

NORTHWESTERN COUNSELING & SUPPORT SERVICES
107 FISHER POND ROAD
ST. ALBANS VT 05478

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 5, 2020

Present: Sara Kittell, Betty Charron, Tony Treanor, Jason Minor, Elaine Carpenter, Carl Rosenquist, David MacCallum, Rob Hirss, Dan Thompson, Anjanette Watson (by Phone), Meg Marshall

Excused: David Hutchinson, Jim McMillan, Jeff Moreau

Staff: Emily Richards, Todd Bauman, Tim Gallagan, Steve Broer, Joe Halko

Minutes received and meeting called to order by Carl Rosenquist at 5:44pm.

Motion was made to approve December minutes by Dan Thompson. Second by Rob Hirss. All in favor.

Executive Director Report

MH Advocacy day was last week at the capitol building. We had a great turn out and strong representation. It is really a great day, at one point Todd went into the cafeteria and noticed a big number of our staff members who were having one on one conversation with legislators. It was really good to see.

NMC is having an evening meeting that they are inviting us, the NOTCH and Home Health to on February 20th. It is from 4:30 – 7:00 at The Abbey. Todd will send out the information that he has once our meeting is over. They will be talking about the accountable communities for health. This is not mandatory; we will have some of our leadership team and if you can join us that would be great. Please RSVP to Emily if you would like to join us.

Stacey included a great graph in her report and Todd wanted to make sure that we recognized it. It is a graph that shows our turnover rate. We have the second lowest turnover rate in the DA/SSA system. Did any other DA's reach out to us about this? Yes, but not in the way you would think, they questioned how we are calculating the number to get it so low.

With the thought of Woodside closing are DA's working together to figure that out how they can pick up the kids and help. They currently only have about 5 kids. The DA's are coming up with ideas of how we can wrap these kids in services. We have a program called High Fidelity Wrap, which is being eliminated. We had a meeting today to come up with a way to show the value of this program and come up with the data to show this program is just what we need to help these kids.

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Financial Report

Tim would like to look the days in case excluding restricted funds. The 2020 line is trending down which is very different than years past. Due to the timing of this meeting, when we ran these reports we had not received our bundle payment yet for February. We have also not received our master grant payment yet. We should get that next week. The other item that is down is the capital plan; we are ahead in our projects. We normally use the operating account to pay for these items. We are requesting a transfer of \$350000 from restricted funds to the operating funds. It would be \$300000 to cover the cost of the renovations for the new Bayview site and \$48000 for the paving of the parking lot.

Has the work be quoted out? Yes the work has already done and paid for. How does the bundle and master grant payment effect the days in cash on hand? All 3 items will bring us to about 34 days in cash. Can you define one day in cash? It is our total operating cost divided by 365 days. We are in good shape; we do not have anything out on our line of credit.

Motion was made to transfer \$350000 from the capital reserve fund to the operating fund by Dan Thompson. Seconded by Rob Hriss. All in Favor.

Through the month December we have a gain of about \$800,000 we had a slight loss in December which is different than years past. The loss was based on the wage action that was back dated to July. Our self-funded health insurance is still doing well, we are showing a 12% decrease over FY19. There was a meeting yesterday to recalculate the bundles. To figure out the case load, they looked back on 3 years of numbers. There is a 15% risk corridor rate. With the dollar amount of the bundle, there is a 3% risk corridor rate. The uneven risk corridor is concerning. We would have to see more and more client's in order to pull down our bundle. They responded well to the concern and are going to look at this. Tim suggestion was to make the risk corridor the same. Did you feel they will look at this? Tim feels they responded well.

What does it mean that DS is shifting dollars for risk free case management? Federal Medicaid says that it is a conflict that the agency that is doing the assessment than referring to their agency. They want to a have an agency that will preform the assessment and make referrals. We are asking if the state could work with the feds to negotiate this. They were very hard set on no, but they seem to be soften to working with us. They did get families input and that was very strong in the fact that they like the way it works now. We are waiting to see how this plays out.

990 Review

This is the tax filling that we need to file every year to keep our 501C3 status. About 12 years ago it changed and is much more in-depth and scrutinized. We have KBS prepare the documents for us. Tim reviewed a few key points in the documents.

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If a member of the public asked to see this document what happens, we would show it them here at the agency and ask they return it before they leave. Are the clients funds are the designated payees? Yes.

Motion was made to approve the 990 as presented by Dan Thompson. Second by Tony Treanor. All in favor.

Excutive Report

Tim and Todd talked about everything here that we did in the executive committee meeting.

Other Buisness

Is there an update on Brattleboro Retreat? The state has been working with them to keep the key programs open and running smoothly. Any sense on how many employees will be out of job. Not sure at this point.

Motion was made to adjourn by Dan Thompson. Second by Betty Charon. All in favor.

Meeting adjourn at 6:31pm

Minutes recorded by:

Emily Richards

Executive Coordinator