

DES MOINES, HENRY, JEFFERSON, KEOKUK, LEE, LOUISA, VAN BUREN & WASHINGTON COUNTIES

DATE	CONVENING TIME	LOCATION
December 8, 2021	1:30pm	Henry Co. Emergency Management 900 West Washington St. Mount Pleasant, IA 52641 ZOOM

Southeast Iowa Link Governing Board Apprved Minutes

Present: Jack Seward Jr., Marc Lindeen, Dee Sandquist, Deke Wood, Randy Griffin, Mark Meek, Tracy Liptak, Rochelle Phelps, Mark Schneider, Ryanne Wood, Ken Hyndman, Sarah Berndt, Sandy Stever, Tami Gilliland, Bobbie Wulf, Kalen McCain, Leia Craff, Joe Mitchell, Natalie Ginty, Don Gookin, Theresa Armstrong, Lisa Plecher, Patty Brooks, S. Pearson

1. Approve Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 1:40 pm. Established quorum was present for the meeting. The agenda was reviewed via screen share.

Motion to approve the agenda

By Marc Lindeen Second Mark Meek Passed unanimously

2. Consider Approval of November 10, 2021 minutes

The document was reviewed via screen share.

Motion to approve the November 10, 2021 minutes

By Mark Meek Second Dee Sandquist Passed unanimously

3. Update from Adult and Children Advisory Committee Members

There was no Children's Advisory Committee meeting today.

The members of the Adult Advisory Committee attended the Stakeholder meeting where there was discussion about the presentation on Children's Assessment Centers by Molli Cook. There was a discussion about and sharing of post-traumatic stress resources. There were no recommendations for the governing board.

4. Discuss and Consider Approval of Advisory Committee designated members

No new members identified. There is still a need for a pediatrician to serve on the Children's Advisory Committee.

5. Consider Approval of Claims as per Running Totals Document- November

The document was reviewed via screen share. All county auditor reports were submitted. There were changes noted to the fiscal agent report for September and October to reflect interest posted for those months. Expenditures look high due to member counties making payments to the fiscal agent. The majority of the revenues reflected in the report are coming from property tax payments. Payments from member counties to the fiscal agent totaled \$1,401,550.75.

Motion to approve the claims per running totals document for November

By Dee Sandquist Second Mark Schneider Passed unanimously



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6. Consider Approval of Claims for Fiscal Agent Account as per Claims 12-8-2021

The document was reviewed via screen share. Mandated claims total \$2,554.93, expenditure claims total \$307,275.88, Wrap claims total \$62.50 for total claims to pay of \$309,893.31.

Motion to approve claims for fiscal agent account per claims 12-8-2021

By Marc Lindeen Second Dee Sandquist Passed unanimously

7. Receive and File Fiscal Agent Report- November

The document was reviewed via screen share. There was a reimbursement from Johnson County in the amount of \$846.50. Claims paid totaled \$571,640.72 which matches the amount approved by the governing board in the November minutes.

Motion to receive and file the fiscal agent report for November

By Mark Meek Second Dee Sandquist Passed unanimously

8. Meeting with Legislators and guests from State Departments

Legislators and state department staff participating via Zoom introduced themselves. At a recent Fifth District Iowa State Association of Counties meeting county officials attending shared their priorities for mental health with legislators Ken Rozenboom, Holly Brink, Mark Lofgren, and Cherielynn Westrich. Legislators were presented a problem and solution letter at that meeting. The legislative changes don't affect all regions in the same way. Theresa Armstrong from the Department of Human Services (DHS) stated some regions are looking at going to one employer. Twelve of the fourteen regions use county employees to do region work and those twelve regions are analyzing regional structure, which is directly related to doing away with Fund 10. Two regions are changing to region employees, five to seven regions still have county employees in the way SEIL has them. This creates a lot of shifting with county auditors and fiscal agent. The Department of Management (DOM) has set up a sub fund off the county general fund that the region can put dollars in, and the region pays to this quarterly. This makes funds available to pay county employees. A question was posed how do employees get paid for the first three months of a new fiscal year. Theresa stated DHS had to implement rules related to SF 619, in doing that they needed to define encumbrance because the law does allow regions go encumber funds from one fiscal year to the next fiscal year. DHS put in the rules an encumbrance of ten percent to go toward administration expenses. Notice of intended action for the rules should occur by end of December. DHS will the send first check as early in July as possible potentially by the first week of the month. SEIL is not contesting the shift from property taxes to all state funds, it is the unintended consequences this legislation creates they are asking be addressed. SEIL is suggesting restoring Fund 10 instead of making a new fund, this allows county/regions the ability to pay employees without waiting for state funds, this heads off shifting funds between region and county. A question was asked why create additional work and administrative burden with a sub fund that will be used the same way as Fund 10. For SEIL using Sub Fund 6 requires seven additional 28E agreements to maintain employees doing region work. During the process of proposals to draft SF 619 regions heard loud and clear that it wasn't the intent to disrupt the organizational structure and function of regions. Doing away with service area four and Fund 10 eliminates a lot of opportunity to maintain the organizational structure. The history contained in Fund 10 will be lost after the fund is inactive for three years. A question was asked why was Fund 10 was retained for Polk County and not the rest of the regions. The answer was because Polk County is already in one combined account. The intent of the legislation and policy makers was that all funds are to be in one combined regional account. County Finance worked with DOM to look at the law created by SF 619 to identify what needed to be done for implementation. They come to the decision regions maintaining county employees needed a fund at the county



