

JCDS GOVERNING BOARD MEETING MINUTES January 25, 2022

1.0 Call to Order

Mr. Rick Marien, Chairperson, called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. Board members present were Dale Chaffin, Gayle Richardson, Kyle Russell, Rick Marien, Debbie Scott Williams, Kiki Oyetunji, and Mike Hughes. Others in attendance were Chad VonAhnen, Executive Director and staff members Shelly May, Melissa Reeves, Chris Linnane, and Shelly Toft. Also, in attendance was Michael Ashcraft, County Commissioner and Joe Connor, Assistant County Manager.

2.0 Minutes

Mr. Russell moved and Mr. Hughes seconded to approve the November 30, 2021 minutes as written. Motion passed.

3.0 Financial Reports

Mr. Linnane shared explanation of the new board reports that will be presented each month and noted the year-end financial documents for 2021 are still being developed. Home and Community Based Services (HCBS) revenues were off slightly in 2021 as were tax and grant revenues. Expenses were below budget due to staff vacancies and reduced payroll to individuals in service.

Mrs. Richardson moved and Mr. Russell seconded to accept the December 2021 financial reports as presented. Motion carried.

4.0 Presentations

Mr. VonAhnen announced that Ms. May will be the new InterHab Board President and will serve in that role for the next two years. The board congratulated Ms. May, who then introduced Mr. Matt Fletcher, Executive Director of InterHab.

Mr. Fletcher provided a big picture report of activity expected to be taken with the Kansas legislature this year. Mr. Fletcher noted that members of the House of Representatives and the Governor are all up for re-election. Work by the legislature will include items like redistricting and decisions on spending a large amount of surplus revenues, as well as continuing issues relative to CoVid.

InterHab's specific legislative priorities this year include addressing the workforce challenges that are experienced statewide, noting the twenty years of underfunding by the legislature, as well as numerous employee resignations during CoVid. InterHab hopes to secure additional funding of a 30% increase and will need statewide help from stakeholders with this. Mr. Fletcher did note that legislative "champions" have assisted in the development of this number.

Community Developmental Disabilities Organizations (CDDOs) around the state are also in need of an administrative funding increase as they have not had one in several years and have been charged by the State of Kansas with additional duties. They plan to ask for about \$2.5 million for this.

InterHab plans to ask for \$2 million for the Tiny K network for their workforce.

The Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities (IDD) network statewide lost funding during the 2008-2009 recession for individuals outside of the HCBS funding structure and InterHab will ask for \$5 million there.

A bill is in the House waiting on a vote regarding the need for Behavioral Health mobile crisis response specialists. This is tied to a federal 988 bill establishing a crisis helpline for individuals in mental health crisis. Mobil phone user fees of \$.50 per month are planned to pay for this initiative.

A legislative committee meeting took place recently for two days on IDD and have made the recommendation for a development of an IDD Modernization Taskforce to begin later this year.

Mr. Fletcher concluded with the reminder that everyone will need to reach out to legislators this year to assist in securing additional funding for IDD and addressed questions by the board.

Mr. VonAhnen and Ms. May proceeded with a PowerPoint presentation on reserve spending priorities to reduce the account from 30% toward the 8-12% required by the county's financial policies.

Ms. May updated the board on the agency's bonus programs and job fairs to hire and retain additional direct care providers (this is outside of the reserve spending plan).

Mr. VonAhnen and Ms. May discussed plans for areas of remodeling within the Mark D. Elmore Center, including expanding the Retirement Program, revamping the kitchen for training purposes, the need for additional room for expanded employment staff and the move of the CDDO to another county location. In addition, a recap of positions being requested was covered.

Mrs. Richardson moved and Mr. Hughes seconded to move forward with the implementation of the Reserve Use Proposal as presented. Motion approved.

5.0 Board Committees/Liaisons

Mrs. Scott Williams reported Friends of JCDS is working on a policy regarding rent practices and the renovation of homes. Mr. Hughes, a former Friends board member, now a liaison, gave KUDOS to Friends for how much growth and success has been achieved since he last worked with the organization.

Commissioner Ashcraft advised the board that he would continue during 2022 as the agency's board liaison from the commission.

6.0 Director's Reports

Ms. May reported that as of this date there are 10 individuals in service that are positive for Covid. All of these individuals report no symptoms or mild symptoms. There are 6 homes in quarantine; 3 administrative staff and 13 direct support professionals are positive.

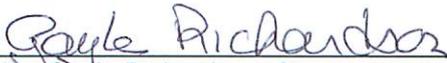
A job fair recently held resulted in the potential of 6 new hires. A recent television ad netted one potential candidate. In the short-term, 30 employees with the county's Mental Health Department have offered assistance to JCDS and will be trained (as required by licensing) to assist in direct care.

Mrs. Reeves reported on recent meetings held virtually with legislators and noted JCDS has submitted testimony to committee hearings.

Mr. VonAhnen reported recruitment will begin this week for a new CDDO Director and the agency is working with CQL, our accreditation body, on census ideas and a summary will be provided to the board next month. The status with the State Fire Marshal lawsuit is at the same point and a related HUD complaint is expected to be filed.

7.0 Adjournment

Mr. Hughes moved and Mr. Russell seconded to adjourn the meeting at 7:18 p.m. Motion passed.


Mrs. Gayle Richardson, Secretary

Recorded by: Shelly Toft