

MEMBERS PRESENT

Springfield Location:

Alan Dietrich	David Elder	Maureen Haugh-Stover	Debra Kinsey
Merlin Lehman	Dee Ann Ryan	Gary Seelbach	Randy Staton
Julie Stremmler	Brooke Whitted		

Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)

Kathy Briseno	Erin Ipjian	Evon Robinzine
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MEMBERS ABSENT

Bob Bloom	Edgar Hernandez	Beatriz Diaz-Pollack	Kathy Ryg
Lanéé Walls			

STAFF PRESENT

Springfield Location:

Mindy Miller	Linda Prewitt	John Schornagel	Debbi Smith
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Chicago Location: (attending by Video conference)

Robert Watts

LIAISONS PRESENT

Terry Carmichael, CBHA
Eileen Subak, League of Woman Voters

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Dietrich called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m. Members, staff and Liaisons in attendance introduced themselves.

II. APPROVAL OF THE FEBRUARY 11, 2010 MINUTES

The Authority reviewed the minutes of the February 11, 2010 meeting. Several members offered amendments to the draft minutes.

MOTION: Gary Seelbach moved and Kathy Briseno seconded that the minutes of the February 11, 2010 Authority meeting be approved with amendments. The motion carried unanimously.

III. STAFF REPORT

Director Schornagel referenced the following informational handouts:

- **3rd Quarter Staff Activity Report**
- **An updated CRSA membership list** was included in the board packets. If any members see errors, please report them to Mindy so we can correct them.
- Overview by the **Bazon Center on mental health law**. Analyzing the impact of recent health reform on people with mental illness.
- An Invitation by **Association of Community Mental Health Authorities (ACMHAI)**, inviting CRSA members to participate statewide meeting on June 7, 2010 in Lombard intended to address the program and service deficiencies in Illinois Communities as a result of the of the current budget shortfalls in Illinois.

Members questioned Director Schornagel on the progress of the LAN Data Pilot Project.

Director Schornagel informed the Authority that the Governor's Office (Office of Boards and Commissions) has requested the home counties of all CRSA board members for its boards and commissions website and that Mindy Miller will be gathering the information personally or by email.

Director Schornagel announced that a CRSA Technical Assistance Conference was held on April 14, 2010 to review the service needs of a suicidal child with mental illness requiring residential treatment and funding. The CRSA Technical Assistance Conference panel recommended that an Authority meeting be convened for an Authority Hearing in Champaign on Thursday, May 13, 2010 to hear the case. He added that a packet of information outlining the issues of the dispute and procedures for the hearing will be mailed two weeks in advance of the hearing also detailing meeting location and times. David Elder announced that in accordance with established dispute resolution procedures, neither video conferencing nor teleconferencing are permitted at dispute resolution hearings, so face-to face participation is required and that a quorum of the Authority is a requirement. Director Schornagel informed the members that Mindy Miller will be conducting a poll to ascertain attendance.

IV. AGENCY REPORTS

Debra Kinsey confirmed that Julie Hamos, a former state legislator has been named to succeed Barry Maram as Director of Healthcare and Family Services.

Alan Dietrich responded to a question about who is currently the Director of the Individual Care Grant program within the Department of Human Services/Division of Mental Health since Seth Harkins retired from the position. Mr. Dietrich responded that Dr. Constance Williams is the current Director of the ICG program.

Director Schornagel referenced the probable merger of the Illinois Department of Juvenile Justice (DJJ) into the Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) on July 1, 2010. Although members had many questions about the merger, the details of the merger are not yet clear. Discussion ensued: articulating possible pros and cons of the merger, reviewing the history of juvenile corrections in Illinois and discussion about some of the perceived barriers faced by the emerging DJJ in recent years. Several members expressed optimism, hoping that the emergent DJJ would get a needed boost as it merged or melded with DCFS and that DJJ would finally begin to realize some of needed gains for its students. Most of the member's questions were about how DJJ would be positioned with the DCFS structure; perhaps as a separate division with its own Director and budget or perhaps integrated into existing DCFS divisions. There were also questions about who would be managing the Illinois Youth Correctional facilities and programs. Director Schornagel was requested to make inquiries with CRSA Representatives from DJJ and DCFS to get their perspectives about of the merger. Several members suggested that CRSA might offer written public comment at some point about the merger as the details become more clear.

