

**Region 7E Governing Board BUDGET Meetings
MEETING MINUTES**

**September 26, 2025; 9:00am – 4:30pm
and
October 3, 2025; 9:00am – 3:00pm**

Attendees:

Affiliation		Governing Board Members		Directors
Chisago County	x	Kelly Ihrke, 2025 Vice Chair	x	Robert Benson
Chisago County	x	Jolene Thorsen		
Chisago County	x	Stacy Johnstone, Consumer Rep		
DHS Liaisons		Abbie Franklin, Pam Sanchez, Andrea Abel		DHS
Isanti County	x	Emily Hawkins, Member & Fiscal Host	x	Jodi Donnay
Isanti County	x	Ashley Wright, Consumer Rep		
Kanabec County	x	Katie Heacock	x	Chuck Hurd
Kanabec County	z	Cassie Dahlberg		
Mille Lacs County	x	Jessica Andrich	x	Char Kohlgraf
Pine County	x	Barb Schmidt	x	Becky Foss
Region 7E Planner	x	Amanda Stevenson		

Lakes and Pines, Dawn Besemann, Regional Housing Coordination & Triage \$274,168

- Dawn presented their funding request.
- The Board discussed various options.

Total Score: 29 out of 30 possible points.

Lakes and Pines, Dawn van Heese, Portable Shower/Laundry Units \$127,545

- Dawn presented their funding request.

Discussion:

- The AMHI grant can't pay for program expenses such as storage, insurance, etc.
- The Board agreed they could write a Letter of Support, but believes this program falls into Housing rather than mental health.

Total Score: 12 out of 30 possible points.

Rise, Mike Harper, IPS \$39,805

- Mike presented the funding request for the grant match.
- Overall grant amount is \$301,000
- Discussion ensued.

Total Score: 29 out of 30 possible points.

Rise, Mike Harper, New Millennium Vocational \$200,000

- Mike presented the funding request.
- The GB discussed the program.

Total Score: 27 out of 30 possible points.

Rise, Mike Harper, Transitional Housing Support Services, \$215,000

- Mike presented the funding request.
- The GB discussed the program.

Total Score: 22 out of 30 possible points.

A Place for You, Anna Reiser, Mental Health Outreach \$83,182

- Anna Reiser has worked at A Place for You for 5 days and presented the funding request. Board Chair Linda Sederland was also in attendance.
- The GB discussed the program.

Total Score: 12 out of 30 possible points.

APFY, Anna Reiser, Shelter Based Mental Health Support \$68,640

- Anna presented the funding request.
- The GB discussed the program.

Total Score: 18 out of 30 possible points.

LSS/Willow Grove, Amy Tudor, Supportive Housing Project \$55,000

- The GB reviewed the submitted funding request and discussion ensued.

Total Score: 22 out of 30 possible points.

Juettner Marketing, Sandy Juettner, Website and Social Media Management \$16,000

- The GB reviewed the submitted funding request and discussion ensued.

Total Score: 25 out of 30 possible points.

Kanabec County Med Management, Chuck Hurd \$245,054

- Chuck presented the funding request and discussion ensued.
- The Kanabec County staff departed the room during discussion.

Total Score: 23 out of 30 possible points.

Stark Transportation, Manuel Zavala, Non-Medical Transportation \$50,000

- Manny presented the funding request and discussion ensued.

Discussion:

- The idea of giving clients a budget of how much they can spend on transportation in a month is welcomed. It gives clients an option.
- One county noted that Stark Transportation has been easy to work with and has been a good provider for the county clients.

Total Score: 21 out of 30 possible points.

Radius Health, Julie Duncan, Direct Assistance for ACT clients in Isanti and Chisago \$2,500

- The Radius team was not able to attend so the GB reviewed the submitted funding request, and discussion ensued.

Total Score: 7 out of 30 possible points.

Isanti County, Emily Hawkins, Fiscal Host \$135,786

- Emily presented the funding request.
- The Isanti County staff stepped out of the room during discussion and scoring.
- The GB discussed the funding request.

Total Score: 29 out of 30 possible points.

