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MID-SOUTH SUBSTANCE ABUSE COMMISSION

September 28, 2009 – 6:00 p.m.

1st Floor Conference Room, Hilliard Building

121 E. Maple Street

Mason, Michigan

M I N U T E S

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Ralph Tillotson, Chairman
Joe Brehler
Jan Bunting
Dale Copedge
Brad Densmore
Debbie DeLeon
Cliff Herl
Lynn Mason
Earl Poleski
Robert Showers
Deborah Smith

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Dale Barr
Shirley Carter
Pam DeVaney-Bozinoff
Jean Golden
Stan Nieboer
Jim VanDoren

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Tillotson called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m

ROLL CALL

Ms. Mason called roll; 11 present and six absent. One member arrived after roll call.

GUESTS:

Lisa McCafferty, Ionia alternate
Barbara O'Connor, Allegiance SAS
Patricia Wheeler, NCA/LRA
Gerald McCullough, MVA
Roy Vargas, MVA
John Roy Castillo, Cristo Rey

STAFF:

Gary VanNorman, Executive Director
Gerrie Roeser, Finance Manager
Lori Coe, Executive Secretary
Jeanne Diver, QA/CCC Manager
Joel Hoepfner, Prevention Manager

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF AUGUST 24, 2009

Mr. Herl moved approval of the minutes of August 24, 2009 as presented. Ms. Smith supported the motion. The motion carried.

ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mr. VanNorman added Ad Hoc Committee Report under Committee Reports. Item E.

Mr. Densmore moved approval of the agenda as amended. Ms. Smith supported the motion. The motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no communications.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Smith reported she recently spent some time with William White, who is involved with Recovery Oriented System of Care (ROSC), and that she has a book on the subject she would be happy to share with anyone interested.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Director's Report – G. VanNorman

Mr. VanNorman reported on CHAMPS, the automated Medicaid payment system, which went live on September 14th. He stated it has been causing difficulty in that we have been unable to determine Medicaid eligibility for clients, but staff is working with providers to get work done.

Letters were sent to our state representatives on the impact of possible consolidation of CAs into PIHPs as proposed in the DCH Appropriations Bill, Section 407. The bill is in committee now. He noted the State budget negotiations are still ongoing. There was discussion on HB 5120 which deals with the Convention Facility tax (PA2) but is not the substance abuse funding. The law would move responsibility from Cobo Hall specific into a regional agency to run Cobo Hall. More information will be provided as known.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Treasurer's Report for August 2009

Mr. Brehler moved approval of the Treasurer's Report for August 2009 as presented. Ms. Smith supported the motion. The motion carried.

B. Program Development Committee Report

Ms. Smith reported there were no action items. The Committee received information on the QI Work Group, a report was given on the CCC, a report was given on a meeting between staff and representatives of the 55th District Court, a prevention Strategic Plan update was provided, and all participated in an exercise related to ROSC.

C. Executive-Personnel-Finance Committee Report

Ms. DeLeon moved approval of the FY08/09 budget amendment as presented. Ms. Smith supported the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Poleski moved acceptance of the McCullough, Vargas Financial Site Review report. Ms. Smith supported the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Herl moved approval for purchase of a new vehicle. Ms. DeLeon supported the motion.

Discussion ensued. Mr. Poleski and Ms. Mason indicated their opposition to this motion.

Vote called on the motion. The motion carried with Mr. Poleski and Ms. Mason voting no.

Ms. DeLeon moved approval of the FY09/10 Administrative and CCC budgets which reflects an overall reduction of \$64,803. Mr. Densmore supported the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Brehler moved approval of the FY09/10 Provider budgets which reflects continuation funding for most agencies. Mr. Densmore supported the motion. The motion carried.

D. Audit Committee Report

Mr. Brehler reported the Audit Committee reviewed the three proposals received, and determining it was time for a change in audit firms, voted to award the contract to Abraham & Gaffney.

Mr. Brehler moved acceptance of the bid for Abraham & Gaffney for audit services. Mr. Densmore supported the motion. Discussion ensued.

A roll call vote was taken with Brehler, Copedge, Densmore, DeLeon, Herl, Smith, and Tillotson voting yes and Bunting, Mason, and Poleski voting no. Motion carried 7 to 3.

E. Ad Hoc Committee Report

Ms. Mason reported in Mr. VanDoren's absence. She stated the committee brought forth some recommendations as follows:

Orientation and Mentoring

- Assign new members to a senior member as a mentor partner.
- The director will meet with all new members for a one-on-one orientation session, separate of regular Board or other standing committee meetings.
- Provide an orientation workbook for new members.

Ethics Committee

- Establish Ethics Committee as a standing committee at the call of the chair; amend By-Laws to provide for this committee.
- No more than five members with current Ad Hoc members appointed. No more than one member per county.

Director Review Process

- Establish procedure for each Board member to have input into director's review process annually.

Discussion ensued with members voicing concern that having a committee at this point would imply it has some power, yet it is unknown what that power would be. The Committee needs to have a structure first.

Ms. Mason moved that the Ad Hoc Committee continue to meet in order to formulate a proposal for creation of an Ethics Committee. Mr. Poleski supported the motion. The motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

A. By-Laws Revision

Ms. DeLeon moved approval of the revision to the Mid-South By-Laws which added the Audit Committee as a standing committee, changed monthly meeting dates appropriately, and made some minor language changes. Mr. Densmore supported the motion. The motion carried.

B. Gratiot County letter

A copy of the letter sent to the Gratiot Board chairman was provided for information; Ms. Bunting stated she would take care of it.

C. NCA/LRA Tabled Letter

Ms. DeLeon moved to take the NCA letter off the table for discussion. Mr. Copedge supported the motion. The motion carried.

Mr. Copedge stated the letter presents an opportunity for adjustment of services Mid-South purchases from NCA. He noted we need to assure any services fall within what we need. Mr. VanNorman stated the letter was modified upon receipt of the second letter from NCA and that their audit report and other information was used in the response. He stated the staff recommendation is, absent receipt of further information or a meeting between NCA's board, director, and clinical staff and Mid-South representatives, no additional funding be approved.

Mr. Copedge moved the letter be sent. Mr. Brehler supported the motion. The motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Gary McCullough spoke in response to the site review report on his program, stating they have always had good site reviews, and felt they were performing well. He added they are making every effort to make recommended changes.

Mr. Brehler moved the Board go into closed session for discussion of the Executive Director's contract and evaluation. Mr. Densmore supported the motion. Roll call vote was taken with Brehler, Bunting, Copedge, Densmore, DeLeon, Herl, Mason, Poleski, Smith, and Tillotson voting yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Members moved to closed session at 7:40 p.m.

Members returned from closed session at 8:04 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.