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Emergence Health Network

El Paso Center for Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities

EMERGENCE HEALTH NETWORK BOARD OF TRUSTEES

MINUTES

(Audio copy of the meeting is available upon request)

Emergence Health Network Board of Trustees (“EHNBOT”) Meeting
Thursday, December 3, 2020 at 3:34 PM

Central Administration, Boardroom, 201 E. Main St. Ste. 600, El Paso, Texas – held via Microsoft Teams

PRESENT: WILSON, THOMPSON, D. STOUT, GOLDFARB, MYER, C. STOUT AND ANNELLO

ABSENT: LIEUTENANT ROMERO

1. INTRODUCTORY ITEMS

A. Call to Order and Certification of a Quorum

Quorum was certified.

B. Citizens’ comment

No members of the public spoke during public comment.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Approve minutes of the Board of Trustees meeting held on October 22, 2020 (reviewed by Executive Committee).

B. Approve Mobile Device Sell-back with RevalueTech (reviewed by Finance Committee).

C. Approve and authorize CEO to execute contract for HIPAA and Cybersecurity risk analysis with Securance Consulting for RFP #20-002 (reviewed by Finance Committee).

D. Discuss and take appropriate action and authorize CEO to execute interlocal agreement between El Paso MHMR D/B/A Emergence Health Network and the El Paso County Attorney for the provision of legal services related to the Assisted Outpatient Treatment Pilot Program (reviewed by Planning and Development Committee).

E. Adopt the Community Collaboration Report (reviewed by Executive Committee).

F. Adopt the Chief Financial Officer’s report on EHN financials (reviewed by Finance Committee).

EHNBOT Action: MYER moved/ C. STOUT seconded to approve consent agenda. Motion Carried (7/0)

3. REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

A. Receive CEO report regarding current EHN crisis operations, financial impact and legislative update

Rene Hurtado, Chief of Staff and Elisa Tamayo, Director of Policy and Governmental provided a presentation and update on the current state of EHN’s Legislative agenda highlighting:

- Over 800 bills already filed

- 87th Legislative Session begins on January 12, 2021
- New Texas House Speaker, Dade Phelan, R (Beaumont)
- Legislative priorities consist of “Do No Harm”, protect Medicaid provider rates, support funding strategies for the uninsured, promote 1115 Transition Plan for SMI, establish statewide access to CCBHC’s, address criminal justice interface and advance IDD Specialty Care
- Bill tracker highlights: HB 109, HB 280, HB 425, HB 564, HB 600, SB 96
- Related bills by El Paso Delegation: SB 171, HB 1312, HB98, HB 521 and HB 168
- Legislative agenda has been shared with the El Paso delegation, El Paso County and Hospital District
- In-depth policy discussions regarding potential legislation are being held with Sen. Blanco, Rep. Moody, Rep. Fierro and Rep. Ortega; policy meetings are also being held with Texas Council Government Relations

B. Receive presentation regarding program operation

Victor Talavera, Chief of Crisis and Emergency Services provided an 8-month overview of the program during the pandemic highlighting:

- Crisis assessments total MCOT 1,103 and Walk-ins 1,018.
- Crisis continues to provide services to all outside service facilities via remote assessments
- Crisis Hotline has seen an increase in information request calls. Callers seek general information and/or referrals
- Walk-ins continue to be the main source for the EOU admissions followed by other facilities and CIT drops
- CIT monthly encounters have exceeded the average from the previous year

4. REGULAR

- A.** Discuss and take appropriate action and authorize CEO to execute One San Jacinto Plaza Lease Addendum (reviewed by Finance Committee).

Michael Wyatt, Legal Counsel reported the following:

EHN is seeking to expand square footage of the 6th floor of Once San Jacinto Plaza to house the Purchasing Department and the Call Center. Rent will be based on space occupied allowing for savings during the buildout.

EHNBOT Action: MYER moved/ ANNELLO seconded to approve an authorize CEO to execute One San Jacinto Plaza Lease Addendum. Motion Carried (7/0)

- B.** Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the Investment Cash Management Policy (reviewed by Finance Committee).

The purpose of this policy is to comply with all laws and statutes governing the investment of public funds, including but not by way of limitation of the Texas Government Code. Policy was drafted to ensure effective fiscal management of EHN funds.

EHNBOT Action: C. STOUT moved/ THOMPSON seconded to approve the Investment Cash Policy. Motion Carried (7/0)

- C.** Discuss and take appropriate action regarding the Operating Reserve Policy (reviewed by Finance Committee).

The purpose of this policy is to build and maintain an adequate level of unrestricted net assets to support the organizations day to day operations in the event unforeseen shortfalls and timing

variances in accounts receivable. Policy was drafted to assist the Board with guidelines on using funds from reserves under certain circumstances.

EHNBOT Action: C. STOUT moved/ THOMPSON seconded to approve the Operating Reserve Policy. Motion Carried (7/0)

- D. Discuss and take appropriate action regarding CEO Open Minds Advisory Board agreement (reviewed by Executive Committee).

Consulting contract for CEO to serve on the Open Minds Advisory Board. CEO will be compensated for any work of expertise conducted by CEO on an occasional basis. Funds will be paid to EHN and subject to a policy that will move forward. EHN will then generate a stipend to CEO for her work. Both EHN and CEO will be compensated. Contract term is for one year.

EHNBOT Action: MYER moved/ THOMPSON seconded to authorize Joyce Wilson to execute prior consent for CEO to accept employment. Amend current agreement for EHN to receive compensation and pay CEO; amend agreement between EHN and Open Minds. Motion Carried (7/0)

5. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Board of Trustees went into executive session at 3:35 PM to discuss item 5A and 5B. Present at executive session: WILSON, THOMPSON, MYER, D. STOUT, GOLDFARB, C. STOUT, ANNELLO, Attorney Mitch Moss (left at 3:51 PM), Attorney Eddie Sosa, Attorney Anthony Martinez, Attorney Michael Wyatt, Kristen Daugherty and Jessika Franco. The board concluded executive session at 4:41 PM.

- A. Discuss CEO Contract pursuant to Texas Gov't Code Section 551.074.
- B. Discuss and review matter regarding possible board conduct in relation to open meetings act and other ethical guidelines and standards.

6. **OPEN SESSION**

- A. Discuss and take appropriate action related to CEO Contract.
EHNBOT Action: No action taken
- B. Discuss and take appropriate action related to matter regarding possible board conduct in relation to open meetings act and other ethical guidelines.
EHNBOT Action: No action taken

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:26 PM.

Approval Date: 1/29/2021 | 10:39 AM PST

By:  Dr. Rick Myer, Board Secretary