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level with just enough money to pay staff. Fund 10 was the county MHDS fund, and they don't have that anymore; there is only one regional fund. Senator Kinney and Representative Mitchell are still in the process of working on legislation to address changes brought forward by SEIL. The governing board reiterated legislative changes are needed early in the session because right now is budget time for counties and regions. Don Gookin from DHS can come to the region to provide technical assistance, help SEIL address the issue of delinking from the county way of doing business, and identify administrative costs that will now need to be paid by the region. SEIL identified our region has a good system right now at the local level providing local service with local people and local issues should be addressed by local people.

9. Discuss and Consider Approval of First Resources MOU with South Central Behavioral Health Region The document was reviewed via screen share. First Resources is now an accredited crisis stabilization residential services (CSRS) provider for adults. South Central Behavioral Health Region (SCBH) is interested accessing beds at the First Resources CSRS. This memorandum of understanding (MOU) is similar to the Access Center MOU SEIL shares with SCBH.

Motion to approve the First Resources MOU with South Central Behavioral Health Region
By Mark Meek Second Marc Lindeen Passed unanimously

10. Discuss and Consider Approval of Transition Link assuming responsibility of jail based Justice Involved Services Coordination for the SEIL Region

With Optimae and Transition Link losing staff the region had the opportunity to identify how SEIL wants to move forward with providing jail diversion services. Sarah Berndt, Transition Link Program Supervisor, was interested in providing jail diversion services for the entire SEIL Region if the management team and governing board supported this transition. The management team believes now would be the time to move forward with one provider for post booking jail diversion services. Sarah has made the Henry County Board of Supervisors aware of this opportunity. As the employer of record the Henry County Board of Supervisors will need to approve hiring a fourth justice involved services coordinator and it is anticipated they will approve this request. Sarah has hired to cover the Des Moines County Jail. An offer was made for the Lee County Jail position, but the candidate declined. The candidate interviewed for the Keokuk, Louisa and Washington County Jails did not meet our criteria to make an employment offer. The search for new candidates will begin again at the first of the year. Tracy Liptak with Optimae stated they are supportive of the service being provided under a single provider and will help facilitate the best transition to Transition Link for the counties they serve. It is a move in the right direction and follows SEIL's earlier decision to have one provider completing crisis assessments for all eight counties. One provider for jail diversion services offers more consistent service delivery.

Motion to approve a single provider Transition Link for jail based justice involved services coordination By Mark Schneider Second Dee Sandquist Passed unanimously

11. New Business

At the 5th District Meeting SEIL was well represented by Jack Seward Jr. and Ryanne Wood and the legislators made notes when they were speaking.

Mental Health and Disability Services Commission (Commission) update reported the Commission completed an annual report to the Governor and General Assembly that was due in December. Recommendations in the report included aligning with a Certified Community Behavioral Health Clinic Model, create a uniform and



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stable funding system for MHDS regions to provide services and gives flexibility for service development, create an integrated service system for children with serious emotional disturbance, create and maintain a data infrastructure that evaluates the implementation of evidence-based practices and provide adequate funding for the infrastructure, focus on training for professionals and direct care staff with reimbursements to providers to adequately provide this training. Additionally the Commission is recommending an eighteen percent ongoing fund balance verses the current five percent for MHDS Regions, address the workforce shortage, the Legislature should address consistency of services within and across regions, standardize definitions of services and identifying expected outcomes to assure a system where regions focus on achieving outcomes identified by the Legislature as priorities.

12. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn By Mark Meek

Second Dee Sandquist

Passed unanimously

Minutes submitted by Marc Lindeen, Secretary, December 16, 2021. MLsb