

## REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD

### MINUTES

March 9, 2020  
Region V Systems  
1645 N Street  
Lincoln, NE  
10:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Greg Janak, Butler County, Dennis Byars, Gage County; Gale Pohlmann, Jefferson County; Jim Erickson, Jonson County; Christa Yoakum, Lancaster County; Dean Speth, Otoe County; Jan Lang, Pawnee County; John Caverzagie, Richardson County; Janet Henning, Saline County; Doris Karloff, Saunders County; Ken Schmieding, Seward County; Dean Krueger, Thayer County; Bill Bamesberger, York County

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Kenny Harre, Fillmore County; Larry Holtzman, Nemaha County; Jerry Westering, Polk County

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Dani DeVries, Jade Fowler, Tami DeShon, C.J. Johnson, Kim Michael, Sandy Morrissey, Patrick Kreifels and Marti Rabe, Region V

### OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Byars noted the Open Meetings Act information is posted in the meeting room. Notification of this meeting and information regarding availability of the agenda was provided through a legal notice in the Lincoln Journal Star.

### CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / AGENDA

Byars called the meeting to order at 10:38 a.m. followed by roll call.

Present: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Johnson stated that there would not be an executive committee meeting following this meeting, as the agenda states. There will be no discussion on Agenda Item D. Henning made a motion, seconded by Pohlman, to approve the revised March 9, 2020 RGB Agenda.

Yes: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motioned carried.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None

### HOST HOMES PRESENTATION

Dani DeVries, HUD Housing Coordinator, and Jade Fowler, Host Home Specialist at Region V, presented information about the Host Homes Program that was launched January 1 with grant funding. This program is

designed to provide additional supports for youth who are homeless or at risk of homelessness (18-24) to prepare them to live independently. DeVries provided statistics relating to homelessness for this demographic, explained what a Host Home is, discussed the Coordinated Entry system and talked about eligibility criteria and the screening process for both youth and hosts. A stipend of \$350 a month is provided. The program is designed to run for 12 months, and while the youth is in a Host Home, they are still considered homeless, so other programs and resources continue to be available to them.

**ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS**

**Regional Governing Board Minutes:** Karloff made a motion, seconded by Pohlman, to approve the minutes of the February 10, 2020 meeting. There was no discussion. No action was required regarding the Executive Committee minutes of the same date.

Yes: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motioned carried.

**Fiscal/Financial Report:** Copies of the report were available Monday morning. DeShon presented the financial report through January reviewing revenue and expenditures for substance use disorder and mental health services. DeShon explained that in most instances where expenditures were at 100 percent these line items are paid in full and no further costs will occur in this fiscal year. The Region is monitoring repairs and maintenance as well as vehicle maintenance. With 58.33 percent of the fiscal year completed, the Regional budget stood at 54.88 percent, approximately 3.5 percent under budget. Henning, made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to approve the Financial Report as presented.

Yes: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motioned carried.

**Contracts / Amendments:**

**Quarter 3 Contract Shifts:** The Division permits Regions to request contract shifts on a quarterly basis. The next shift requests are due to the Division April 20. Johnson explained that for Quarter 3 shifts may occur within agencies / programs and between agencies, based on utilization. The Region is asking permission to bring Quarter 3 contract shifts for ratification at the April meeting. Janak made a motion, seconded by Pohlman, to approve the Region to make decisions regarding Quarter 3 contract shifts and bring those decisions to the April meeting for ratification.

Yes: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motioned carried.

Mental Health First Aid Trainer – (MHFA) - Scott Stemper: The purpose of this contract is to engage Stemper to provide Adult and/or Youth Mental Health First Aid training. Johnson explained that Stemper is a former Region V Prevention employee and had provided MHFA training while in that role. Johnson commented that Stemper was asked to provide MHFA training prior to this meeting, at which time Johnson approved the contract. Bamesberger made a motion seconded by Henning, to ratify this contract as presented.

Yes: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motioned carried.

**Alternative Compliance / PIER - Advanced Practice Registered Nurse (APRN)**: CenterPointe has requested Alternative Compliance which would allow them to use an APRN in place of a psychiatrist on the Assertive Community Treatment (ACT) team. The psychiatrist has resigned following failed contract negotiations. The service definition for this service is incorporated in the current regulations (206 NAC) which require a psychiatrist. Since the service definitions were written, APRNs are no longer required to practice under the supervision of a doctor or psychiatrist and may function independently. Pohlman made a motion, seconded by Yoakum, to approve this request for Alternative Compliance.

Yes: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motioned carried.