V. OLD BUSINESS

A. CRSA FY 11 Appropriation Update

Director Schornagel informed the Authority that he recently met with State Superintendent Chris Koch and Director of Special Education, Elizabeth Hanselman to discuss the breakdown in communication that led to CRSA's FY 11 appropriation being inadvertently reduced to the FY 10 Appropriation level of \$ 575,000.00 and adopted at that level in ISBE's budget. Dr. Koch affirmed that neither he nor ISBE senior managers have any intention to usurp CRSA budgeting authority or autonomy either this year or in the future. The group then agreed to set up better communication procedures between CRSA and ISBE staff to preclude the possibility of such an error could occur again. Director Schornagel also advised the Authority that the Governor's Office has proposed a \$483,000.00 FY 11 appropriation for CRSA, which constitutes a \$92,000.00 decrease or 16% below CRSA's FY 10 appropriation level. He added that CRSA is still listed in ISBE's budget at the FY 10 level of \$575,000.00.

B. Other

None

VI. NEW BUSINESS

A. Appointment of a Nominating Committee

Chairperson Dietrich announced the appointment of Bob Bloom and David Elder to join him as members of a Nominating Committee to recommend a slate of CRSA officers for FY 11.

B. Other

None

VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. Executive Committee

Chairperson Dietrich reported that all Executive Committee discussion items have been covered under other parts of the agenda.

B. Annual Report Committee

David Elder, Chairperson of the CRSA Annual Report Committee reported that the FY 09 Annual report was published last month following suggested non-substantive revisions offered by Authority members. He added that the Committee is considering substantive changes in the Annual Report format that would commence with the FY 10 Annual Report. He also commented that the Executive Committee is recommending changing the name of the Committee to the External Communications Committee which would have expanded responsibilities to over see CRSA Website development and the development of the agency documents such as brochures and promotional documents. Further, Mr. Elder expressed his wish to step down as Chair of the Committee and that Kathy Briseno and Alan Dietrich have agreed to Co-chair the new Committee. He added that Brooke Whitted and Debra Kinsey as members of the Committee have volunteered to serve on the Committee.

MOTION: *Brooke Whitted moved and Kathy Briseno seconded that the Authority change the name of the Annual Report Committee to the External Communications Committee which would have expanded responsibilities to oversee CRSA Website development and the development of the agency documents such as brochures and promotional documents. Further, the Authority is requested to appoint Brooke Whitted and Debra Kinsey as members of the Committee and to name Kathy Briseno and Alan Dietrich as Co-chairs of the Committee. The Motion carried unanimously*

C. Policy Committee

David Elder, Co-Chairperson of the Policy Committee reported that the Policy Committee met recently and began a review of existing Staff Evaluation policies, procedures and documents. The Committee will meet again soon pending a completion of a draft document outlining the skeleton of suggested revisions to the current Executive Director Evaluation process.

VIII. COMMENTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Terry Carmichael commented that in the current recessionary economy, deep and recurrent cuts to public mental health budgets in Illinois are significantly weakening the mental health system, in effect, turning the clock backwards, particularly in CRSA's specter of concern: child and adolescent mental health, and notably at the level of community-based supports and programs. As an example he cited last years elimination of SASS flex-funding and decreased financial support for community-based SASS programs that predictably led to increased use of psychiatric hospitalization as a front line resource, thus eroding years of progress made by SASS at the community level. He added that his group CHBA and others are intensively lobbying in the coming weeks for appropriate funding and services for individuals with mental illness to limit the erosion of mental health services that is implied in the Governor's current budget proposals for mental health services. He was complementary of DHS Secretary Saddler who is similarly advocating for responsible human service budgets and who publicly lifted the Medicaid caps imposed on public mental health centers. He acknowledged that while the residential Individual Care Grant (ICG) program is protected from deep cuts by an existing consent decree, that the ICG program has had a difficult year with under-funded SASS programs, with community stabilization programs underfunded and in some areas disappearing entirely as well as some residential ICG providers refusing to take new ICG clients because of payment backlogs.

IX. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

None

X. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: *Brooke Whitted moved and Kathy Briseno seconded that the meeting be adjourned at 11:00 a.m. The motion carried unanimously.*