



Board of Directors Meeting Minutes September 19, 2018

Present: Mark Ferrandino, Board Chair
Roger Schmitz, Past Chair
Olga Feldman (Phone)

Jose Torres-Vega
Amy Ross (By Phone)
Michael Wroe

Absent: Lloyd Lewis, Vice Chair
Bill Ojile, Treasurer

Christine Ruggeri, Secretary
Joseph Derdzinski

Staff: Shari Repinski, Executive Director
John Wetherington, CFO
Ford Allison, COO
Shelly Roberson

Joelle Ashley
Ann Gifford
Jodi Litfin
Jenn Beck
Stephen Shaughnessey
Kris Kogan
Dianne Clarke
Deanna Soulis
Sara Serrar

Guests: Ryan Call, Hale-Westfall, LLP
Pam Bisceglia

Justin Sykes, DHS
Kelley Clark

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Rocky Mountain Human Services (RMHS) was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mr. Mark Ferrandino, Board Chair, at Rocky Mountain Human Services, 9900 East Iliff Avenue, Denver, CO.

WELCOME

Mark Ferrandino

(Note: The Agenda was adjusted slightly to accommodate those presenting, and while the minutes are an actual summary of the presentation, the content may not accurately reflect the order of presentation.)

CONSENT AGENDA

Mark Ferrandino

- Approval of September 19, 2018 Agenda
- Approval of July 18, 2018 Board Minutes

Motion: Mr. Jose Torres-Vega moved to approve the September 19 Consent Agenda and the July 18, 2018 Board Meeting Minutes. It was seconded by Mr. Roger Schmitz and was approved by unanimous voice vote. Motion passed.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

John Wetherington

Mr. John Wetherington provided brief comments on the Financial Statements ending July 31, 2018. As the first month in the new fiscal year, revenues and expenses are each behind budget approximately \$500K due to a variety of factors including processing the end of FY18, as well as delays in the Momentum and Mill Levy contracts. Mr. Wetherington reported the expectation that those deficiencies will narrow in the coming months to be more in line with budget.

Motion: Mr. Jose Torres-Vega moved to approve the Finance Committee Report and year-to-date financial statements ending July 31, 2018. It was seconded by Mr. Roger Schmitz and was approved by unanimous voice vote. Motion passed.

PERSON-CENTERED THINKING TRAINING

Sarah Serrar

Ms. Sarah Serrar provided a brief overview of the Person-Centered Thinking Training Curriculum currently being implemented at RMHS. Ms. Serrar and Ms. Grinstead, two employees at RMHS have completed the certification required for becoming a trainer through a grant from Alliance Colorado and will be providing trainings for RMHS staff and hope to provide trainings to other community agencies in the future. Person-Centered Thinking, a philosophy that aligns with the RMHS mission, provides a framework for working with clients that considers not only what is important to the individual client, but important for the health and welfare of the client. Ms. Serrar noted that the training will facilitate compliance efforts with local contracts, CARF accreditation and current federal regulations. Mr. Mark Ferrandino expressed an interest in Ms. Serrar providing additional information to the Board at the Board Training event on December 6th.

COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL REPORT

Pam Bisceglia

Ms. Pam Bisceglia, Chair for the Community Advisory Council (CAC) on Mill Levy funding, presented a brief update to the Board on the current membership of the CAC, it's mission and goals, meeting schedule, and an outline of CAC funding priorities for external initiatives and individuals. Ms. Bisceglia also provided a draft policy and procedure document recently submitted to Denver Human Services (DHS) on September 14 per Mill Levy contract requirements, which outlined a proposal process for funding external initiatives. The document included a scoring rubric to be used in analyzing project proposals. Ms. Bisceglia also distributed a draft document of the proposed Operating Procedures for the CAC.

Ms. Shari Repinski will provide RMHS Attorney, Ryan Call, with the most current draft of the documents, who will review for consistency with other corporate documents. Ms. Repinski recognized Ms. Bisceglia for her outstanding work with the CAC.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Mark Ferrandino

Executive Committee Report

Mr. Mark Ferrandino noted that information to be reported from the Executive Committee is covered by the Agenda items discussed today.

Nominating Committee Report

Lloyd Lewis & Amy Ross

In the absence of Lloyd Lewis and Amy Ross (who left the meeting early), Ms. Shari Repinski provided an update on behalf of the Nominating Committee. Board member, Nisa'a Ameen-Abdullah has resigned from the RMHS Board of Directors due to personal reasons. The Committee is currently working to identify new Board members, and specifically looking for an individual with a developmental disability to present the I/DD perspective. Mr. Mark Ferrandino asked the Board members to submit any recommendations to Shari Repinski, Lloyd Lewis or Amy Ross.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Justin Sykes with Denver Human Services (DHS) informed the RMHS Board of Directors that DHS is very close to releasing their Report on the Needs Assessment that was completed earlier in the year, along with a fact sheet which summarizes the document. Mr. Sykes reported that DHS will be presenting the Report findings, as well as the next steps to be taken, to the Denver City Council Safehouse Committee on October 3, 2018.

Maureen Welch made public comment of her opinion and concerns of actions taken recently by RMHS regarding Mill Levy expenditures and policies, that were not presented before the Community Advisory Council.

