



**SOUTHEAST IOWA LINK (SEIL)
MENTAL HEALTH AND DISABILITY
SERVICES REGION**

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

DATE	CONVENING TIME	LOCATION
April 14, 2021	1:30pm	Henry Co. Emergency Management 900 West Washington St. Mount Pleasant, IA 52641 ZOOM

**Southeast Iowa Link Governing Board Meeting
Approved Minutes**

Present: Rick Larkin, Jack Seward Jr., Marc Lindeen, Tom Broeker, Dee Sandquist, Fred Snakenberg, Chris Ball, Mark Meek, Bob Bartles, Rochelle Phelps, RYANNE WOOD, Sarah Berndt, Sandy Stever, Bobbie Wulf, Patty Brooks, Audrey Menke, Alan Brady

1. Approve Agenda

The meeting was called to order at 1:30 pm. The agenda was reviewed via screen share. A request was made to add discussion of the American Rescue Plan under new business.

Motion to approve the agenda with addition under new business of the American Rescue Plan

By Jack Seward Jr. Second Dee Sandquist Motion passes

2. Consider Approval of March 10, 2021 minutes

The document was reviewed via screen share.

Motion to approve the March 10, 2021 minutes

By Chris Ball Second Tom Broeker Motion passes

3. Update from Adult and Children Advisory Committee Members

Adult advisory talked about a training daily living activity skills DLA-20 offered in region, there are two dozen training slots maybe more available. There is a follow-up train the trainer.

The community mental health center (CMHC) Optima was attempting to establish hasn't been denied, but the Mental Health and Disability Service Commission has created a protocol to become a CMHC if the provider is a for profit entity.

The property tax reform bill Senate File 587 puts at risk drop-in/recovery centers and jail diversion services offered in the region. The funding reduction in this bill is a threat to region programs. Legislative session is winding down and this bill has not passed the house. House File 835 which has passed the House and should pass in the Senate and is a bill regarding ABLE Trusts that empowers people to make decisions on their own money to cover costs for goods or services not covered by Medicaid. This changes the state being able to recoup any resources from an estate when a person dies. There is another bill relating to increasing front line worker wages which is still alive. There is funding in the governor's budget to increase front line staff wages and the Senate has supported this.

The American Rescue Act was discussed, and will be discussed later in the agenda.

Children's advisory is still looking for a pediatrician to participate on this committee. Work continues on



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the asset map. The asset map committee will meet again April 30th and the hope is to start using the asset map after that meeting.

4. Discuss and Consider Approval of Advisory Committee designated members

There are no recommendations for designated members from either advisory committee.

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

The document was reviewed via screen share. All reports were submitted from the member counties. March expenditures are typical. Van Buren interest payment for transfer of funds is reflected. Revenues reflect property tax allocations coming through. Jefferson County levy looks low due to the appropriation of revenue for showing April 1st for March property tax revenue. No payments were made to the fiscal agent for March. This spreadsheet is tracking Decat expenditures and reimbursements. The three cent difference for Jefferson County that was being tracked is now correct and reconciled with the Jefferson County Auditor.

Motion to approve the claims running totals document for March

By Tom Broeker Second Marc Lindeen Motion passes

6. Discuss and Consider Approval of Governing Board signatory on claims

Motion to approve Tom Broeker for signatory on claims

By Tom Broeker Second Dee Sandquist Motion passes

7. Consider Approval of Claims for Fiscal Agent Account as per Claims 4-14-2021

The document was reviewed via screen share. Mandated claims totaled \$22,712.55, claims for services totaled \$339,168.05 and children’s wraparound funds totaled \$710.00. Total of all claims to be paid is \$362,590.60.

Motion to approve the claims for 4-14-21

By Marc Lindeen Second Mark Meek Motion passes

8. Receive and File Fiscal Agent Report- March

The document was reviewed via screen share. There was a revenue of \$150.00 from an interim assistance reimbursement and children’s wraparound funds Decat reimbursement for December and January of \$210.00. Expenses totaled \$355,017.09 and match the claims approved by the governing board in March. Updated fiscal agent reports for January and February reflect interest earned for those months. March interest has not been reflected in the reports.

Motion to receive and file the fiscal agent report for March

By Jack Seward Jr. Second Chris Ball Motion passes

9. Presentation on Utilization Review July 1 through December 31, 2020

The document was reviewed via screen share. This information goes along with the outcomes report that was reviewed in March. This utilization review is for contracted providers. This report will be provided every six months. Sandy is working on a utilization review of services provided by non-contracted providers. The two reports together will reflect all funds SEIL has spent on services.



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Discussed the utilization of mobile crisis, the cost SEIL is paying for the service is higher than what other regions are paying. No specific explanation for this cost difference has been identified. The management team is in the process of reviewing mobile crisis services and getting input from law enforcement and providers. The goal is to provide an improved mobile crisis service.

Other discussion included reconciled services show the higher the utilization the lower the unit cost related to the number of individuals served. This allows the region to evaluate is the service worth the price point for the outcome and number of people being served. The region only pays for rent for individuals who have an SSI claim in process and meet diagnostic criteria.

10. Discuss finalized Annual Service and Budget Plan with finalized budget

The document was reviewed via screen share. The SEIL Annual Service and Budget Plan approved in March was predicated on member county approved budgets being reflected in report submitted to the Department of Human Services. The final budget in the annual service and budget plan was to be reviewed at the April governing board meeting. The region expenditure budget is \$8,095,629.00. Total projected property tax revenue reflected for the region is \$7,453,786.00.

Motion to acknowledge the annual service and budget plan budget and revenues
By Jack Seward Jr. Second Chris Ball Motion passes

11. Receive and File FY20 Audit extension approval

The document was reviewed via screen share. The request for an audit extension has been approved by the state auditor for the fiscal year 2020 audit.

