

Tri-Valley Developmental Services, Inc.  
Board of Director's Meeting  
TVDS Administrative Office, 521 W. 35 Ch Pkwy, Chanute, KS/Zoom  
September 5, 2024

Present: John McRae, Susan Jones, Anna Methvin, Georgia Masterson, Matt Morgan, Randy Lemasters, Janet Rash, Connie Hey, Jim Hogan, Sharon Suske, Lindsay Madison, Derrick Payne

Not Present: Devin Johnson, Rita Cornett, , Steve Sewell, Angie Morrison

Staff Present: Bill Fiscus, Joe O'Rourke, Melissa Cannon-Smith, Lea Chickadonz, Tricia Campbell

1. Call to Order

Chair John McRae called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

2. Adoption of Agenda

Motion made to adopt agenda as presented (Susan Jones/Randy Lemasters). Motion passed.

3. Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes from the June 27, 2024 meeting were presented. Motion made to accept minutes as presented (Jim Hogan/Susan Jones). Motion passed.

4. Treasurer's Report

Lea Chickadonz, VP of Administration, presented the financial report for the period ending July 31, 2024. Motion made to accept financial report as presented (Sharon Suske/Susan Jones). Motion passed.

5. Staff Reports

A. Program

- Melissa Cannon-Smith, VP of Programming, reported that Tri-Valley staff vacancies are decreasing. In February, we had 20 openings but currently we are down to only 13 DSP openings. Melissa gave kudos to the HR Department for improving the lag time between when applications are received, and interviews are held.
- Recently, we have seen an uptick in the number of COVID cases. In July and August, we had to shut down the service centers in Chanute and Fort Scott for a few days. While the service centers were closed, we were able to do a deep clean of the buildings. Melissa thanked Anna Methvin for the free COVID testing kits.
- In late September and early October, Heartland HomeCare will host flu clinics in Chanute and Fort Scott.
- The week of September 8<sup>th</sup> through 14<sup>th</sup> has been designated as DSP Recognition week. This week was established to highlight dedicated DSP staff nationwide. Tri-Valley plans to hold daily activities during the week. DSPs will be treated to cinnamon rolls and pizzas.

## B. Operations

- Joe O'Rourke, VP of Operations, reported a few issues have been identified at our facilities. The roof at the Neodesha Service Center is 27 years old. In 2013, thanks to Jim Hogan's assistance, Crossland Construction worked on it. Besides Neodesha, roofs at the Fort Scott Service Center and Oak Street are starting to look worn; all three roofs are over 20 years old.
- The cooling and heating systems at Fort Scott Service Center and Rankin in Moline are starting to show their age as well.
- Tri-Valley held its first online vehicle auction recently. The auction was open to staff only. Three vehicles from our fleet were removed for service and were put out to bid. The auction brought in \$2,100 total for all three vehicles. There are a few tweaks to be made, but we plan to use the online bidding site for future auctions.
- We are currently working on six different projects. These projects fall under painting, replacement of appliances, and flooring. We are removing carpet from a few sites and replacing with vinyl planking.
- The parking lot for the Neodesha Service Center has been resurfaced. Jack Hull from Altoona worked on the lot during the Labor Day weekend. He was able to fix several cracks and resolve a water issue.
- Repair slips continue to come in. In August, maintenance received and completed 146 repair slips. We continue to have issues with appliances. Staff have been educated on the appliances, especially washer and dryers.

## C. Administration

- Lea Chickadonz, VP of Administration, reported that a survey was sent to all staff for their thoughts on our insurance and drug plans. Fifty-one staff responded. The main problems mentioned in the survey were regarding the prescription drug plan. Administrative staff have been in touch with IMA, our broker, about finding a new prescription plan. A thank you letter will be sent to all staff who participated.

