

## REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD

### MINUTES

June 8, 2020  
Region V Systems Teleconference  
1645 N Street  
Lincoln, NE  
10:30 a.m.

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Greg Janak, Butler County; Kenny Harre, Fillmore County; Dennis Byars, Gage County; Gale Pohlmann, Jefferson 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:** Jim Erickson, Johnson County; Larry Holtzman, Nemaha County; Jerry Westering, Polk County

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Tami DeShon, C.J. Johnson, Patrick Kreifels, Kim Michael, Gretchen Mills, and Marti Rabe, Region V

### OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Byars noted the Open Meetings Act information is posted in the meeting room and reminded Board members that the meetings are open to the public and are audiotaped. The agenda is posted for public viewing. 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, Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Johnson stated that he would be sharing two additional contracts under Action Item D. A single motion will be requested for all the contracts. To facilitate the lengthy agenda, voice vote will be utilized. Lang made a motion, seconded by Karloff, to approve the June 8, 2020, RGB Agenda with additions.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

### PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

**ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS**

**Regional Governing Board Minutes:** A correction was requested regarding attendance at the May meeting. The minutes will be revised to reflect this error. Pohlmann made a motion, seconded by Harre, to approve the revised minutes of the May 11, 2020, meeting. There was no discussion. No action was required regarding the Executive Committee minutes of May 11 and May 18, 2020.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**Fiscal/Financial Report:** Copies of the report were emailed to Board members on Friday, June 5. DeShon presented the financial report through April reviewing revenue and expenditures for substance use disorder and mental health services. DeShon explained that in most instances where expenditures appear to be over budget, these items are one-time expenses and no further expense will occur. Miscellaneous expenses are somewhat higher than budgeted due to expenses related to working remotely. With 83.33 percent of the fiscal year completed, the Regional budget stood at 80.8 percent, 2.53 percent under budget, which represents \$18,000. Bamesberger made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the Financial Report as presented.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**FY 20-21 Office Budget:** Copies of the Office Budget were emailed on Friday, June 5. Johnson explained that some shifts in personnel and related activities were made going into the coming fiscal year which resulted in a reduction in personnel expenditures of three percent. Benefits will be increasing by five percent but total expenditures for personnel show a net decrease. DeShon reviewed income and expenditures and noted areas where there was an increase in a line item. Budgeted total operating expenses for FY 20-21 show a decrease of three and a half percent. Harre made a motion, seconded by Yoakum, to approve the FY 20-21 Office Budget as presented.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**FY 20-21 Contractual Agreements for Region V:** Johnson reviewed the following categories of contracts and stated that he would ask for a single motion. Johnson also apologized that for the new grants, a final dollar amount is not available at this time.

- Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)
  - Regional Contract with the Division: This contract in the amount of \$19,751,726 is for services, prevention, rental assistance, transition voucher program, behavioral health coordination and network management activities.
  - Mental Health First Aid (MHFA): This contract in the amount of \$22,183 provides for the coordination and provision of MHFA trainings.
  - Prevention Activities: This contract, in the amount of \$326,190, is for the purpose of carrying out various prevention activities relating to binge and underage drinking, increase capacity for prevention efforts and target increased use of marijuana.
  - Opioid Contract: This contract, in the amount of \$167,609, is for the purpose of funding activities to reduce opioid overdoses and abuse as well as provide prevention, treatment and recovery activities for opioid and stimulant use disorders.
  - Children and Family Services: This contract, in the amount of \$150,320, is to provide assessments for Qualified Residential Treatment Program in accordance with the Family First Prevention Services Act.
  - Projects for Assistance in Transition for Homelessness (PATH): PATH grant dollars (\$65,000) from the State are passed through to CenterPointe to provide PATH services.
  - COVID Related Activities: This grant, distributed through the CARES Act, in the amount of up to \$5,000,000 for all Regions is to support COVID-related activities as directed by DHHS / DBH.
- Network Providers: Region V contracts with 14 providers and / or collaborations for the provision of mental health and substance use disorder services. Johnson reviewed each contract entity and the amount of funding provided for those services.
- Emergency Protective Custody (EPC): Region V enters into EPC contracts with each of the 15 rural counties. In addition, the Region contracts with The Bridge Behavioral Health (BBH) and the Mental Health Crisis Center (MHCC) to provide emergency protective custody services as well as a collaborative, non-monetary contract among Region V, MHCC and BBH to facilitate transition from one facility to another.
- CenterPointe - Projects for Assistance in Transition for Homelessness (PATH): DHHS PATH grant dollars (\$65,000) are passed through to CenterPointe to provide PATH services including outreach. CenterPointe is required to match this amount.
- Southeast Nebraska Disaster Volunteer Database: These contracts with Public Health Solutions, SE District Health Department and Four Corners Health Department are for the purpose to creating and maintaining a volunteer database to be used in the event of a disaster to provide specialized volunteers.
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD)
  - Host Homes: This grant, in the amount of \$315,898, is for the provision of host homes for transition age youth to provide supported housing in rural areas.
  - Housing: This contract, in the amount of \$346,130, is to address homelessness and develop a continuum of care in the Region V service area. The contract begins November 1.
- Mental Health First Aid: These seven contracts provide for individual trainers, St. Monica's and Nebraska Children and Families Foundation to provide MHFA trainings as requested.
- Cluster-based Planning: These contracts with various individuals and entities are for providing cluster-based planning training to network provider staff and coordination of cluster-based planning implementation. In addition to contracting for training, the Region contracts with Synthesis Inc. for up to \$20,000 for training, training of trainers, data analysis, technology sharing, outcomes data reporting and analysis of the cluster-based planning project.
- Miscellaneous:
  - UNL Public Policy Center: This contract, in the amount of \$150,000 to Region V, is for the implementation of the Nebraska Youth Suicide Prevention project.
  - H4Technology: This contract, in the amount of \$168,000, provides for a centralized data repository for Region V.
  - Families Inspiring Families (FIF): The contract with FIF allows Johnson to provide clinical supervision for the FIF navigator project in exchange for FIF serving up to two FYI families.

