



BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING MINUTES
Thursday, October 25, 2022

BOARD MEMBERS:

Payette County Board of Health Representative – vacant
Lyndon Haines, Commissioner, Washington County – present
Keri Smith, Commissioner, Canyon County – present
Kelly Aberasturi, Commissioner, Owyhee County – present
Viki Purdy, Commissioner, Adams County – present
Sam Summers, MD, Physician Representative – not present
Bryan Elliott, Commissioner, Gem County – present

STAFF MEMBERS:

In person: Nikki Zogg, Katrina Williams, Josh Campbell, Colt Dickman, Charlene Cariou, Doug Doney

Via Zoom: Troy Cunningham, Jeff Renn

GUESTS: Bekah Bowman, Betina Yore, Elisa Higbee - Court Appointed Special Advocates; Caroline Bell, Lifeways

CALL THE MEETING TO ORDER

Chairman Bryan Elliott called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting attendees participated in the pledge of allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Commissioner Aberasturi – present; Dr. Summers – not present; Chairman Elliott – present;
Commissioner Purdy – present; Commissioner Haines – present; Commissioner Smith – present.

REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL AGENDA ITEMS; APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chairman Bryan Elliott asked for additional agenda items. Board members had no additional agenda items or changes to the agenda. Nikki asked to add discussion of opioid settlement funds to the Director's Report. Nikki also asked Board members to please plan to disregard the action item listed for the Youth Crisis Center Facility Lease Negotiations. This topic will instead be discussed in the Executive Session as noted on the agenda.

MOTION: Commissioner Haines made a motion to approve the agenda with the requested changes. Commissioner Aberasturi seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

IN-PERSON PUBLIC COMMENT

One member of the public attended. No public comment was made.

OPEN DISCUSSION

Nikki announced that Payette County Commissioner and Board of Health Trustee and Executive Council member Georgia Hanigan has resigned her positions. Board members discussed board vacancies and

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how those are filled. Nikki explained that by statute each county recommends an individual to fill their county's slot on the Board. The other five counties then vote to confirm that board member. Board members also discussed how to best fill the Executive Council seat and agreed to wait until the new calendar to appoint a board member for that position.

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES – SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

Board members reviewed meeting minutes from the meeting held September 22, 2022.

MOTION: Commissioner Smith made a motion to approve the September 22, 2022, Board of Health meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Haines seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW EMPLOYEES

Division administrators introduced new employees.

SEPTEMBER 2022 EXPENDITURE AND REVENUE REPORT

Troy Cunningham, SWDH Financial Manager, presented the September 2022 Expenditure and Revenue Report. The target at this point in the fiscal year is 25%. Troy spoke with DHW regarding the crisis CFAC funding and was directed to identify COVID-focused options to expend the funds. Funds will not be returned to DHW.

VEHICLE DONATION REQUEST

Caroline Bell, Grant Writer from Lifeways, attended the Board meeting to request that the Board consider donating a fleet vehicle to Western Idaho Community Crisis Center for which SWDH serves as the administrator and Lifeways as the contractor. The vehicle would be used for client transportation purposes. She explained that transportation is difficult particularly in outlying areas such as Washington County, Payette, and Fruitland that do not have bus routes. Ride services that offer planned rides only are not feasible for crisis situations. Data has only been collected since February 2022 but indicates a large dollar amount paid out to medical transport services. This type of transportation is costly and not timely.

Valley Regional Transit (VRT) ride on demand service is utilized, particularly in non-acute crisis situations. The nearest bus stop is approximately five minutes away by walking. Caroline explained that VRT is available only during regular weekday business hours. The crisis center does have access to bus passes. The bus is not feasible for case-specific client needs such as cognitive challenges.

The biggest advantage of the crisis center providing their own transportation is response time. Medical transportation services often take several hours to respond to an individual in crisis. The crisis center has not yet determined the maintenance, insurance, fuel, and driver staffing cost but anticipate a donated vehicle will lead to better response times and less cost.

