

CITY-COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH MINUTES
Special Monthly Board Meeting
June 15, 2017

PRESENT: Sharon Buhr, Chair
Dr. James Buhr, Secretary

Tom Overn, Vice Chair
Cindy Schwehr

ABSENT: Mike Bishop

ALSO PRESENT: Theresa Will, RN, Director
Angie Martin, Office Manager

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting was called to order at 12:03 p.m. by Sharon Buhr, Chair, in the CCHD conference room.

AGENDA: Agenda approved as printed.

NEW BUSINESS: Behavioral Health Grant: Joan Bachman, reGroup facility out of Moorhead, MN, does peer support and recovery services in the Minnesota area. They are working on a grant that would allow them to do outreach work in nine counties in eastern ND. They need to open an office in Fargo because they have to be in North Dakota. They would have a recovery coach, project coordinator and peer mentors in Fargo. Over time, 1-2 will be based in Valley City. The staff that would potentially be coming here would be under a licensed addiction counselor out of Fargo's reGroup. They want to see people who come out of prison, jail or addiction treatment. The peer mentors are people who have had an addiction themselves and have been in recovery for at least two years. They have received extra training and would be working with clientele who are newly out of treatment.

This is a three-year SAMHSA grant -- \$200,000/yr. The request is for in-kind office space and helping advocate for the program. Barnes and Richland counties would be the first two target counties in the program. Our Community Health Assessment supports the need for this kind of program. Possibility that we would need more public health services for this clientele also. reGroup would like Health Board to submit a letter of commitment stating CCHD is committed to helping them do the outreach and providing an office.

Dr. Buhr made a motion that we send reGroup a letter of commitment for cooperation in their addiction services to the extent possible, and we could provide them with office space. Second by Schwehr. Schwehr questioned if the grant request is approved, would it be up to CCHD to help them get referrals from doctors, lawyers, judges, jail, etc.? Will noted that reGroup has a methodology for this. Recovery coaches have a plan to try to do sober events in the community. Suggested they might want to participate in the community Back the Badge event locally. Dr. Buhr noted that recovery efforts have failed in the past, principally due to lack of after care, and this program could aid newly-recovering addicts to succeed. Schwehr wondered if this program would cause any security concerns. CCHD has an alarm system in place already through county. Will also stated that this would be a good public health opportunity to offer Hep C testing, adult immunizations, or help with medication management. They have been working closely with Essentia clinic also, but Bachman wasn't sure that they could offer office space for them. Board noted that CCHD is a neutral place for clients. Schwehr voiced opinion that she wouldn't want to sign a letter of commitment if this program is housed at Essentia clinic. Following discussion, Board cast a unanimous vote and the motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT: With no further business before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m. The next regular monthly meeting will be **Wednesday, June 28, at 3:30 p.m.** in the CCHD conference room. Please note change of date.

Respectfully submitted,

Dr. James Buhr, Secretary