

Members Present: Steve Nelson, Marti Richardson, Wanda Stokely, Sam Stokely, Richard Schroeder, Julia Nunez, Larry James, Mary Eyink, Daniel Hughes, Ed Hoffmeyer, Barbara Link, Amy Ruppert,

Staff Present: Mike Schoenhofer, Phil Atkins, Chris Karcz, Amy Morman

Visitors: Tammie Colon and Priscilla Burt, LSS; Carol Grady and Terry Hites, ASTOP; Myrtle Lighton, Lima UMADAOP, Barbara Pavichevich, ODADAS; Josh Ebling, FRC

Wanda Stokely called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM.

MINUTES

Larry James made a motion to approve the June 3, 2009 Joint MH/AoD Planning Committee minutes. Amy Ruppert seconded the motion. Motion passed. (See attached)

Wanda Stokely welcomed the visitors.

Items for Consideration

1. Board Benefit Package FY 2010 (attached)

Phil Atkins presented the FY 2010 Benefit Package to the committee. This Benefit Package has been developed over the past 2 years as the method the Board uses to determine priority programs and services for funding. In this budget environment the Benefit Package becomes even more crucial than ever in the Board's deliberations.

Julia Nunez made a motion to recommend the Board Benefit Package for FY2010 the Board for approval. Ed Hoffmeyer seconded the motion. (See attached) Motion passed unanimously.

2. Budget Cuts for FY 2010 Contracts (attached)

Mike Schoenhofer explained to the committee that in the past 12 months the Board budget has taken @\$2.2 million in cuts and @\$1.69 million of that in just the last 30 days. As a result drastic action is necessary in order to preserve core services.

Chris Karcz then detailed the proposed \$1.1 million in cuts to agency programs and services and an addition of \$500,000 of Board fund balance to be used for FY 2010.

After a thorough discussion, Mary Eyink made a motion to recommend to the Board to approve the cuts to each agency, board budget and miscellaneous contracts that total \$1.1 million. Larry James seconded the motion. (See attached) Motion passed unanimously.

3. AoD Program Plan (attached)

Phil Atkins presented the AoD Program and Services Plan to the committee. This is the result of 10 months of work to develop a We Care Wellness and Recovery Center by the Board. Because of the budget cuts a standalone center is not possible right now but the implementation of a comprehensive continuum of care for AoD treatment and support is possible. This plan represents the end product of that work for the time being.

Julian Nunez made a motion to approve the AoD Program Plan as presented. Dick Schroeder seconded the motion. (See attached) Motion passed.

4. Advocacy

Mike Schoenhofer spent a few minutes talking to the committee and visitors about the urgent need for advocacy on behalf of the clients and families for whom the cuts will be significant. Without services people will die, end up in jail or at the emergency room. Many will become homeless. It will be necessary for us to speak up strongly on their behalf to our legislators, the Governor and the community as a whole.

5. Debra Jay (attached)

Phil Atkins reported to the committee that a two day series of workshops by Debra Jay, author of "No More Letting Go" will happen on September 17 (Hardin County) and September 18 (Allen County) with an evening vigil on September 17. Phil passed out fliers and information about these events to everyone.

Next Meetings:

Finance Meeting – August 18, 2009 at 8:00 AM

Board meeting – August 19, 2009 at 8:00 AM

Planning Committee Meeting – September 2, 2009 at Noon

Wanda Stokely adjourned the meeting at 1:35 PM