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*Missouri Association of County  
Developmental Disabilities Services*

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**Meeting Minutes**  
**August 27, 2009**

Call to Order/Celebrations and Announcements

Members were encouraged to share their triumphs and sorrows with someone in the membership, as contemporaries we can all support one another in a way no other group can.

**Lovie Olkaus** moved to go into closed session for 30 minutes and **Chuck Snow** seconded the motion. **The motion carried.** Roll call was taken by county and the closed session began. Discussion ensued regarding Contract Renewals (Executive Coordinator, Legislative liaison, MAC on line, Conference). Decided to continue contract with Gamble & Schlemeier Governmental Consultants and with Tracker Design for web site hosting and support. The association is accepting bids for Executive Consultant. No further actions taken.

**Ron Kruse** moved to go out of closed session and **Chuck Snow** seconded the motion. **The motion carried** and closed session ended.

**Jake Jacobs** moved that the request for bids for Executive Consultant be published for consideration at the next meeting. **Marcus Whitlock** seconded the motion and the motion carried.

**DMH-DD, Monthly Update**

Bernie Simons, Division Director

Reported on recent happenings

- The Mental Health Commission met on September 10<sup>th</sup>.
- A consumer conference was held last week that had 350 attendees. The three Divisions of the Department of Mental Health worked together to sponsor.
- The language amendment has been submitted to CMS to allow not for profit organizations to become TCM providers in counties' where the SB40 Board declines to provide services or a SB40 Board is not in place.

In anticipation of the approval required the RFP from last year for the SW portion of the state has been put back into action. A committee will review proposals utilizing a scoring tool and then make recommendation to the Director (Bernie Simons) who will then complete the process. The committee make up will remain constant when the process is brought to other parts of the state and will consist of

- The District Administrator
- The Regional Office Director

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- Director of Administration (Jeff Grosvenor)
- Director of Federal Programs (Melissa K)
- Advocacy Specialist
- A SB40 Board that is already proving in that region

Community Mental Health Centers (CMHC) will be considered. The individual community that makes up the committee will make decisions based on the proposal submitted the mission of the agency and the level of DD services provided.

- The membership asked about the types of questions or preferences of CMS and they were listed as
  - Rehabilitate vs. habilitate definitions
  - Individual plan is the preferred language
  - Now able to question the entire waiver, used to be just the section of the amendment or new proposal
  - The practice of one waiver or many waivers is a factor
  - Looking at what is home and community based vs. residential services
- Some discussion about the Senate Select Committee Report and how things are happening around the state that pertains to those issues.
- Even though it is really early in the budget year, it is looking like another tough year.
- Roger Garlich reported for the Division on the status of e-learning and the Prevention Waiver due to be submitted to CMS September 11, 2009
- In response to budget requests, the Division will not be seeking in their budget dollars to take the place of funds found in individual agencies to offset the cost of the wages vs. the contract rate paid. As this pertains to the Senate Select Committee the preferred method of the Division would be for the Coalition to work together to produce a 5 year plan for how the recommendations in the report could be funded.
- Stressed early engagement with the Regional Office Director and Director of Administration (Jeff Grosvenor) in setting up the TCM with DMH paying the match (\$22,000). In regards to funding a CM Supervisor, the discussion should include Roger Garlich to set priorities for the Division. Considerations would be the number of people served and if the agency case managing the entire county? In reference to the “24 committee” recent recommendations setting the criteria for case management and supervision of case managers, it was felt that utilizing those criteria would be a good idea.
- Five candidates from a pool of ~35 applicants are being interviewed for the Kansas City regional Office Director position.

### **Continue Workgroup Updates and Other Business**

There was continued discussion concerning the conference planning and whether it should remain a contract separate from that of the executive coordinator position. The education/conference committee could recommend bid specs based on current status. Current committee members were identified, Jim Casey and Cathy Arrowsmith are co-chairs and John Sherer, Pete Breeding and Max Lytle also sit on that committee. The current arrangements for CAB to coordinate the contract was an executive decision some time back and was not put out for bid.

**Mary Sullivan-Thomas** moved to renew contracts for Gamble & Schlemeier Governmental Consultants for our legislative work and for Tracker Designs to continue as our web host without funding changes. **Charlie Washburn** seconded the motion and the **motion carried**.

- Roger Garlich reported on the Medicaid Waiver workgroup, specific to the prevention waiver we are soon to submit. Currently looking for provider profiles and is asking for feedback. Mary Sullivan-Thomas offered to post under “hot topics” on our web page.

Discussion then ensued about the use of a 14C certificate that can be used by more than just sheltered workshops to pay less than minimum wage. A handout was distributed with information from the Department of Labor. Looking for feedback and the discussion listed the considerations as

- Could be an option for day programs
- May be wrong to use a waiver like this
- Like the idea of a direct employment goal identified, not round about though PA services
- Needed in some counties
- Need a reserve fund, a way to pay for slots when a person moves from one county to another (\$2,000)
- PA can be used on tandem, could double the service, but not duplicate

**Wendy Hayes** moved to support the prevention waiver with exception of the sub-minimum wage piece. **Mary Sullivan-Thomas** seconded the motion. A discussion ensued. When the vote was taken the **motion was defeated.**

**Jim Casey** made a motion that MACDDS support the prevention waiver and **Alecia Archer** seconded the motion. The **motion carried.**

- Marcus Whitlock reported on the Consumer Relations workgroup. This group was already in progress when Marcus Whitlock and John Sherer joined it. They were charged with identifying the assurances via MOU's and intergovernmental agreements. In general the MOU is thought to be a regional document that shows what and how things will be done. Looking to make additions of grievance and conflict of interest statements to spell out in detail, with standardized language. The group had the following feedback
  - The agreement is much larger than the contract
  - One agreement is needed
  - Assurances are in the intergovernmental agreement
  - Seems redundant, already in place
  - Can't compare the documents, very different
  - A contract trumps all

MACDDS recommends not standardizing the MOU and that the contract is the most important

- The template could be used as a guide only, modified to meet individual needs.
- The agreements are modified in some counties but not all
- Not all counties have signed the intergovernmental agreement

It was the consensus of the group that the issue is one of an individual nature at this time and should not be brought forth as a group issue.

Roger Garlich volunteered to take this information back to the Division as feedback.