



CICS

Supporting Individuals. Strengthening Communities.

Regional Governing Board Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2021

Due to the COVID-19 virus, public access to the meeting was provided via conference call. Members of the Board and public were able to call in or attend via zoom.

Board Members Present: Boone, Franklin, Hardin, Jasper, Madison, Marshall, Poweshiek, Story, JD Deambra, Allie Wulfekuhle, Kendra Alexander, Julie Smith, Andrea Dickerson. **Counties/Members Absent:** Greene, Hamilton, Warren. **Administrative Team Present:** Russell Wood, Betsy Stursma, Karla Webb, Patti Leeds, Linn Adams.

Motion by Nolte to approve the May 27, 2021 agenda, second by Clifton. All ayes, motion carried.

Chair asks for motion to **approve the April 22, 2021 minutes. Motion by Dawley, second by Armstrong to approve with change of FY223 to FY22 for contract amendments. All ayes, motion carried.**

CEO Russell Wood discussed the changes to the **28E agreement** that had to be made to meet Iowa Code. Chair asked for motion to approve the 28E agreement. **Motion by Talsma, second by Heddens. All ayes on a roll call vote, motion carried. Greene, Hamilton, Warren absent.**

Wood had emailed **SF619** regarding mental health funding. This removed the property tax contribution to the Region effective July 1, 2022. Reduced max levy counties can have, which CICS was below so that doesn't affect the CICS levy. Iowa Code states if DHS determines a region or exempt county doesn't fulfill requirements, the Department can address the Region or county in a number of ways. 1) Determine an action plan 2) Reduce amount of annual state funding up to 15% 3) DHS can withdraw approval for the Region.

Contracts for every Region are the same throughout the state. If Region/exempt county does not meet the contract requirements those 3 items can be done. There will be expectations on what we do/how we do it, how we report/what we report which means expectations for a provider may be higher than in the past. DHS can put in provider outcome goals. CICS contracts will possibly have additional items that the provider has to meet that were not in their contracts before. Providers may not be happy with this change.

Wood discussed **levy dollars**, etc. and how much the Region will receive from the state quarterly in the future. Legislation is making it so the state is giving more money than ever before and more than CICS has planned to spend in the past or future. Wood has spoke with DHS and the only thing CICS is not doing at this point is IRSH. CICS will have to give the money back to the state if we don't use it, or the state will reduce the amount of dollars in the future, or both.

Fund balance must be down to 40% by end of FY22, 20% FY23 and 5% each year past that. 5% will only pay for 2 weeks of staff costs, etc.

Fund 10 will end June 30, 2022. That is a problem due to staff and occupancy expenses are paid out of Fund 10. This issue needs to be addressed within this next year. Wood is working with a group of other CEO's, ISAC staff, etc. on how to deal with this. Legislation will need to address this next year.

Wood updated the Board on legislation that passed affecting Regional funding for MHDS services. Discussion was held regarding reducing the levy rate for FY22.

Currently the State Department of Management has said that Counties and Regions can not reduce their levy below the amount the State has determined. This year we levied \$26.00 per capita (\$8.8 million), CARES dollars (\$1.467 million) ending us with \$20,764,063 million in our fund balance. We only spent \$9,100,000 this year due to COVID. Remaining fund balance is \$11,664,063.

The Governing Board decided to levy \$19.00 for FY22 (\$11.1 million). New revenue from the State will be \$3.476 million, new counties projected to be between \$2-3 million. Added up with fund balance and minus expenditures it is estimated to be \$14.257 million fund balance (118% rather than the 40% needed).

The money in the fund balance this year is all property tax, in FY22 \$11 million will be property taxes, FY23 there will be no property taxes left.

The question on the table is "IF DOM clarifies that regions CAN reduce their levy, will CICS reduce it's levy"

Board discussion:

Heddens: Hasn't talked to her Auditor about this to know if it is even legal to drop the levy.

Talsma said his auditor said the levy rate can be dropped, but it has to be determined today due to the close of the fiscal year coming up. Is there a way the Region can spend down a lot more than planned by the end of June?

Wood: We have been very fiscally responsible in the past. The state does not want to frivolously spend. There are possible expenditures. Vehicles, technology, in the future onboarding psychiatrists, IRSH, access teams, etc. Admin needs to sit down and get beyond whether it is absolutely necessary and look at if it is a good thing, i.e. Permanent Supportive Housing.

Talsma: Doesn't want to spend frivolously but would like to expend as much as possible in a positive way with needed services. He would be inclined to leave the levy rate where it is and build services for intensive care, ER, places for clients to go rather than being in a hospital with a deputy for 8 days at a time.

Clifton: First reaction was why not lower it? Then thought it would be good to invest in capital projects which will increase operational expenses.

Nolte: Need to maintain a program if we start it. Need to look at what money will be available in the future to be able to maintain. Doesn't believe the Farm Bureau, etc. won't try to mess with this in the future.