Isanti County, Emily Hawkins, Region 7E AMHI Planner 115,500

- Emily presented the funding request.
- The Isanti County staff stepped out of the room during discussion and scoring.
- The GB discussed the funding request.

Total Score: 26 out of 30 possible points.

TSA, Lainie Janke, Flow State Healing, Level 1 /Stabilization \$5,258

- Lainie Janke, Executive Director at TSA presented the funding request and discussion ensued.

Total Score: 17 out of 30 possible points.

Empower House, Cheryl Schmidt, Katrina Lussier-Erickson, Women’s Sober House \$176,320

- Katrina is the Executive Director and Cheryl is the owner of Empower Recovery Services and Empower Houses. They presented the funding request.

Discussion:

- The program is not fundable through Region 7E AMHI, but the Governing Board wants Empower to stay connected with the AMHI.

Empower House, Cheryl Schmidt, Building Clinical Capacity, \$77,300

- Cheryl presented the funding request.

Discussion:

- The requests in this proposal are not an allowable expenditure for the AMHI.

Growing Connections, Cindy Berlovitz, Growing Resilience: Nature Based Mental Health Skills / Support Group \$148,580

- Cindy presented the funding request and discussion ensued.

Total Score: 19 out of 30 possible points.

Meeting adjourned at 4:20pm.

Meeting resumed on October 3, 2025

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Chisago County	x	Kelly Ihrke, 2025 Vice Chair	x	Robert Benson
Chisago County	x	Jolene Thorsen		
Chisago County	x	Stacy Johnstone, Consumer Rep		
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Kanabec County	x	Cassie Dahlberg		
Mille Lacs County	x	Jessica Andrich		Char Kohlgraf
Pine County	x	Barb Schmidt	x	Becky Foss
Region 7E Planner	x	Amanda Stevenson		

Dr. Beth Good & Associates, Beth Good, Medication Management, \$154,440 and \$21,450 for Rapid Access Psychiatry Nurse, Jen Bondi, NP, also attended

- Dr. Beth Good presented the funding request. Discussion ensued.

Total Score: 23 out of 30 possible points.

Consumer Reps 1 & 2, Stipends and Mileage, \$4,500

The Planner presented the funding request, noting the Region is currently advertising to fill one position for 2026-2028. The Board discussed the program.

Total Score: 28 out of 30 possible points.

Regional LAC Chair, Stipends and Mileage, \$800

- The Planner presented the funding request and Board discussed.

Total Score: 28 out of 30 possible points.

Linwood Group Meetings, Linda Hurtley, Admin, Outreach, Special Projects, \$15,000

- Linda presented the funding request.

Total Score: 29 out of 30 possible points.

Mille Lacs County Public Health, Rachel Peterson, Outreach, \$9,657.92

- Jessica Andrich presented the funding request and the Board discussed it.

Total Score: 15 out of 30 possible points.

Funds allocated to Counties, formerly known as Moose Lake Funds

- Each county presented their funding allocations to specific Brass codes.

Regional Housing Flex, \$30,000, Brass 443

- Funds allocated by brass code to inform our budget to DHS.

Client Flex, \$10,000, Brass 418

- Funds allocated by brass code to inform our budget to DHS.

Transportation Flex, \$10,000, Brass 416

- Funds allocated by brass code to inform our budget to DHS.