Nikki and Troy have reviewed the statute surrounding donations and have confirmed that donations to a 501(c)(3) are allowed.

MOTION: Commissioner Haines made a motion to initiate the process to donate an outgoing sport utility vehicle to Western Idaho Community Crisis Center. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. One opposed; motion passes.

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Emily Straubhar will provide further information on the cost benefit analysis of the vehicle donation.

COURT APPOINTED SPECIAL ADVOCATES (CASA) OVERVIEW

Bekah Bowman, Betina Yore, and Elisa Higbee from Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) explained the purpose and goals of the program that exists to help serve abused and neglected children who are in foster care due to some sort of trauma. The CASA program is mandated to serve children 12 years and under but is working to be able to provide care for teenagers in foster care as well. Courageous staff and volunteers help interrupt the trauma cycle that is often generational and help identify healthy paths moving forward.

The CASA volunteers work to help children heal and thrive. When volunteers are assigned, they can choose their case(s). Elisa shared a story of a child who came into care with no reunification plan and with a poor prognosis. The volunteer connected with the child's mom and successfully initiated the parenting plan, successful housing options, and connections with services. The end result was reunification with the parent.

Just over 600 children in Southwest Idaho received CASA services in the past year. Grant funding largely supports CASA and the agency continues to work on community collaboration and individual donors. Bekah asked for suggestions for community members or collaborative partners that might be a good fit.

For fiscal year 2023, CASA hopes to ensure all children in care have an advocate. To meet this need, CASA's goal is to recruit 81 volunteers. Average volunteer time is about eight hours a month.

YOUTH BEHAVIORAL HEALTH UPDATE

Savannah Swisher, project manager, has been hired and the advisory committee for the Safe Teen Assessment Center has been identified. The implementation date of November 1 has been changed to December 1. The grant received, totaling approximately \$1.5 million, will be awarded as subgrants to community partners to develop assessment and case management capacity and start operationalizing that work.

Idaho Department of Juvenile Corrections opened the Request for Proposals for the youth behavioral health crisis center and SWDH will be requesting approximately \$1.1 million to pursue opening a youth crisis center.

Nikki also shared that Canyon County Commissioners and the City of Caldwell verbally committed funding toward the youth crisis center, contingent on other funding pieces coming to fruition. The City of Nampa City Council is also interested in committing funds and is considering the request brought to them.

Healthcare systems have been involved in the conversations around the youth crisis center. No specific funding request has been put forward yet. In addition, two architectural firms have volunteered their services to help design any changes to the facility.

Commissioner Purdy asked for clarification on whether SWDH is working toward a Safe Teen Assessment Center or a youth crisis center. Nikki explained that SWDH will be pursuing both. Funding was appropriated by the legislature to stand up the safe teen assessment centers and there are eight

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across the state. The main focus is reducing the number of children entering the child welfare and juvenile justice systems.

The youth crisis center model is very similar to the adult crisis center which is designed to be an intervention rather than a prevention. Juveniles in crisis can stay up to 23 hours and 59 minutes and be connected to outpatient services or to an appropriate place of care such as the emergency department or inpatient care facilities.

Nikki clarified that the safe teen assessment center will not be a physical location. The safe teen assessment centers across the country mostly uses a physical location for a center. Southwest District Health incorporated the approach of using resources already in place to be able to provide youth across the six-county region the best access to services in lieu of funding an actual center in each of the six counties. A virtual platform will also be leveraged so a youth, parent, or responsible adult could assist with a screening. If the screening indicates a need for resources, the online platform can assist with connection to resources. If a need for assessment is indicated following the screening, then options for that service will also be made available. The assessment is completed by a licensed behavioral health provider.

