

San Joaquin Continuum of Care Board of Directors Meeting 4-24-2020

Call to Order

8:10a

Roll Call

- John
- Adam
- Carrie
- Peter
- Kate
- Matt
- Britton
- David Kwong (invited guest)
- Bill
- Jenn
- Jon
- Edward

Minutes

Not available; will be provide for Board approval for a future meeting

Public Comment

None

Discussion, Information and Action Items

SB 89 Disbursement Discussion

- Jon provided background on the process the Board went through to recommend to the County an up-front disbursement model, and the reason to invite CDD Director David Kwong to discuss
- David discussed his role at CDD and as the fiscal agent for these funds; highlighted his understanding of the urgency in implementing these funds; discussed concerns about recent audit findings that could make it difficult to operate other than on reimbursement; mentioned the idea of a “hybrid” model which would require an addendum to individual sub-recipient agreements involving a 50% up-front disbursement followed by a 50% reimbursement; and discussed details of how this process might best be executed by both parties;
- Jon asked for further explanation of the need for an additional addendum rather than the existing agreement language: David answered that the addendum would request high-level details rather than specifics and provided additional detail on how the addendum would be developed and implemented; David asked Ray Hoo to add additional information about the process: Ray indicated that the budget proposals for each application would need to be examined for sufficient detail;
- Jon asked for any applicants listening to provide an opinion on what kind of burden this idea might represent: Edward indicated that it would be difficult to answer until the agreement was seen, but expressed concern about “double-work”;

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- Jennifer added that she felt that asking organizations to shoulder the burden of reimbursement and advocated for a system which allows funds to be provided up front and sub-recipients held accountable;
- John was deeply troubled about acting on “business as usual” and moving too slowly
- Bill mentioned that this is not a new application but a follow up to get a more detailed budget and stated that he felt it was reasonable; highlighted the burden that reimbursement represents; mentioned that reimbursement checks from the County right now is taking 3 – 4 weeks to arrive;
- Jon asked David if there was a way for CDD to examine specific contracts to move forward up-front and determine other proposals that would need additional information: Ray Hoo indicate4d that he felt it was possible;
- Matt asked David what the addendum would look like and David provided additional detail;
- Bill reiterated Jon’s question regarding the possibility of selecting some applications with sufficient detail to move forward with 100% disbursement;
- John and Jenn felt that this was too much of a burden on smaller providers;
- Peter mentioned that it is possible that the applicants may have already spent money beyond 50% of the allocation and asked for flexibility to pay for those expenses quickly: David answered that he could not make that determination but that the 50% figure was standard for other County funding programs;
- Jon mentioned a strong concern about the negative optics of going back on this commitment: David mentioned that was not the County’s intent
- Ray indicated that he could look at the applications by early the following week and determine who might be able to move forward more quickly;
- Jon asked about the fact that HEAP was disbursed up-front and why that model was not replicated here: David mentioned that the HEAP agreements were much more detailed than the SB 89 agreements and is not a comparable example;
- Edward asked if the CoC can be a representative to the sub-recipients as opposed to the County: Jon felt that since the applicants were already approved for funding that it would be appropriate but that it might be difficult to engage in that level of work; David asked that the CoC provide recommendations to CDD to determine which applications are ready to move; Peter volunteered to help streamline the process; Bill also volunteered to help;
- John reiterated that he is uncomfortable with the 50% model: David reiterated that he was not comfortable with a 100% model without stronger policies in place;
- John asked for a commitment to turn around an invoice in a two days: Chris Becerra mentioned that it would be potentially three weeks; John indicated that was unacceptable because in some cases the funds have already been spent; David reiterated his concerns that moving forward in this way may not allow him to meet his fiduciary responsibilities for the County;
- Jon discussed the way forward and suggested that we move forward as the County suggests;
- David highlighted next steps including a summary of the applications in terms of insufficiently detailed applications;
- Jon asked for timelines for disbursement: David answered that he would need to determine that after further examination but reiterated that CDD understands the urgency;
- Jon asked if that timeline works for the Board and reiterated his frustration but indicated he felt it was a sufficient plan;

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- Bill mentioned that checks sent will still take a couple of weeks regardless of CDD's work; and mentioned that some funded projects have not yet been set up in HMIS which will add another layer of complexity;
- Peter suggested that we move forward with the County proposal and debate this process again to ensure a smoother future execution;
- Jon recapped the conversation and the intentions on how everyone will move forward;
- Jenn highlighted her disappointment in moving forward this way under the circumstances of a global pandemic;

Additional Updates and Actions Related to COVID-19

- Adam provided a brief update on Project Roomkey, and Jon provided information about the related efforts of CMC
- Carrie mentioned some City-led initiatives related to Project ROomkey;
- Jon asked Wayne and/or JoLyn to provide any additional information related to shelter provision; neither were on the line

Additional Items and Updates

None

Board Comments

None

Adjournment

Mike Moved/Bill Second/9:32a