



**Central Service Area Authority Board Meeting**  
centralsaamontana.org

**January 28, 2011**

**Disability Rights Montana, Helena, MT**

I. Call to order: Lenore

Check In: Lenore Stiffarm, Jacob Wagner, Molly Prothero, Joe Moll, Marlene O'Connell, Robin Johnson, James Gustafson, Mavis YoungBear, Anita Roessman, Tommy Kevwitch, Jane Wilson, Tom Peluso, Cindy Smith, Alicia Smith, Jeanette Kotecki

Guest: Michael Parker

Quorum of Board Members:

Approval of minutes: Minutes for October, November, December 2010 need to be approved.

John moved to approve September meetings. Minutes approved and seconded – majority voted for acceptance.

CSAA Vision and Purpose: Alicia Smith

Vote on Board to go to capital to the Rally – majority voted to continue meeting as originally called.

Alicia asked how the board could get links out to add potential board members.

What is not happening on the board?

Tammy – Her vision for mental health – mental health is moving from a medical model to a recovery model. A lot of solutions to mental health issues will come from mental health recovery sector – she likes being the voice for that. She would like the board to utilize her skills.

Molly – would like the board to help people facilitate telling their story to the general public and to the legislature.

Mavis – what about pre and post intervention – speaking about the individual that shot the senator from Arizona.

Joe – stated that Arizona cut their mental health funds and they were unable to commit him when he was first noticed by authorities.

Mike Parker (guest from Bozeman) suggested assemblies at the school systems on mental health.

Lenore wanted local communities to utilize YouTube to get information out.

Tammy showed the Park County Information Guide – mentioned overcoming the stigma. Housing – scarce funding.

Jeanette – suggested a Facebook Account for CSAA.

Marlene – access to treatment and moving people from treatment to recovery – the journey encompasses the entire spectrum

Alicia – faith community – a lot of their community may not be getting help

John – need to be careful about faith community and their ability to lead to a cult community – most communities will have an inter-faith council made of major churches – the Methodist church is the only church that offered help – project help is this week in Bozeman.

Tom – don't lose sight of the job given to us by legislature – identify gaps in needs in our communities.

Mike Parker – agrees with John about the faith community. Went off his medication because of prayer and he realized that he needed medication.

Tammy -

Committee Reports:

AMDD Report: Dan Ladd stated the state is unsure on anything coming out of the legislature at this point. We have no idea what bills are going through and getting kicked out. There is confusion on bills for SAA changes by Mr. Windyboy. Molly suggested Lenore send him an email and will send out to board.

The latest information on the MMHST committee for distribution of proposals was there are 217 proposals for a total of \$50 million in requests.

Anita stated that the testimony that people gave at the legislature was wonderful. She heard from some of the legislatures that they heard stories that they had no idea about mental health and disabilities. They may be putting money in to the crisis bill. There have been a lot of cuts since April 2009. The total cuts to AMDD is around 16%. The putting back picture is too fuzzy. She suggested we continue to make noise. She suggests writing letters to the tax committee and that they need to collect taxes that haven't been collected. Whenever a non-Montanian is selling a place in Montana that isn't a primary residence they are supposed to pay a tax. In 63% cases that tax is not paid. She will send alerts and is asking the SAA to send emails and each SAA board member will ask three people in the community to send an email.

John suggested a 1% tax for everything over \$1 million goes to mental health which is something that is being done in California.

Anita said they are not powerful people in the legislature – they don't know the system – they don't know each other – and they don't know us.

Joe – brought up mental health at College of Technology having the legislature come for community feedback.

Dan Ladd – Justice Warner has a wide latitude on the trust funds. There are companies calling them all the time.

Jane Wilson – since last August has been collecting demographics of State Hospital. **Charts attached**

Dennis – home community based waiver – a waiver SDMI is meant to help people with serious mental illness - directed at nursing homes or are at risk of being at nursing home – be over 18 – be eligible for Medicaid – meet a level of care for nursing home – people who have difficulty – must live within Missoula and surrounding area – Cascade, Blaine, Glacier (golden triangle), Butte and surrounding area (Granite, Powell, Beaverhead, Silverhead, Jefferson), Billings and surrounding areas

JoNel McFadden – Tom introduced as someone he has known for a long period of time. Described how the board started.

Jonelle – nominating process – the process has to be important to individual member. Members may get lazy about nominating and forget what their purpose is. They start straying from what the purpose is. Want nominating committee to be a good mix. Want people who are seasoned and know how it works. Look for knowledge and commitment to mental health needs. Need to know what the committee will be doing in the next year. Review application form – does it say what you want to know? Has to be a nominating process – what kind of people (consumers, family members, what commitment, do people know them? To get quality people on the board there needs to be a nominating committee and that they take time to go over applications. **Handout from 2006 and CSAA Nominating Information-**

There should be a balance of individuals from each community. This really helps in terms of the legislature. The DD boards in the state were very committed and they really told a story.

