JCCMHFB Special Board Meeting Minutes
Meeting Date: November 11, 2019 Time: 9:00 am Location: Arnold office – Cafe

Board Attendees: Jerry Rogers; Mark Mertens; Audrey Mitchell; Dr. Steven Crawford; Dr. Josh Isaacson and Kelly Steffens

Staff in Attendance: Sue Curfman, CEO and Amy Rhodes, CFO
Not in Attendance: Dennis Gannon

The JCCMHFB Meeting was called to order by Josh Isaacson, Interim Chair at 9:01 am with a quorum of members present.

1. Approval of Agenda
The November 11, 2019 special board meeting agenda was reviewed with no changes requested.

Recommendations: “I, Mark Mertens, move that the November 11, 2019 agenda be approved as presented.” Kelly Steffens seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. Approval of Minutes
The September 9, 2019 meeting minutes were reviewed with no changes requested.

Recommendations: “I, Mark Mertens, move that the September 9, 2019 meeting minutes be approved as presented.” Dr. Crawford seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. Financial Report
Amy Rhodes went over the financial report through September showing the programs that utilize the funds and what is budgeted and what has been utilized. The lower portion shows what has been collected thus far.
Recommendations: “I, Jerry Rogers, move that the JCCMHFB approve the financial report as presented.” Dr. Crawford seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. Approval of COMTREA Board Actions
Recommendations: “I, Mark Mertens, move that the JCCMHFB approve the COMTREA Board Actions through November 11, 2019 as presented.” Kelly Steffens seconded the motion. The motion carried.

5. RFP Updates
The award letters and contracts were sent to those that are receiving awards for calendar year 2020. All signed contracts were returned to Lisa Wigger.
- Desoto School District – this is the first time they have requested. $77,719
- Foster & Adoptive Care Coalition – first time request. $74,131.
- Lutheran Family and Children’s Services – third time applying. $78,000
- NCADA – they had requested the first year and did not request last year. $20,150

6. JCCMHFB/COMTREA Board Separation Document Review
Josh Isaacson wanted to give a brief overview.
   a. History & Perspective of JCCMHFB from Dr. Stephen Huss
      i. October 16, 2019 meeting notes with Dr. Huss
Josh Isaacson sat down with Dr. Huss to get an overview of the development of the board. Dr. Huss felt that there should be no changes to the bylaws and it should be run as it is.
   b. Establishment of the JCCMHF tax – (April 29, 1986 Court Order and Ordinance signed regarding placing the Comtrex tax levy issue on the August 5th ballot)
      i. Community Mental Health (COMTREA) Proposition 1
      ii. Establishment by County of Community Mental Health Fund Board
Josh Isaacson stated that there should have been the establishment of the board with the tax, instead the tax was established first and then the board. Since COMTREA is not run by Jefferson County the fund board is needed to review the contracts.
   c. Statues of Missouri-Community Mental Health Services
      Provided and there are notes to assist. Mark Mertens asked if it states that the county has to appoint the board for the funds. It was agreed that it is under 205.984.
   d. JCCMHFB Bylaws
The issues may of arised due to the Bylaws because they make COMTREA exclusive. The historical aspect of these is important because COMTREA was the mental health service at the time when this passed. Dr. Huss stated that COMTREA went out and got this funding and taxing. This was to have a safe based for funding to ensure the success of COMTREA. Amy Rhodes stated that prior to passing this they had laid off due to funding. There was conversation regarding how the board worked until a few years ago and how there wasn’t a sseperation. Mark Mertens stated that at the time COMTREA pushed and had a good reputation and that is why it passed.
  e. Board Resolution June 27, 2006
  f. Supporting documentation from 2004 % cent sales tax
  g. Current Agreement Between JCCMHFB and COMTREA
  h. Conversation Initiating Action-S.C. & Senator P.W.

The reason for the discussions was the conversations with Sentaor Paul Wieland those are included in the packet for the review. There was concerned regarding the MH board being a COMTREA board members automatically. Josh Isaacson stated that it is working different than how it originally did as the county does recommend the individuals for the board and COMTREA no longer recommends those individuals to the county. There are currently two open positions on the board.
  i. Review of past meeting minutes

Josh Issacson wanted more clarification on how things would work if the boards separate. Amy Rhodes explained that it will be different depending. Jerry Rogers asked for clarification on how the board work and recommending to the county and they send the funds. Amy Rhodes stated that would need to be discussed with the county.