A listening log, attached hereto and available on the RMHS website, addresses more specifically the above-referenced public comments.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Shari Repinski

Successes and Accomplishments

Ms. Shari Repinski reported on the following recent successes and accomplishments at RMHS:

- RMHS has hired a full-time staffer to address the needs of individuals on the Waitlist, as well as reducing the waitlist enrollments. HCPF has authorized RMHS to accept 92 total enrollments through the DD waiver; 45 of those have been completed and are now receiving services.
- There has been a 6% increase in the number of children served by our Early Intervention program, an effort due to several awareness initiatives in the community.
- Momentum program has been fully staffed, although the group is now experiencing the very recent loss of one of its staff, whose death was unexpected.
- Homes for all Veterans (HAV) recently went through an audit by the Veteran's Administration, and while the results are not officially known, the preliminary results were positive.

- RMHS utilized all but approximately \$4,000 of the Mill Levy funding for the 2018 Fiscal year, a significant increase over the previous two years.

Mill Levy Update

Kris Kogan

Dr. Kris Kogan provided a brief presentation on the highlights of the final Mill Levy Semi-Annual report covering January to June of 2018:

- RMHS supported the Denver I/DD community through all but \$4K of the \$7.5 million in Mill Levy funding, with \$5M of that going to support community agencies, providers and families, and \$2M supporting RMHS enhanced services.
- Significant increases in the average monthly requests from 207 in first quarter of 2017 to 426 in second quarter 2018. \$1.6M spent in first two quarters of 2018 in comparison to \$1.8M in all of 2017.
- 57% of funding spent in primary category of System Gaps, which includes respite care.
- Total funding for Services authorized through the Mill Levy Service Plan more than doubled in 6 months.
- Early Intervention clients received funding beginning February 2018 for developmental toys and apps, music therapy, environmental enrichment, home safety items and bedding.

Summerfest Video

The Board, staff and guests were presented a video highlighting the client event, Summerfest 2018, created by the Community and Outreach department's, Danielle Uhl.

COMPLIANCE UPDATE

John Wetherington

Mr. John Wetherington reported that the financial auditors are currently on site at RMHS and are on track to present to the Finance Committee in October and the Board in November. Mr. Wetherington also reported that RMHS recently hired a new Director of IT and several improvements have been made toward compliance and security.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Mark Ferrandino moved to adjourn the Board of Directors meeting at 7:27 p.m.

Submitted by:


Shelly Roberson
Executive Assistant

11-14-18
Date


Mark Ferrandino
Board Chair
(Signing in lieu of Christine Ruggeri, Secretary)

11/15/18
Date

**Board of Directors Meeting
Listening Log
September 19, 2018**

	Question/Comment	RMHS Response
1	<p>A representative from Denver Human Services announced that DHS has been working on a needs assessment of services for Denver residents with intellectual and developmental disabilities. It will be presented to City Council's Safety, Housing, Education and Homelessness on October 3rd.</p>	<p>No response needed</p>
2	<p>Concern was expressed about the Community Advisory Council: a) that it is a rubber stamp committee; b) that changes posted on the website and sent out in the RMHS newsletter, were never run by the Community Advisory Council; c) that RMHS stopped funding new community partners, and d) that RMHS has severely limited the types of client assistance requests that can come in.</p>	<p>The Community Advisory Council (CAC) plays an important role in advising RMHS on matters pertaining to services and resources for individuals with developmental disabilities and delays. Meetings of the CAC are open to the public; those unable to attend in person are encouraged to call into meetings. To stay as current as possible on all issues, members of the CAC recently agreed to increased meeting frequency (from bi-monthly to monthly). Staff work closely with the Chair of the CAC to prepare each month's agenda, and the Chair of the CAC reports directly to the RMHS Board of Directors at least three times per year.</p> <p>As stated in the CAC's charter, it is the role of the CAC "to provide community input, ideas and feedback" and to make recommendations to RMHS on "Mill Levy expenditures; changes in the Colorado DD system; and policies affecting individuals receiving services." RMHS staff members takes seriously their responsibility to provide the CAC with the information it needs to perform its advisory duties effectively.</p> <p>RMHS believes that effective communication with community partners is critical to implement a successful program. When RMHS committed all funds through contracts with community partners, it provided a notice on its website that we could not accept new proposals until fall of 2018. An RFP process was developed and approved by the CAC and new funding opportunities were released in October 2018.</p>

		<p>RMHS updated and clarified the framework for individual requests through the Client Assistance Program beginning Sept. 1, 2018. This was to clarify the specific services available and to ensure a program that is consistent, fair, and sustainable based on current funding and in anticipation of a 17% reduction in overall mill levy funding beginning January 1, 2019.</p>
3	<p>Concern was expressed about the treatment that many people are receiving at Rocky Mountain Services.</p>	<p>RMHS strives to treat every individual and family member with the highest respect and works toward meeting the unique needs of every person accepting services from us. The starting point for conversations about services is typically the individual's Service Coordinator, Care Coordinator or Support Specialist. When an individual or family feels that an issue is not being appropriately addressed, we encourage them to reach out to the Director of the department serving them, the RMHS Executive Director, or any member of the RMHS Board of Directors. Direct email addresses can be found for these individuals at www.rmhumansersvices.org. We are committed to addressing your concerns.</p>