



**Missouri Fire Fighters Critical Illness Pool
Special Meeting - MINUTES
2:00 p.m. – 2:28 p.m. CT Thursday August 24, 2023
Virtual Zoom Special Meeting**

1. Roll Call for a Quorum

Present:

Greg Brown

Cory Hogan

Mike Snider

Kirk Lair

Scott Frandsen

Tom Vineyard

Legal Counsel:

Carl Scarborough – Pool General Counsel

Others:

Joseph DePaepe – Pool Administration

Jenniffer Alvarado – Pool Administration

Jaclyn Brown – Director of Aspen (mental health app)

Brian Zinanni – State Coordinator for the Missouri Fire Service Funeral Assistance Team

Eric Latimer – Fire Chief of Springfield Fire

Valerie Beason – Therapist, President of First Access Behavioral Health

Kat Probst – President of Missouri Ambulance Association

Brett Ellis – Chief City of Webster Groves and Board of ASPEN

Mathew Brodersen – MIRMA

Jason Mouser

Absent:

Sara Jahnke, Ph. D

2. Old Business

Greg Brown provided the board with an update on the presentations (Science to the Station) they gave around the state about the Cancer and Behavioral Health Programs. There were plenty of participants and Jaclyn Brown reported that she had heard a lot of positive feedback from some of the chiefs who were able to attend. Greg Brown said that there might be some changes with how they want to implement it going forward, but it is worth continuing on an annual basis at least.

Greg Brown then explained that Carl Scarborough was working on getting the Trust documents together. He was almost done when they last spoke and, once they documents are finished, they will be submitted to the Division of Insurance so that the funds for the (Behavioral Health) program can finally be transferred to the Pool.

The Pool is sponsoring a Peer Support Class in Springfield, CO Put on by the IAFF). They were originally going to charge those who participated, but the Pool was able to take on that cost so that people could join for free. According to Eric Latimer, the class is now 100% full with 30 participants.

3. Behavioral Health Program Subcommittee Progress Update

Greg Brown requested that each subcommittee and working group provide a brief update on what progress they've made thus far. He asked that the groups have a budget and marketing plan ready by the next meeting and that the goal should be to have the program ready to roll out by the first quarter of 2024.

a. Best Practices Group

Brian Zinanni said that the group had met on August 16th where they wrote down everything the group had discussed going forward with and sent the document out to their subcommittee for approval. They've received a few comments back so far. Brian Zinanni stated that he had no idea what the cost of Peer Support Training was and the group needed to figure out where to gather information from in order to put a budget and proposals together. Greg Brown said that he thought the class in Springfield was around \$9,000, which Eric Latimer then confirmed.

Valerie Beason added that peer support was going to do a training at Metro West on December 13th and 14th. She offered to find out more information about that so it could be considered when putting together the budget. Valerie Beason also clarified that the Best Practices Group has since merged with the Clinicians Group, and they have been working together.

Jaclyn Brown said that she had discussed with a group of providers the need to have a platform. It was proposed that they have a dedicated staff member(s) behind Aspen or something like Aspen whose job would be to identify counselors in different regions throughout the state, run the vetting system, and keep their information up to date in a single database.

Brian Zinanni raised the question of whether the Aspen platform would have a sentinel event reporting system in it to keep track of major events that happened. Jaclyn Brown explained that some of the capabilities were already built into Aspen, and with additional funding they would be able to build more of that system into Aspen. There is a reporting system in place for when an incident occurs where it sends an email to individuals that were identified as being involved. Brett Ellis added that being able to provide resources to people based on their self-assessment through the platform was a critical part of preventive measures.

Greg Brown asked that all the group's base documents be sent to him by September 14th so that they could be sent out to the entire board prior to the next regular meeting.

4. Legal Updates

None.

5. Other Business

Valerie Beason asked who was working on the marketing and educational roll out part of the Behavioral Health Program. Greg Brown said that was the next step in the process, but there was no one currently dedicated to working on it at the moment. He encouraged the attendees to write down any thoughts they had about how to promote the program to reference once they were further along in developing the program.

Jaclyn Brown asked for clarification on whether the Steering Committee should also be working with other committees to put their work together. Greg Brown answered that the end goal was to have all the committees' work in one document to share with the board.

6. Next Regular Meeting: September 28, 2023 at 2:00 p.m. CT

7. Adjourn – 2:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

By: _____

Cory Hogan
Recording Secretary

The Missouri Fire Fighters Critical Illness Pool approved the foregoing minutes on _____.

By: _____

Greg Brown
Board President