 4, 2019**

**Roll Call:** Cory Tello, Dan Deneen, Diane Wolfe, Chief Brian Mohr, Chief Rick Bleicher, New Member Laurie Wollrab (replacing Scott Murphy)

**Members Absent:** Wanda Halloway, Dr Mary Sutter

**Staff Present:** Camille Rodriguez, Amy Hancock, Trish Malott, Mandy McCambridge

**Appearance by Members of the Public:** None

Cory called meeting to order at 8:34am

### **Introductions:**

New Member Laurie Wollrab introduced herself and stated that she is replacing former member Scott Murphy

Cory started off the meeting by thanking everyone for making the effort to attend this specially called meeting. The meeting was called due to everything happening in the behavioral health arena. In the month of December there was a treasure trove of things happening, decisions being made, and services being implemented. The meeting was called to make sure that this group was fully apprised of everything happening and to get feedback from this group on what the next steps should be. Cory talked about the information that came from Executive Director Tom Barr stating that the Center for Human Services will not be taking new referrals for psychiatric services until further notice. Cory stated that this is going to impact clients that are involved with problem solving courts, correctional, and detention facilities. Cory stated that this was a big topic of discussion at the Board of Health meeting that took place on December 12<sup>th</sup>.

### **Items of Discussion**

#### **A. Board of Health decision on extending McLean County Center for Human Services contract for psychiatric care and crisis services**

Cory stated that the Board of Health voted to extend the existing 2018 contract with Center for Human Services for two months. Camille stated that this gives the Board of Health, Health Department, and Mental Health Advisory Board time to meet and discuss and assess the situation. This also gives us time to sit down with the Center for Human

Services and examine what brought them to this decision. Extending the contract also gives us time for fact finding and to gather questions. After the Board of Health Meeting on December 12<sup>th</sup> Camille convened small groups of Board of Health members. During these meetings Camille gathered info and questions that the board members had. Camille would like to hear questions or concerns this (MHAB) group has. When she meets with the Center for Human Services she will bring the questions that you would like addressed.

Dan asked the amount of cutback in funding for the Center for Human Services. Camille stated that the cutbacks from the state have been ongoing since 2015. The state cuts are around 353,000. Cutback from United Way is 100,000.

### **Other questions and concerns from MHAB members**

What is the plan going forward? What is the plan to be financially sustainable and when will they be able to share this plan? Are they adjusting services? Is the reduction in funding from the state a result of the cutback in percentages their receiving from state funding or is this a result of grants that are running out? Are they willing to accept patients from criminal justice system? Are they taking new patients as other patients are discharged? Can they develop a wait list?

A concern was brought up about communication. What lead to this communication failure? Why did the Center for Human Services put this out in an article and didn't communicate with the agencies that provide funding to them? Diane stated that they had an emergency meeting the day after the article came out because this impacts the schools. Diane stated that this make her feel unstable about all of our services. How do we prioritize where are money goes when all the agencies are losing money? Psychiatric Services are low to begin with and we only have one child Psychiatrist in town.

Camille stated that the Board of Health had a lot of similar questions and she will be bringing the questions to Tom Barr and his staff. Camille will be accompanied by two other Board of Health Members at this meeting to get the answers that they need There could be some action at the February Board of Health Meeting regarding what next steps need to be taken to ensure services are continued and uninterrupted. Dan would like an updated report by the next MHAB February meeting.

### **Trish commented on different comments that she has heard through-out this meeting.**

One of the comments that was brought up a couple times during this meeting is Sustainability

- Trish stated that she feels sustainability is most important and that is one of the things that the Behavioral Health Coordinating Council and the Chairman and County Administration looks at on a regular basis. One of the priorities is long term sustainable psychiatric solutions.

A comment was made about a cut in state funding.

- In the last 3-5 years a lot in terms of how the state is allocating money and how the insurance world has functioned has changed. In this timeframe the state moved away from distributing what are known as block grants and there were a lot of agencies through- out that state that have used this as supplemental funding. The state has shifted their provider fee schedules. There was also expansion of managed care Medicaid plans which have changed the landscape of how any agency bills and received reimbursement. Organizations have to be able to shift because the landscape has changed.

#### **Items for Information:**

##### **A. CY 2019 Contracts completed and in process of being signed by the BOH Presidents**

- Most of the contracts are back and signed. We are just waiting on two.

#### **Cory and Trisha spoke about other things that have occurred in December**

##### **1. The county will be opening a Mental Health Triage Center in Spring of 2019**

- Trish spoke about the Triage Center. She stated that it will be a place where law enforcement and first responders can bring individuals in crisis in need of a mental health assessment. She also stated that it will be a walk-in facility, a place where individuals can walk in that are experiencing difficulty. The Triage Center will be 24 hour 7 days a week facility. An exact location has not been decided. The Triage Center will be a mix of master's and bachelor's degree level employees.

##### **2. Chestnut received a grant from the Illinois Department of Human Services (substance use prevention and recovery division)**

- The purpose of this grant is to create a network and infrastructure for recovery-oriented systems of care. This was announced in December.

##### **3. The County added Tele psychiatry through contract.**

- Trish stated that this has not officially started. The contract was approved by the County Board in December. Trish stated that they are waiting for the vendor to identify a psychiatrist to provide services.

##### **4. FUSE program**

- No new update on the Fuse program. Just that applications have been received for the FUSE Program Manager. Interviews will start next week for this position.

##### **5. EMR System**

- No update just that the county is evaluating the option of a county wide EMR system that would be cost efficient.

A copy of a letter that Bill Wasson and Trisha Malott wrote regarding the December 3<sup>rd</sup> announcement was passed out to the group. Trish stated that the letter summarizes

well the things happening and is a good take away from this meeting. It is a reference point to refer back to. Trish is happy to answer any questions that anybody may have.

**Items for Action**

**a. Approval of October 26, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes**

- Cory stated that Members Absent and Members Present were missing. The Chiefs need to be listed in the absent section.
- Stabilization – A Day of Stabilization –change to a stabilization center that would run during daytime hours

Dan made a motion to approve the minutes with the changes  
All in favor of motion

**Adjournment:**

Cory made motion to adjourn meeting  
All in favor of motion

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:50am**

**Next Meeting Date:**

**February 22, 2019**