Molly stated that there are a lot of gaps in our membership – we don't have a county commissioners or police officer that have taken CIT.

Jane stated on the board the board doesn't think about it until the last meeting and then Jane has a hard time with the board.

Tom noted that there are other stakeholders that need to be represented on the board.

Molly motioned we establish a nominating committee and a sub-committee to look at by-laws – Joe seconded

Discussion – Joe worked on by-laws and agrees that they need to be cleaned up. Molly wanted to update information on members to show where they are coming from. Tom recommended that the board as a whole recruit and turn nominees over the nominating committee. This committee should also recommend any changes to the bylaws that need changing.

Motion passed to establish a nominating committee and sub-committee – this committee will also recommend changes to bylaws.

Committee: Tom Pelusa, Marlene O'Connell, John Watson

The entire board needs to be recruiting for new members.

Tom would like this committee to also look at removing members that are no longer in attendance.

Motion to accept committee as Tom, Marlene, and John

Motion passed

LAC reports

Tammy – Park County LAC – handed out the Park County Mental Health Resource and Information Guide. At the last LAC meeting she brought a recovering meth addict with mental disorders. She is going to nominate her to the board.

Jacob – LAC Bozeman – they are adding a 6-plex to their campus in Bozeman. They are applying for grants – four people living with a disabling mental illness and are unable to live alone. They would be within walking distance of services. Rent would be \$225.00 per month and is long-term. They spent a lot of time talking about the drop-in center. They discussed how to get their folks to services in different areas of Bozeman. They just finished a CIT training (4<sup>th</sup> one) and there were 23 individuals in training.

Jeffrey – Helena – the Helena LAC seems to have an eb and flowing kind of attendance records – he sends out notices to get people to continue to come to meetings. He was really happy to see Anita R show up. Last month he received emails from members didn't want to show up because of other commitments. Dan Ladd needs information from the Helena LAC to report.

Marlene – hospital like everyone is concerned with what is happening in legislature. Hospitals are facing major threats which ultimately impact them. The big one are various bills and assaults on the Medicaid tax. Hospitals pay a tax to the state on every bed that is a Medicaid patient. At the end of the year they are paid at the end of the year. If bed tax is repealed or redirected then hospitals will be in trouble because they currently don't make money on Medicaid. A huge amount of funding is not full pay. Part is paid by private insurance. By 2014 they cannot charge different rates for private insurance and Medicaid. There is a shortage of mental health professionals. Dr. Mosier is leaving mental health center for private practice. They may use more nurse practitioners.

Mavis – is requesting letter of support for collaboration with other entities in Montana – she would like a letter drafted supporting the program to fill gap in services on youth intervention. She said she pushed for a vocational rehab grant for reservation. She would also like a letter of support for this venture. Tom motions that we write letters of support for two grants and letters go out under signature of chair. Molly seconded. Marlene wondered if the Eastern SAA is the SAA that she should be approaching. She would like letter from us and will also ask for letter from Eastern SAA.

Motion passed unanimously.

Cindy – Havre – members come and go. They are short of providers in the area and are trying to do mental training.

Joe – Great Falls – use the VA center and have Head Start and Children’s Mental Health and KMA. The Skyline facility is a one-stop mental health center. Everything is going well. They sent in some request for grants. Robin stated there is going to be a panel to address homelessness issues. Someone from Rescue Mission and school district. A little ministry offers hot showers and meals on Fridays. Word is getting out and they are getting response. Jane said they found out about Ministry from homeless vets that had gone to the VA stand down.

Lenore – Indian Center – working with county extension office. She is showing how to cook healthier meals with commodities given by government. Lenore testified at legislature and found a woman that wants to donate a painting for them to auction off. Because they have had so much snow on the hi-line they are looking forward to spring. Garbage dumped on side of road will need to be picked up. She received a call from someone who told them that the center was providing so much to the community. Ninety eight people participated in December.

BUDGET – Molly – Jacob is going to take over signing checks and leave the checkbook with Dan Aune because Molly is going to have surgery and will be out a couple months.

Dan broke down budget into charts **attached** – the most money is spent on hotel rooms, food, etc. The telenet cost around \$1300 so is equal to cost having a face to face meeting.

Dan stated that there is a lot of value in face to face meeting and every so often but also as a board there needs to be a decision on how much should be spent on travel and, possibly, decide exact amounts for mileage from site to site.

Alicia suggested we use telephone. Dan A suggested skyping. Ten sites can skype together. This is no cost.

Tom would like to be on agenda for possible savings.

NO MHOAC notes:

Web Committee: Jeffrey – spoke on possible computer capability in telemed meetings.

Committee Meeting:

**Mental Health Day Report:**

**Legislative Process – Anita**

**Meeting adjourned**