Wood: December 2023 DHS will be reporting to the legislature if Regions are doing what they are supposed to be doing. He wants CICS to show a ROI, that we have added value, not just expenses. He wants CICS to be a region the DHS reports as doing well.

Nolte: If DHS looks at us as a good region now, he wants them to continue to think that.

Wulfekuhle: As a parent, trying to understand everything, she believes there are large holes that can be filled throughout the region. Clients can't get services, can't find services or services are just not offered.



Wood: Discussed Children's services, possibly expanding more into children's services. Investing in children's lives reduces trauma in the future, reduces need for services in the future and is a good way to invest dollars.

Patten: Numerous ways to expand it looks like.

Dickerson (YSS): is open to ideas if there are needs in other counties/communities, etc. that they would be willing to look into for services. As a provider they are open to a way to expand or create services they are not currently doing for the Region.

Hoffman: Meet in the middle? Not only expand services, but help the communities in other ways?

Patten: If we lower the levy we would have less we would have to spend, however it will never be back in our budget and we will not be able to expand in the future. If levy remains the same we could expand services in the future.

Wood: Needs something from the DOM in management before auditors reduce county levies. At this point ISAC is saying we cannot. Even if it is voted today to reduce the levy if it is legal, it may be too late by the time DOM gets back and it could be too late anyway.

Heddens just spoke w/auditor, concerned getting DOM involved and with this being a holiday weekend it may be further out before we hear back.

Kretzinger: Is there anything that prohibits providing a per capita income back to the counties?

Wood: Yes, it is illegal, the only way to lower is reducing the levy. Could potentially invest in programs with fund dollars.

Stursma: We don't want to pull the rug out from services we have started.

Wood: We have started programs that are now funded elsewhere and those services wouldn't be available if we hadn't helped with the startup.

Nolte: Don't agree to lower levy, leave it.

Chair asked for motion to deny a levy change. Motion by Nolte, second by Talsma. All ayes on a roll call vote. Motion carried. Greene, Hamilton, Warren, Deambra absent.

Finance Officer Betsy Stursma shared the **April expenditures report**. CICS is well below budget for FY21 due to COVID. Stursma shared the **claims report for May 4 and May 18, 2021. Motion by Hoffman, second by Talsma to approve claims. All ayes on a roll call vote, motion carried. Greene, Hamilton, Warren, Deambra absent.**

Operations Officer Karla Webb presented the **Interregional MOUs for Complex Needs Services**. This is for the host region and the guest region to have the guest region abide by the host regions contract for complex needs. Would like the CEO to be able to sign the contracts based on contracts already approved by the GB with our providers. This will give a paper trail for DHS to see what is being done. Some regions have board chair sign, some have the CEO sign. Heddens: Just this contract, or other contracts moving forward? Wood: Future MOU's also, which we have done in the past. This will be a formal way of showing the DHS what we are doing. **Motion by Talsma, seconded by Hoffman to approve CEO signing MOUs. All ayes, motion carried.**

Webb presented the **SOU for Jennifer Kerns. Motion by Dawley, second by Alexander. All ayes, motion carried. Heddens abstained.**



Webb presented **FY21 contract amendments for Eyerly Ball Community Mental Health Services. Motion to approve by Heddens, second by Nolte. All ayes, motion carried.**

Webb presented the **FY22 Central Iowa Juvenile Detention Center contract. Motion to approve by Hoffman, second by Talsma. All ayes, motion carried. Dawley abstained.**

Webb presented the **FY22 Hardin County Advocate Services Agreement. Motion to approve by Clifton, second by Dawley. All ayes, motion carried. Hoffman abstained.**

Webb presented the remaining **22 contract renewals for FY22**: North Iowa Transitional and Employment, Services Inc. dba 43 North Iowa; Arc of Marshall County; Brain Injury Association of Iowa; Center Associates; Central Iowa Psychological Services; Integrated Behavioral Health Services P.C. dba Classroom Clinic; Eyerly Ball Community Mental Health Services; EVizzit of Iowa Psychiatric PC, dba Integrated Telehealth Partners; FIA Friendship Club, Inc.; Integrated Treatment Services, LLC; North Central Sheltered Workshop dba LifeWorks Community Services; Mason City Clinic; Mid-Iowa Triumph Recovery Center, Inc.; Rodasi LLC dba Midwest Counseling; One Vision; Optimae Life Services; Prairie Ridge Integrated Treatment Behavioral Healthcare; Premier Payee, Inc.; The Salvation Army; Tuyet Noriega; North Central Iowa Mental Health Center, Inc. dba UnityPoint Health-Berryhill Center; Youth Shelter Care of North Central Iowa, Inc. **Motion to approve remaining FY22 contracts by Hoffman, second by Talsma. All ayes, motion carried.**

Chair asked for public comments at this time, none given.

Next Meeting is June 24, 2021. Discussion will include in-person meetings and change of meeting date for August due to ISAC Fall School of Instruction.

Chair adjourned the meeting.

Patti Leeds, Recording Secretary

Bill Patten, Board Chair