Motion to receive and file the audit extension approval
By Tom Broeker Second Jack Seward Jr. Motion passes

12. Discuss and Consider Approval of Transition Link MOU

The document was reviewed vial screen share. This memorandum of understanding (MOU) is for jail diversion services provided in jails in Des Moines, Henry, Keokuk, Lee, Louisa and Washington Counties. There are no significant changes to the MOU other than clarification of the chart of account codes used to bill services. The budget reflects an eighteen percent decrease due to a reduction in staff and a ten percent indirect allocation. Henry County allowed a one percent raise for employees.

Motion to approve the Transition Link MOU
By Mark Meek Second Tom Broeker Motion passes

13. Discuss and Consider Approval of Optimae Amended contract for Region Crisis Assessment Start-up cost

The document was reviewed via screen share. Optimae was awarded the request for proposal for crisis assessments to be provided by one provider in all eight member counties. The plan is for the service to be up and running July 1st. Start up costs were requested in the Optimae proposal. The request is to amend the Optimae fiscal year 2021 contract to allow payment for the start up costs in this current fiscal year.

Motion to approve the Optimae contract amendment
By Tom Broeker Second Chris Ball Motion passes



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14. Discuss and Consider Approval of Van Buren Job Opportunities contract

The document was reviewed via screen share. This is a routine contract for supported employment services. SEIL on average funds one or two individuals a month and occasionally up to six a month. The rate being paid is the current Medicaid rate for supported employment. It was pointed out that the rate isn't contained in the contract so governing board members don't know the rate they are approving. The coordinators of disability services do know the approved Medicaid rate. The Medicaid rate will be included for future contracts.

Motion to approve the Van Buren Job Opportunities contract and authorize the chair to sign
By Jack Seward Jr. Second Chris Ball Motion passes

15. Discuss and Consider Approval of River Hills contract

The document was reviewed via screen share. This contract has remained the same for the last few years. This is to make available urgent care appointments in the Richland or Sigourney location. The rate for an urgent care therapy appointment is \$89.45 and medication management is \$223.08. Rates were not identified on the contract to avoid contract amendments should a Medicaid rate change during the contract period. The schedule of reimbursement could be provided to the governing board at contract time, so they know the rates have been verified.

Motion to approve the River Hills contract
By Marc Lindeen Second Dee Sandquist Motion passes

16. Discuss and Consider Approval of Hope Haven contract

The document was reviewed via screen share. There are no changes with the programs funded. SEIL establishes the rate for the five bed crisis stabilization residential services. The contract is also for the two drop-in centers operated by Hope Haven in Lee and Louisa Counties. The program costs are reviewed with the provider during the contract period and a three percent rate increase was allowed.

Motion to approve the Hope Haven contract
By Tom Broeker Second Marc Lindeen Motion passes

17. Discuss and Consider Approval of Southern Iowa Mental Health Center MOU for Access Center services

The host region where the access center is located drafted the memorandum of understanding (MOU). The cost for access center services is shared between three regions, CROSS, South Central Behavioral Health and SEIL for access center services and the financial gap for service access. Due to the region requirement to designate an access center a standardized MOU is being drafted so all regions will utilize the same form.

Motion to approve the Southern Iowa Mental Health Center MOU
By Chris Ball Second Mark Meek Motion passes

18. Discuss legislative updates

Discussed Senate File 587 seems to have a lot of opposition in the House. There are significant concerns with the bill in its present form. This bill is being referred to as a mental health bill, which it is not, it isn't a policy bill it is a property tax reduction bill. There are multiple other services that would be impacted if



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this bill is passed. This bill is an attempt to address unfunded mandates placed on counties/regions, however, not having property tax funding included in a region system is concerning. A levy reduction should be anticipated at some point, if not this year some year. However, property tax reduction should not cause harm to the service arrays regions already have in place. SEIL has been very vocal about the non-core services that are extremely important at the local level and keep people out of more costly services. If a decision is made and Senate File 587 is passed there will need to be a budget amendment. Providing sustainable services on unsure funding is very difficult.

Senate File 461 is the bill regarding voting members on the governing board, this is on the calendar as unfinished business. Senate File 462 is about paying for administrative days after a managed care organization decertifies payment in an acute hospital setting; payment of inpatient hospital services would continue while an alternative placement is being obtained. Senate File 526 is the access center bill and has been referred to Human Resources. The ABLE Trust bills have been placed on the calendar under unfinished business. Senate Study Bill 1266 just released today and is an appropriation bill.

19. New Business

American Rescue Plan discussion was brought up by Marc Lindeen. Knowing what counties will get in federal funds, is there funds for mental health services that could be contributed if each county wants to put funds towards the region? Could these funds be used towards what SEIL is funding currently to keep the region service array whole if Senate File 587 passes? Talked about option of using funds for mobile crisis, emergency management, ambulance services, housing or employment support. Jamie Cashman with ISAC is working on putting information together to answer questions for counties. When you go to the US Department of Treasury to look at frequently asked questions (FAQ) guidance it is up to counties to decide how to use the funds. Consensus was more guidance is need. A portion of the funds were to be sent sixty days after March 3rd, with another round in eighteen-months and all funds sent to counties by December 2024. Counties still don't know what funds can and can't be spent on and should plan on keeping detailed track of how the money is spent. Counties should plan to check the US Department of Treasury FAQ for guidance once a week.

20. Adjourn

Motion to adjourn

By Mark Meek

Second Chris Ball

Motion passes

Minutes submitted by Marc Lindeen, Secretary, May 4, 2021. MLsb