PARTNERSHIP FOR SUCCESS SUBGRANT

The Partnership for Success (PFS) subgrant supports work SWDH has been completing since 2018 and this is the last fiscal year of the agreement. Office of Drug Policy (ODP) is requiring a document in writing indicating that the Behavioral Health Board (BHB) will be willing to partner with SWDH in order to continue this work. The Behavioral Health Board did provide that letter of support indicating willingness to continue to partner. In July, legal counsel for SWDH and ODP reviewed the revised contract language based on concerns Nikki had regarding naming the BHB as subrecipient and SWDH as the fiduciary agent. Subrecipients are typically responsible for meeting contract requirements, reporting on the deliverables, etc. To date, SWDH has been working as the subrecipient. Nikki's concern is about the changes in roles identified in the new contract despite the understanding that ODP does not expect any role changes to occur. Nikki added that the SWDH staff person responsible for carrying out the PFS work is successfully working with the BHB.

Nikki asked for guidance from Board members on how to proceed. Board members expressed concern about completing the PFS work with a different grant as the remaining grant funds are intended specifically for this purpose and this region.

ODP is amendable to naming both parties as subrecipients but requires the BHB to agree and both parties to sign the new contract by October 31st. Board members discussed the lack of clearly defined roles and responsibilities.

Charlene Cariou, Program Manager, explained that the Partnership for Success grant provides support resources and services for youth focused on prevention of alcohol, stimulant, and marijuana use. The grant provides funds for communities to make substance use activities less desirable. For example, SWDH worked with local law enforcement in Weiser to install a streetlight where high-activity usage had been identified. In addition, the program works with schools to identify high-risk students and connect the students with an in-school prevention program. Education in life skills are also provided.

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Board members discussed whether they support the subgrant contract being signed and submitted. Board members directed Nikki to proceed with ensuring SWDH staff are protected and the grant activities continue to be carried out.

MOTION: No motion was made.

SAFE TEEN ADVISORY ASSESSMENT CENTER (STAC) COMMITTEE NOMINATION APPROVAL

Savannah Swisher, Safe Teen Assessment Center (STAC) Project manager, presented a request for ratification of two additional committee members. The assessment center was recently renamed the Youth Resource and Opportunity Collaborative (YROCC).

The center's goal is to reduce the number of youth who enter the juvenile justice and child welfare systems. When screenings return as positive, referrals can be provided. Youth using these services can self-identify or be referred by a parent or caregiver. The assessment will be provided by Nampa Family Justice Center or Lifeways. The case management piece would be provided by Boys and Girls Club of Canyon County, Advocates Against Family Violence, Lifeways, WICAP, and Nampa Family Justice Center. Case managers will help the youth and family complete the care plan that is collaboratively developed by the licensed behavioral health provider and family. Depending on the needs, the care plan might include pieces such as counseling, a healthy after school activity, part-time after school employment, etc.

MOTION: Commissioner Haines made a motion to ratify the committee members as presented. Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. All in favor; motion passes.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL UPDATE

Nikki presented the Executive Council update. Setting of food fees at cost continues to be a current discussion. Executive Council members decided to wait to see how leadership for the 2023 legislature will shake out prior to determining next steps.

YOUTH CRISIS CENTER FACILITY LEASE NEGOTIATIONS

This item will be discussed in Executive Session as noted on the agenda.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Public Health Symposium

Southwest District Health will hold its fourth annual Public Health Symposium on November 15, 2022, following the Board of Health meeting. The topics will center around youth behavioral health as well as some environmentally focused topics. Local elected officials and hospital partners from across the six-county region have been invited to attend.

Opioid Settlement

Nikki will add this as an action item at the November meeting and will ask board members to consider putting some of the opioid settlement funds coming to SWDH toward the youth crisis center.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 11:35 a.m., Commissioner Elliot made a motion to go into Executive Session pursuant to Idaho Code 74-206(c). Commissioner Smith seconded the motion. Roll was taken. All in favor.

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At 12:05 p.m., Board members came out of Executive Session.

No action was taken as a result of the Executive session.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12: 06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:



Nikole Zogg
Secretary to the Board

Approved as written:



Kelly Aberasturi
Vice-Chairman

Date: November 15, 2022