## D. CEO Report

- Bill Fiscus, CEO, updated the board on our 14c status. As of July 1<sup>st</sup>, we have successfully transitioned away from sub-minimum wage; all individuals working in the Day Program receive minimum wage. We did go ahead and submit a renewal of our 14c certificate to cover the period from March 1<sup>st</sup> through June 30<sup>th</sup>. We were denied at first but later the renewal was approved.
- Tri-Valley's annual financial audit is scheduled for September 18<sup>th</sup>.
- In the past, Bill has provided the board with information regarding the Health Homes service. Tri-Valley has forty individuals who qualify for the service; less than 20% of total individuals served by Tri-Valley. On Wednesday, the state decided that they are ending the Health Home contract at the end of the year. We now need to figure out what to do for those individuals already signed up for health homes. They can

return to targeted case management services, but the conflict of interest remains. The plan is to work with the state and CMS to resolve the issue.

#### E. Friends of Tri-Valley Foundation

- Bill announced that the Foundation is purchasing a home in Chanute. The foundation will close on the house on September 20<sup>th</sup>. It is a three-bedroom home, and we have three individuals ready to move in.
- Tricia Campbell, Special Projects Coordinator, reported that Thomas Lazerus, the winner of the 2024 Truck Drawing Raffle, came to Chanute on July 2<sup>nd</sup> to collect his prize. The Foundation will hold its 25<sup>th</sup> raffle drawing in FY25. Details are under development with bid letters to go out shortly.
- The Foundation has held two golf tournaments since the last board meeting.
  - i. The first was the Fredonia golf tournament. It was held on June 29<sup>th</sup>. Fifteen teams played the four-person scramble. Prizes were given out to three flights. We had three corporate and eight-hole sponsors. We made a profit of \$4,000.96.
  - ii. The next tournament was held in Chanute on August 10<sup>th</sup>. Eight teams played the tournament with prizes handed out to one flight. Jennifer Dietsch State Farm sponsored the Longest Drive contest. We debuted our newest game, the orange ball contest. We had eight corporate sponsors and fifteen-hole sponsors. We made a profit of \$3,487.82.
- The Foundation has one more golf tournament scheduled for 2024; Fort Scott's tournament will be held on September 14<sup>th</sup>. Currently, we have eleven teams signed up with eleven-hole sponsors. We will also hold a raffle drawing during the tournament for three prizes: fire pit courtesy of Niece Products; KC Chiefs Poster courtesy of Brigg's Auto; and a turkey fryer courtesy of Heidricks.

#### F. CDDO

- Bill Fiscus updated the board on the CDDO contract negotiations with the state. The state wants to use a new assessment tool and change funding to one flat rate, which could be potentially harmful to smaller providers. The state would like to implement this change on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The CDDOs want to put terms into the contract to slow down the change and establish a timetable for the switchover to give both the state and CDDOs time to work on the funding component. The CDDO and KDADS will meet on September 13<sup>th</sup> with their attorneys to discuss the contract. The talks will probably go into mediation.

### 6. Old Business

#### 6.1 Eureka Service Center

At the June meeting, the board voted to sell the Eureka Service Center. We have a buyer who is interested. Larry Coleman agreed on the \$15,000 asking price. Staff are cleaning out the building. Joe is finding out if equipment would be beneficial for other sites. We might be able to hold another online auction on the equipment that is no longer needed. The closing date for the sale will be no later than October 31<sup>st</sup>.

7. New Business

7.1 Policy Review

Bill presented Policy CSP 17 (Staff Pets). The policy establishes guidelines for pets at Tri-Valley facilities. Changes were made to the policy statement to address pets owned by staff. Service animals are the sole exception to the policy. The board will vote upon this policy at the October board meeting.

8. Comments from Groups or Individuals

None

9. Announcements

- The next Board Meeting will be October 17, 2024.

10. Adjournment

Motion made to adjourn meeting (Jim Hogan/Susan Jones). Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

*Anna Methvin*

Anna Methvin, Secretary

*10/1/2024*

Date