**Blue Valley Behavioral Health (BVBH) Letter of Support for Capacity Access Guarantee (CAG) Funding**: Johnson explained that this letter to Danette Smith, CEO, DHHS and Sheri Dawson, Director, DBH, was prepared on behalf of the Governing Board. Final copies were available this morning. The focus of the letter is to request that the funds approved by the Legislature for the rate increase for the cost model be released. In Blue Valley's case this cost, in the amount of \$153,000, was taken out of CAG funding. Day also asks that CAG funding remain intact based on unique needs of rural providers. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Henning, to approve this Letter of Support for CAG Funding for BVBH.

Yes: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motioned carried.

**FY 18-19 Management Summary (Draft)**: Johnson explained that the Management Report Summary is a requirement for national accreditation. The report includes Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) Indicators which are areas that are being monitored with providers and within the Region. Provider outcomes are monitored in several areas and the Regional Quality Improvement Team (RQIT) meets regularly to review these outcomes. The report includes CQI concerns requests and Professional Partner and Rental Assistance programs data. Lang made a motion, seconded by Pohlman, to approve the FY 18-19 Management Summary as presented.

Yes: Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Fillmore County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motioned carried.

### **OTHER UPDATES / LEGISLATION / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS**

**Behavioral Health / Legislation Updates:** Medicaid expansion is anticipated to begin October 1. Based on projected cost savings, the Legislature has removed 4.35 million dollars from the behavioral health allocation for FY 21. This translates to slightly over one million dollars for Region V. There is language in the bill that would allow the Regions to request additional funding from Medicaid if needed, but Johnson explained that request would have to be approved by DHHS. The rationale for pulling this money is that additional individuals will be eligible for Medicaid and be served with Medicaid funding. An underlying challenge is the fact that currently Medicaid rates are substantially lower than rates established based on the cost model for many services. Medicaid, Children and Family Services and Juvenile Justice are anticipating rate increases but there is no bridge funding to cover any shortfall that may occur before Medicaid expansion is in place and cost savings begin to be realized.

**Emergency System:** DBH is revisiting the bed allocation process that was established at the outset of behavioral health reform. At that time 90 beds were allocated to the Regions; the current allocation would be 56 beds. Region V would be allocated 22 of those beds. Johnson explained that individuals who are court ordered to Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) for restoration of competency have priority status over mental health board committed individuals. At this time 71 beds are occupied, largely by Region 6 clients.

**Annual Opinion Survey:** The closing date for this survey has been extended through this Friday, March 13.

**System of Care:** The SOC grant is in its last year and the Region is working with the Division, Probation and Child Welfare to find sustainability for the children's crisis response portion of the grant. The therapists that had been placed in ESUs with grant funding will be funded by the schools when the grant ends.

**Network CQI:** Kreifels noted that the CQI Department works collaboratively with Network Providers and departments within the Region to achieve identified priorities. Kreifels presented the following reports:

- Effectiveness and Access Measures, Regional Data Overview Q2: This report outlines objectives the network is working to achieve. The report is submitted to DBH and CQI meets with the Division on a quarterly basis. The report provides observations related to areas such as stability and housing and employment. Action steps where opportunities exist to achieve better performance and meet established thresholds are included.
- Division of Behavioral Health Consumer Survey: Kreifels explained that this survey is conducted by UNL through a contract with DBH. Random consumers who have been in services are contacted by phone and / or my mail. The report includes specific Regional data as well as statewide results.
- Perception of Care: Kreifels explained that the Perception of Care report summarizes some of the questions from the DHS survey.

**Conflict of Interest Statement Report:** Provided for informational purposes. It was observed that Yoakum's daughter-in-law is employed by Region V Services, so no conflict exists. The report will be amended.

**FY 19-20 Capacity Utilization Summary Report:** Provided for informational purposes. The Region reviews drawdowns using these reports to make recommendations for contract shifts. The biggest concern is that short term residential treatment is over producing significantly and other funding sources may be needed to cover these expenses.

**FY 19-20 Compliance Management Report:** Provided for informational purposes.

**Training Schedule:** Provided for informational purposes.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

Johnson reported that the building and parking lot were for sale, and a buyer has come forward. The new owner has attempted to get the Region to split the lease for the building and the parking lot. Currently the Region has ten more years to go on the current lease with a cap in place as to how much the lease payment can be raised when the lease renews. A legal opinion was sought and there would be no advantage to changing the terms of the lease at this time. The lease comes up for renewal next month.

**ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:35 p.m.

**IMPORTANT DATES**

- March 16 – 9:00 a.m. – Network Provider Meeting
- April 1 – 10:00 a.m. – BHAC Meeting
- April 13 – 10:30 a.m. – RGB Meeting