

TUESDAY, JUNE 10, 2014

**APPROVED MINUTES OF THE
COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING HELD**

**STATE OF MINNESOTA)
DODGE COUNTY)**

**COUNTY ADMINISTRATION OFFICE
MANTORVILLE, MN**

2014-11 C.O.W.

The Dodge County Commissioners met in Committee of the Whole June 10, 2014, in the Commissioner's Room at the Dodge County Courthouse Annex, Mantorville, MN, at 9:00 a.m. CDT. Chair Rodney Peterson opened the meeting at 9:00 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Convened

The Chair acknowledged those present:

Those Present

Members present: John Allen District #1
Tim Tjosaas District #2
Rodney Peterson District #3
David Erickson District #4
Steven Gray District #5

Members absent: None

Also present: Jim Elmquist County Administrator
Becky Lubahn Deputy County Clerk
Carolyn Wheeler South Central Human
Relations Center Executive
Director
Jane Hardwick Human Services Director

South Central Human Relations Center (SCHRC) Executive Director Carolyn Wheeler met with the Board to discuss key impact areas of community mental health.

SCHRC Update

Ms. Wheeler noted that she would like to do an annual SCHRC update with the Dodge County Board.

The SCHRC Executive Director reported that this is SCHRC's 50th anniversary of service as a Community Mental Health Center.

Ms. Wheeler discussed with the Board the services offered by SCHRC and informed them that May was Mental Health Awareness Month.

Brief discussion took place regarding how long SCHRC has been around. Commissioner Erickson noted that Dodge County has been involved with SCHRC since 1963.

The SCHRC Executive Director highlighted a couple programs within Dodge County and informed the Board that they are working on a plan for the Kasson-Mantorville School to bring a therapist into the school that would be available to address mental health issues in the schools. This plan will be implemented in October.

Human Services Director Jane Hardwick reported that the plan to have a therapist available at the schools will be expanded to Hayfield and Triton Schools at a later time.

SCHRC Update -
Continued

It was clarified that the therapist would be a non-mental health professional and that this position is grant funded.

Ms. Wheeler informed the Board that Fernbrook Family Center applied for a grant from the Department of Human Services for the therapist position. Also noted was that Fernbrook is a private health provider.

Commissioner Erickson clarified that the therapist would be a SCHRC employee that is contracted with the schools to provide a service.

The SCHRC Executive Director briefly discussed staffing levels, office locations, the number of clients served, current/future initiatives based on need areas, and SCHRC's desire to share outcomes.

Commissioner Erickson wanted to know if SCHRC has any relationships developed with veterans.

Ms. Wheeler reported that SCHRC did have a contract with the Veteran's Center, that contract is no longer in effect. The SCHRC Executive Director stated that they do have knowledgeable staff who have delivered services to veterans.

Ms. Wheeler briefly discussed the Youngdahl Living facility and the Safe Harbour facility.

Commissioner Erickson suggested that Board members visit the Youngdahl Living facility and the Safe Harbour facility if they haven't already.

Commissioner Peterson wanted to know if SCHRC has a budget and where their money comes from.

The SCHRC Executive Director reported that SCHRC has an \$8.2 million budget which is funded from multiple sources. Ms. Wheeler stated that some of the core funding comes from Steele, Waseca and Dodge counties. Other funding sources were also discussed.

Commissioner Peterson commented that the media portrays a huge gap in medical services for individuals with mental health issues. Mr. Peterson wanted to know if Ms. Wheeler had any idea what the media was talking about.

Ms. Wheeler reported that the news media may be referring to people that haven't received services. The Executive Director stated that SCHRC tries to intervene early, offers an array of services so people know of their services, and works with the schools.

Commissioner Erickson wanted to know if one of the gaps wasn't with the schools.

Human Services Director Jane Hardwick commented that the gaps are with transportation, timely appointments, access to housing, and timely access to in-patient beds.

Commissioner Gray asked Ms. Wheeler to briefly discuss Genoa Healthcare.

SCHRC Update -
Continued

Ms. Wheeler discussed services offered by Genoa Healthcare, medications, Genoa's in-home pharmacy and the benefits of having an in-home pharmacy.

The Board thanked Ms. Wheeler for the update.

The Chair adjourned the meeting at 9:30 a.m. CDT.

Meeting Adjourned

ATTEST:

RODNEY PETERSON
CHAIR, COUNTY BOARD

BECKY LUBAHN
DEPUTY CLERK

DATED: