



**BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**  
**Minutes of virtual meeting**  
September 20, 2022

**Call Meeting to Order**

President Jane Shank called the meeting to order at 10:03 am.

**Attendance**

**Present virtually:** Jane Shank, Mark Stephenson, John McCulloch, Davin Hemmila, Tom Landry, Mark Wiedelman

**Absent:** Jill Busha, Marie Jackson, Brian Calley, Selena Schmidt, Paul Palmer, Hansen Clarke

**Staff present:** Michelle Roberts, Theresa Diebolt, Mark McWilliams, Elham Jahshan, Sara Koroniotis, Michele Brand, Rachel Huddleston, Kris Keranen, Kyle Williams

**Guests:** Christin Nohner, McCall Hamilton Lobbying firm

**Approval of Consent Agenda**

President Shank made a revision to the agenda to move items up to get approved.

President Shank asked for a motion to approve the revised agenda/consent agenda.

Tom Landry MOVED to approve the revised agenda/consent agenda and Mark Wiedelman seconded.

A vote was taken.

AYES: all

NAYS: none

Motion carried.

**Budget & Finance Committee – Brand**

Michele Brand gave an update on the FY2023 budget stating the PADD grant may need around \$200,000 of program income to get through the year if it's anything like 2022. It is hard to predict, however we have two big PADD cases that took a lot of PADD resources this year and will continue next year into 2023. All other

grants are looking good for this year and will be fine for next year as well. Brand also presented the FY23 proposed agency budget and asked for questions.

Mark Wiedelman MOVED to accept the budget and finance report and Mark Stephenson seconded.

A vote was taken.

AYES: all

NAYS: none

Motion carried.

### **Review proposed FY2023 agency focus areas**

Michelle Roberts presented the proposed FY2023 focus areas which includes input and approval from the PAIMI Advisory Council. Roberts explained the changes that have been incorporated and discussion was held with board members.

Tom Landry MOVED to approve the proposed FY2023 focus areas and Mark Wiedelman seconded.

A vote was taken.

AYES: all

NAYS: none

Motion carried.

### **Mission, Vision, and Values**

Michelle Roberts referred to the new Mission, Vision, and Values for DRM stating these were developed throughout the past year as we went through our DEI trainings. All DRM staff provided input which was incorporated and better reflects the type of organization DRM is.

Tom Landry MOVED to approve the Mission, Vision, and Values and John McCulloch seconded.

A vote was taken.

AYES: all

NAYS: none

Motion carried.

### **President's Report**

President Shank reminded board members to complete their annual forms and get them to Theresa as soon as possible. She also asked members to complete the survey forwarded from Mark Friedman to provide feedback on the Board Inclusion Project. Another item that needs completed by board members is the self-evaluation. Results will be compiled and discussed at the retreat in October.

Shank discussed the upcoming retreat and topics that will be discussed including community involvement, understanding the role of a board member, as well as growing partnerships and a few other items.

## **Executive Director and Staff Reports**

Kris Keranen reported on the Education Team sharing major news in the Supreme Court case. The Office of the Solicitor General filed an opinion recommending the Supreme Court take the case for review. The Supreme Court is not required to follow the recommendations; however, they often do.

Keranen talked about getting several calls about children who were suspended from school for making threats or perceived threats with very little justification. Many of the kids were referred to the Prosecutor's office or juvenile court. Her team is focusing on ways to improve school safety.

Executive Director, Michelle Roberts, began by talking about making decisions on what type of work and how much we will be doing this next fiscal year based on PADD and PAIMI grants. She does not feel it is appropriate to carry over large amounts of grant money, like in years past, however things are not always predictable as to what may be needed for litigation and systems advocacy cases.

Roberts mentioned vacancies within the organization and some staff are having to take on more tasks, and she has been pleased with staff and managers stepping up to assist where needed. It is a very busy time of year for DRM with year-end responsibilities. In addition, Roberts reminded everyone the new CEO for NDRN will be starting on October 16, 2022.

Elham Jahshan gave an update on the Employment team stating they have been working with the Communications team on outreach and increasing awareness of transition services and vocational rehabilitation. They are focusing their efforts on ensuring students with disabilities are receiving the services they need. The team is looking forward to having the new attorney, John Sloat, working with them on systemic issues.

Sara Koroniotis reported on the Rep Payee team saying they ended their fiscal year 2022 the end of July and finished at 162% to target on the number of reviews they had to complete. Their target number of reviews for the year was 120 and they conducted 298 reviews. They started conducting onsite reviews again in May. Fiscal year 2023 marks the fifth year we have had the Rep Payee program and the target to complete is 135 reviews for fiscal year 2023.

Rachel Huddleston gave an update on the Communications team saying they sent out around 11,764 newsletters and issued two press releases. She talked about the media hits, likes and visits to our sites on Facebook and Instagram. Her staff partnered with the Bureau of Elections and conducted 31 ADA polling place

assessments. There is still time to get tickets for the Rockin for Rehab fundraising event on Friday, November 11 at the Lansing Country Club and we are still accepting donations if you are unable to attend.

Mark McWilliams gave an update on the Vaccination Advocacy team and stated we closed around 40 cases in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter and 107 by the end of the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter, which means we are getting shots in arms for vaccines. We are still coordinating clinics and are providing flu and COVID vaccines.

Michele Brand reported on IT changes stating we are moving towards using a USB port to access and use our laptops as more security is needed. Human resources has been busy with staff leaving and hiring new staff.

Kyle Williams began the litigation team update stating the new attorney, John Sloat, comes to us with decades of experience with complex litigation and was at a very large law firm in Chicago. We are thrilled to have his expertise and background.

Williams referred to his written report and shared some additional updates and progress.

## **Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

## **PAIMI Advisory Council Report**

Michelle Roberts stated one of the Council members has resigned and we recently received an application for a potential member which will be reviewed by the Council in the near future.

## **Committee Reports**

### **1. Board Development/Nominating Committee - McCulloch**

We have one member terming out and one member who is eligible for another term.

### **2. Budget & Finance Committee – Brand**

Michele Brand referred to her written financial statements and stated there will be more PADD program income being used due to the litigation cases and the rest of the grants look good.

Tom Landry MOVED to accept the Budget & Finance Committee report and John McCulloch seconded.

A vote was taken.

AYES: all

NAYS: none

Motion carried.

3. Public Policy/legislature report – Wiedelman/Nohner

Christin Nohner gave a brief legislative update, a prediction on the election, and discussed some of the issues she is tracking.

**Old Business**

President Shank stated there is no old business.

**New Business**

President Shank asked if anyone had any new business to share.

**Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned to executive session at 12:12 pm and executive session adjourned at 12:35 pm.

**Meeting dates for 2022**

**Tuesday, December 13, 2022**

Minutes prepared by:

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Theresa Diebolt, Executive Assistant

Minutes approved by:

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Mark Wiedelman, Secretary