Name	Description	Score	Approved	Votes
Lakes and Pines	Regional Housing Coordination & Triage	29	\$204,507.00	MOTION to approve by Pine, Chisago second. Isanti abstained, motion carried.
RISE	Region 7E IPS Project-Vocational Services- CEA	29	\$39,805.00	MOTION to approve by Isanti, Kanabec second. Mille Lacs abstained; Jolene voted on behalf of Chisago. Motion carried.
Isanti County-Fiscal Host	Fiscal Host Fee/Admin Fee for AMHI and Mobile Crisis	29	\$41,296.00	MOTION by Pine to approve \$135,786 split between AMHI and Crisis. Chisago seconded. Isanti abstained, motion carried
Linwood Group Meetings	Administrative duties- meeting agendas, minutes, and planning. Resource Guides, Outreach, Proj Mgmt	29	\$15,000.00	MOTION to approve by Isanti, Kanabec second. Motion carried.
Regional LAC Chair	Stipends, mileage for Regional LAC Chair	28	\$2,800.00	MOTION by Pine to approve, Consumer Rep second. Motion carried.
Consumer Reps 1 & 2	Stipends and mileage	28	\$4,500.00	MOTION by Isanti to approve, Pine second. Consumer Reps abstained. Motion carried.
RISE	New Millennium Vocational Services	27	\$200,000.00	MOTION by Jolene Thorsen w/ Chisago to approve, Isanti second. Motion carried.
R7E Planner-Isanti County	Planner salary and fringe	26	\$115,500.00	MOTION by Pine to approve, Kanabec second, Isanti abstained. Motion carried.
Juettner Marketing	Website, social media management	25	\$16,000.00	MOTION by Mille Lacs to approve, Chisago second. Motion carried.

Dr. Beth Good & Associates	Mental Health and Well-being with Medication Management/Brief Psychotherapy for uninsured patients with SPMI	23	\$175,890.00	MOTION by Pine to approve, Chisago second. Kanabec abstained. Motion carried.
Kanabec County Med Mgmt.	Psych Med Mgmt.	23	\$187,061.00	MOTION by Pine to approve, Isanti second. Kanabec abstained. Motion carried.
RISE	Rise Transitional Housing Support Services	22	\$100,000.00	MOTION by Kanabec to approve, Isanti second. Motion carried.
LSS/Willow Grove	Supportive Housing Project	22	\$0.00	
Stark Transportation	Region 7E Non-Medical Transportation	21	\$50,000.00	MOTION by Isanti to approve, Consumer Rep second. Motion carried.
Growing Connections	Growing Resilience: Nature Based Mental Health Skills/Support Group	19	\$62,425.00	MOTION by Pine to approve, Isanti second. Motion carried.
APFY	Shelter Based Mental Health Support	18	\$68,640.00	MOTION by Consumer Rep to approve, Kanabec second. Motion carried.
TSA	Flow State Healing, Level 1 /Stabilization	17	\$0.00	
Mille Lacs County Public Health	Mental Health Community Outreach program	15	\$0.00	
APFY	Mental Health Outreach	12	\$0.00	
Lakes and Pines	Portable Shower/Laundry Units	12	\$0.00	
RADIUS Health	Direct Assistance for ACT clients in Isanti & Chiago	7	\$0.00	
Empower House	Women's Sober House	0	\$0.00	
Empower House	Building Clinical Capacity	0	\$0.00	
Chisago County- former MLA	Unbillable AMH TCM reimbursement		\$114,880.00	MOTION by Pine to approve, Consumer Rep second. Chisago abstained. Motion carried.
Isanti County- former MLA	Intake/aps; PPST, unbillable AMH TCM		\$119,162.00	MOTION by Consumer Rep to approve, Chisago second. Isanti abstained. Motion carried.
Kanabec County- former MLA	Nurse for med mgmt program		\$72,832.00	MOTION by Isanti to approve, Mille Lacs second. Kanabec abstained. Motion carried.
Mille Lacs County- former MLA	PPST, transportation, CSP		\$94,845.00	MOTION by Pine to approve, Isanti second. Mille Lacs abstained. Motion carried.
Pine County- former MLA	Transportation, CSP		\$110,612.00	MOTION by Consumer Rep to approve, Mille Lacs second. Pine abstained. Motion carried.

Regional Housing Flex	Housing Flex		\$30,000.00	MOTION by Chisago to approve a combined total of \$50,000 for Housing, Client, and Transportation Flex Funds, Kanabec second. Motion carried.
Regional Client Flex	Client Flex Funds		\$10,000.00	
Regional Transportation Flex	Transportation Flex Fund		\$10,000.00	
Allocations			\$1,845,755.00	
DHS Grant			\$1,845,755.00	
Balance			\$0.00	

Kanabec made a motion to adjourn, Consumer Rep seconded. All ayes, motion carried.