7. February 27, 2019-Initial Discussion Started

  a. Letter sent to Paul Wieland
  b. March 11, 2019-Approval of work group (discussed but not voted on) (Consisting of 2 COMTREA Board, 2 JCCMHFB, 2 Council, 1 County)

There was a motion made in March to create a committee (work group), the next steps will be to create the work group and establish the members. This group would work to make the recommendations and the board would take action.
  c. June 17, 2019-RFP/Contract
d. September 9, 2019-Update on Board Separation

8. Next Steps-Establish Work Group or Other

a. Establish Work Group

Recommendations: “I, Mark Mertens move that the JCCMHFB become the workgroup on this matter.” Kelly Steffens seconded the motion. The motion carried.

b. Fulfill motion made during March 2019 to create work group to review JCCMHFB bylaws and make recommendations of possible changes to the JCCMHFB.

c. Work group chair will reach out to those nominated and approved by JCCMHFB and establish date(s) for work group committee to meet, review relevant documents, and develop a list of JCCMHFB Bylaw suggestions

d. Chair of work group will present work group recommendations to the JCCMHFB on Monday, January 13, 2020 for consideration.

e. Entertain Nominations for work group chair

Recommendations: “I, Mark Mertens move to nominate Josh Isaacson as the work group chair.” Dr. Crawford seconded the motion. The motion carried.

f. Entertain Nominations for those who should serve on the work group

It was decided that the JCCMHFB members will be part of the work group and call in advisors to help with any information during their work session.

g. Other Discussion Items

Josh Isaacson stated that there could be option not to do anything and Dr. Huss recommended this. Josh Isaacson cautioned that COMTREA would have a hard time existing without these funds. The concern is if these board separate and the bylaws change and that things could change. Jerry Rogers stated that his concern is the separation that people will sit on the board to fund certain projects. Josh Isaacson stated that he understands the frustration but that the historic is not being looked at. There are some things on the bylaws that could be changed. Dr. Crawford stated that is correct. Mark Mertens
stated that not all the funds come through COMTREA with the RFP. Josh Isaacson stated that he doesn’t think what the Senator wants can be done. Jerry Rogers stated that if nothing is done then it needs to be prepared for what will happen. Mark Mertens stated that he believes Catholic Charities and Lutheran might sue if this is not separated. There was discussion on how the statues read. The contract for the 5 year agreement is with COMTREA, the bylaws are set up with COMTREA as the sole provider and they may not be set up correctly. Mark Mertens stated that this was done so that COMTREA was not underfunded because county run health organizations are always underfunded.

Josh Isaacson stated that the next steps is the work group be established or stating not interested in separating. Jerry Rogers asked who would serve on the work group that would be established. (Consisting of 2 COMTREA Board, 2 JCCMHFB, 2 Council, 1 County). There was discussion on Dennis King, Jr. attorney that worked for the county that might be good for the committee. Jerry Rogers stated that the committee could meet and then recommend. Josh Isaacson stated that restructuring the bylaws would assist with the issues.

Mark Mertens believes that a work group be developed, Amy Rhodes stated that the COMTREA representation would be staff from COMTREA. Sue Curfman stated that the workgroup also have Rachael Bersdale she would know what the dollars are used for and the services. Dr. Crawford stated that she should be an advisor. Mark Mertens stated that he has concerns on having county council on the workgroup and it should be done without a county council member. Jerry Rogers asked if we agreed with this and not include the council and Jerry Rogers stated that the workgroup could be the committee and have advisors to the group. Josh Isaacson stated the workgroup needs to be separate from this regular meeting, there needs to be three hours allocated to the session and a good agenda and pull in those who can provide information as needed.
9. Adjust current course of action based upon JCCMHFB/COMTREA Board Separation Document Review

10. Adjournment

With no other business to discuss.

Recommendations: “I, Mark Mertens move to adjourn.” Jerry Rogers seconded the motion.
The motion carried.

☐ Minutes approved  

(Signature of JCCMHFB President)  

(Date)