



# Budgeting for Results Commission

Friday, June 26, 2020: 1:30 – 3:30pm

**DUE TO THE COVID-19 EMERGENCY THIS MEETING WILL BE BY PHONE CONFERENCE ONLY**

**Dial-in: 888-806-4788**

**Access Code: 895-685-1121**

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## AGENDA

1. Welcome and introductions Jim Lewis

Jim welcomes everyone to the meeting. Adam took roll call of commissioners. A quorum was confirmed.

2. Review and approval of minutes Jim Lewis

The minutes were approved without comment.

3. COVID-19 Situational Update Curt Clemons-Mosby
  - a. Impact on BFR Unit Operations

The BFR team is continuing to operate under the health guidelines and have been working remotely since March. Shifting into phase 4, returning to work is allowed at 70% capacity of the Springfield facility. GOMB has implemented a plan to rotate work groups to the office 1-2 days a week. The BFR team's first day back in the office is July 1.

Remote work has not significantly impacted progress on BFR projects. However, many agencies BFR works with to retrieve data are also working under restrictions and focusing their time on responding to the COVID -19 emergency. As a result, these agencies do not have the bandwidth to contribute additional data for BFR projects. However, the BFR team continues to find workarounds. Looking forward into phase 4 and slowly returning to the office, BFR expects that agency staff will be more available. Otherwise, there have been no significant roadblocks.

BFR looks forward to enhancing the BFR data systems and IT infrastructure in the months to come. Additional details to come.

4. Discussion of planning for public hearings Curt Clemons-Mosby
  - i. Chicago: July 22, 2020

ii. Springfield: July 29, 2020

The current health guidelines recommend a 6ft social distance between public hearing participants. Curt has worked to identify Springfield and Chicago facilities that would be able to accommodate the average number of attendees and the 6ft social distancing guidelines, without much success. As a result, Curt suggested that the BFR Public Hearing be held virtually so that it spans the entire state and both panels of mental health experts can be questioned by the commission. The alternative available would be to push back the public hearing until August or September conflicting with the Annual BFR Report. There is also still uncertainty whether a physical meeting is feasible given the current restrictions.

Representative Davis asked if this was the right time to have an in-person hearing. He added that many things are being done virtually successfully. There was no opposition from the committee regarding hosting the public meeting virtually.

Curt responded that WebEx has the capacity to support video and audio. He added that GOMB has been using WebEx for all staff meeting with 60 attendees. Zoom is another option that has been used for national conferences. Both platforms are available to BFR to use. It was agreed that the BFR staff will access both platforms and choose the best fit for the public hearing

Curt suggested that the one meeting be held on July 29<sup>th</sup> 1:30pm-3:30pm to provide time to set up the technical components of the meeting and gather speakers. The panel will consist of mental healthcare providers and mental health experts from the state. The BFR Unit will put together a general guide sheet that contains a list of questions to the panel prior to the meeting. Curt will draft the document, distribute it to the Commissioners, combine the suggestions from the commission into one master sheet and redistribute.

Jim Lewis added that the public hearing agenda should include opening remarks, the history of BFR since last year, the panel member's remarks and public comment.

5. FY 21 Budget Update

Curt Clemons-Mosby

Governor Pritzker signed the Fiscal Year 2021 budget into law 6/24. The budget is contained in SB264, HB2099, and SB2099. SB2099 provides borrowing flexibility that allows borrowing from the Federal Reserve Bank which was signed into law at the end of May. While the \$42.9 billion general funds operating budget maintains critical programs such as education, health care, and human services, it recognizes the massive economic disruption caused by the COVID-19 global pandemic.

Many government entities across the country have experienced a dramatic decline in revenues due to this pandemic. The budget allows for stability in funding while awaiting the determination from the federal government if funding will be provided. The budget focuses on investing in the governor's key areas priorities of education, healthcare, public safety, vital human services, criminal justice reform, and, ongoing COVID-19 relief, while fully funding the state's pension contributions. The FY21 budget does state a reduction in \$200 million operation appropriations and

\$140 million at IDOT from introduced levels and includes savings from an ongoing partial hiring freeze and restricted operations expenditures. The FY 2021 budget also directs more than \$5 billion in federal aid from the CARES Act and other federal aid packages, to public health, social services, small businesses, local governments and households, including funding targeted to communities disproportionately impacted by COVID-19.

However, if federal funding is not obtained, drastic cuts between 20-30 percent from FY 2020 levels to priority areas would be required in order to close the revenue shortfalls due to COVID-19.

The Governor believes now is NOT the time to make massive budget cuts. He believes that government plays an enormous role in keeping communities safe and providing the tools people need to build better lives. The Governor believes that even with the dramatic drop in revenues the last few months, the state needs to invest in its people. Doing so, he said, will allow the state to rebound and recover from this pandemic as Illinois safely re-opens.

If Congress fails to enact funding for states and local governments in the near term, the governor and his administration will work with the newly created Legislative Budget Oversight Commission and the Illinois General Assembly to identify solutions for addressing any financial gaps.

The budget will go into effect on July 1, 2020, the beginning of the state's 2021 fiscal year.

#### 6. Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Domain Update

Adam Groner

Adam provided the SUD domain update. The two program assessments the BFR unit has in progress are based on the same Results First meta-analysis, Sober Living Homes. Sober Living Homes are a recovery program for people immediately out of SUD treatment or in need of additional structure for their recovery. Sober Living Homes are categorized by the Level of Support they provide, for example additional staff and programming.

Sober Living Homes are licensed and funded in Illinois, DHS- Division of Substance Use Prevention and Recovery (SUPR) calls them Recovery Homes. SUPR Recovery Homes provide a Level 2 of support, with paid staff and structured programming. DHS directly licenses, monitors, and funds Recovery Homes, including collecting and using performance information.

Oxford House is a national non-profit organization that helps establish a model of Level 1 Sober Living Homes. The SUPR Oxford House program is a loan program to support the increased use of the Oxford House model. The Oxford House model is evidence-based, having already undergone multiple rigorous evaluations, specifically in Illinois by DePaul University. However, DHS does not license, fund or monitor or have any role in the performance management of Oxford Houses.

The BFR SPART reports on program performance management and return on investment. The outcomes intended from a loan program differ from those of a directly administered and funded program. The SPART needs to be adapted for loan programs.

Curt agreed and suggested a working group of commissioners to investigate and determine how to move forward on programs without direct funding or oversight. The commission agreed, and Curt will follow up on the creation of the working group.

## 7. New Business

Jim Lewis

Jesse asked about for an update on the Horizontal Capital report. Curt said that the report will be ready by the next BFR Commission meeting, and a representative from IDOT will attend to answer questions.

Curt said goodbye to BFR Analyst Kate Mayer, who, he said, has been great and will be going on to bigger and better things. Curt welcomed new BFR Analyst Megan Cusey, who, he said, will be great and will help BFR keep moving forward into bigger and better things.

## 8. Adjournment