- UNL – Medical Center (UNMC): The collaborative contract with BHECN, in the amount of \$39,703.80, is to provide maintenance for the Nebraska behavioral health recruitment website.
- Prevention Federal Block Grant Recipients: Johnson presented the Federal Block Grant Recipients reviewing each recipient and the amount of funding each entity receives.
- Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnership for Success Subcontracts: These twelve subcontracts support various prevention activities relating to substance abuse and mental health concerns to carry out contract deliverables. Johnson reviewed each entity and the amount of funding received.
- SAMHSA Disaster Response Grant Program: These five contracts are for the purpose of providing crisis counseling, MHFA, and other prevention activities related to individuals who were impacted by last spring's flooding. This grant is a continuation of the flood crisis counseling grant and it includes collaboration with Regions 3 and 4. Johnson reviewed each contract and the amount each entity would receive.
- Disproportionate Share Hospital Contracts: These contract with Mary Lanning Hospital and DHHS allow for the transfer of funds designated for public assistance to be used by the State of Nebraska's share in claiming the federal match pursuant to 42 CFR §433.51. This allows hospitals to receive federal dollars to help support their services to low income individuals.

Johnson presented these additional contracts the Region anticipates receiving in the next month all related to the COVID pandemic:

- DHHS / SAMHSA: Region V will receive up to \$320,000 to provide behavioral health support for individuals impacted by the COVID pandemic. Services will include outpatient, medication management and peer support and will be provided by contracting with Region V Network Providers. A percentage of these funds will be available to healthcare workers as well.
- COVID Crisis Counseling Grant: This 60-day FEMA grant, in the amount of \$270,000, is to provide services similar to the FEMA flooding grant and will provide outreach to individuals impacted by the COVID pandemic. The Region will hire approximately 20 individuals to prepare to carry out the deliverables for a second grant that is anticipated (following).
- COVID #2: This grant is for a nine-month contract in the amount of \$1,200,000 to provide outreach to individuals impacted by the COVID pandemic.

Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Pohlmann, to approve the contracts as presented and grant approval for the Region to move forward with the second COVID grant should it be awarded as anticipated.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**June Contract Shifts:** Johnson explained that the Region is allowed to make contract shifts through June and with the final billing in July. Because there are so many fiscal unknowns at this time, as the Region strives to support our providers, there may be the need for some emergency shifts of funds. Johnson asked for a motion to approve identified shifts to the state contract for behavioral health services as necessary. Pohlmann made a motion, seconded by Bamesberger, to allow Region V administration to initiate any necessary shifts as identified.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**COVID Response Authority:** Johnson asked for Board approval to authorize Region V administration to make determinations on any additional funding that may come down between now and next Board meeting in September. Johnson assured the Board that the Board will be kept informed and an emergency meeting can be arranged if it seems necessary. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Bamesberger, to authorize such decision-making authority as seems expedient.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**One-Time-Only (OTO) Fund Report:** Johnson provided a brief backdrop and noted that the Region has been managing these funds since 2008, beginning with 4.2 million dollars. Over time the funds have been used for a large range of activities. The remaining balance is currently \$250,321. Two line-items remain: \$223,583 to expand provider network service capacity and \$26,739 to provide cluster-based planning. Johnson asked Board approval to move \$168,000 from the first line item and shift it to the data system to support next year's costs related to data collection. Lang made a motion, seconded by Pohlmann, to accept the OTO report and approve the recommended shift as requested.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**Request for Proposal Recommendations (RFP):** Johnson explained Region 3 issued an RFP at the behest of DBH to add secure residential beds to the provider network. Two entities applied, and the review committee is recommending that Integrated Behavioral Health Services (IBHS) be granted the contract. IBHS is not currently a Region V provider, though plans-for-one have been initiated with IBHS. Because IBHS is in Region V, Region V will be responsible for entering into a contract with them. Johnson asked that the Region be allowed to begin negotiations with IBHS to have them become a network provider. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Janak, to approve the request to move forward with IBHS.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**FY 20-21 Prevention Mini-Grant Recommendations:** Johnson presented the 2020 summer cycle for Prevention Mini-Grants reviewing each of the grant applications and the purpose for which funds were being requested. A total of \$6,469.29 was requested and \$3,969.29 was recommended by the mini-grant subcommittee. Rationale was provided for the partial denial of one request. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Schmieding, to approve the FY 20-21 Prevention Mini-Grant Recommendations.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**FY 20-21 CLAS Grant Recommendations:** Johnson reviewed the two grants received, both with LMEP. The grants were reviewed by the CLAS Review Committee and a total of \$2,019 was requested and \$2,019 was approved. Lang made a motion, seconded by Bamesberger, to approve the CLAS Grants as presented.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**Annual Survey Results:** Michael briefly discussed the process utilized to create the surveys, which are completed annually. Michael commented that comments and results are discussed internally and with each entity. Any responses under 80 percent approval are reviewed. Over the years a number of changes have been implemented based on the responses. Johnson presented the Annual Surveys and discussed the comments and suggestions noted:

- Network Provider Executive Director: Two areas fell under the 80 percent threshold and have been discussed with network provider executive directors. One concern was that a provider did not feel that network providers were involved in the decision-making process to the extent they would prefer. The second area relates to what is perceived as a slow response time to provider inquiries. In response the Region has tried to let providers know if it will take some time to process a question or concern and provide a reply.
- Behavioral Health Advisory Committee: While no areas fell below 80 percent; comments about how electronic transmission of agenda materials could be used were noted. The Region will investigate possible ways in which this could be implemented in a way that would allow all members to participate fully.
- Regional Governing Board Survey Results: Johnson acknowledged that serving on the Boards for both Services and Systems is complicated. To further understanding, Johnson will continue to provide a backdrop when discussing various topics with the goal of helping Board members become more knowledgeable.
- Region V Staff Survey Results: Staff surveys are reviewed to determine if there are any focus areas where changes or improvement seems indicated. Leadership Team reviews these surveys and makes determinations about any needed follow up.
- Best Places to Work Survey Overview Summary: This survey serves a similar purpose and is reviewed by CCT and Leadership Team to see if there are areas where improvement can occur.

Krueger made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the survey results and responses and place them on file.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**Draft FY 20-21 Network Provider Performance Improvement Plan (PIP):** Kreifels presented the FY 20-21 PIP explaining that various service areas are selected for monitoring with the goal of improving services and outcomes. Focus areas include access, effectiveness, efficiency and satisfaction with services. Janak made a motion, seconded by Harre, to approve and place on file the FY 20-21 Performance Improvement Plan as presented.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**FY 20-21 Draft Meeting Schedule:** Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the FY 20-21 Meeting Schedule as presented. There was no discussion.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

**FY 20-21 Regional Administrator Compensation:** Byars stated that the Executive Committee met on May 18 for the annual review of Johnson's performance evaluation. Based on their satisfactory review, the Executive Committee is recommending that Johnson is eligible for a five percent salary increase, bringing his salary to \$142,537 beginning July 1. Pohlmann made a motion, seconded by Harre, to approve Johnson's administrator compensation as presented. Several Board members commended Johnson for improvements he has initiated and for his expertise as Region V's administrator. Johnson noted that he feels that his staff is exceptional in contributing to all the work that goes on at Region V.

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

Absent: Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County

Motion carried.

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

- **Behavioral Health / Legislative Updates:** Johnson noted that the Legislature will not be in session until July 20. In the interim, Regional administrators are meeting regularly with NABHO and with lobbyists to monitor activities that may see an impact from the delay. At this time, it appears that anticipated Medicaid, Juvenile Justice and Child Welfare rate increases will remain in the budget.
- **COVID 19 Impact:** Johnson reported that DBH was able review Program 38 expenditures and find approximately three million in unspent funding. \$780,000 was made available to Region V to purchase

overproduced units. This additional funding allowed the Region to support providers which were seeing a reduction in their usual capacity due to the COVID pandemic.

- Medicaid Implementation Impact: No additional discussion.

**Emergency System:** Johnson briefly discussed challenges faced by Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) and Mary Lanning Hospital. These entities have set up criteria to avoid introducing the virus into their units and this has had an impact on capacity. At this time LRC has had 11 employees test positive.

**System of Care:** Johnson commented that the SOC grant ends September 30 of this year. DBH is seeking funding to allow activities connected with that grant to continue.

**FY 20-21 Draft Strategic Plan:** The Division has delayed updating their strategic plan in light of the pandemic. Region V has also recognized that some areas of the strategic plan will need to be reconsidered to incorporate activities to continue to support our providers and provide delivery of behavioral health services.

**Regional Data Overview Report:** No discussion.

**FY 19-20 Capacity Utilization Summary Reports:** No discussion.

**FY 19-20 Compliance Management Report:** No discussion.

**Training Schedule:** Johnson stated that a number of trainings have been cancelled, postponed or delivered virtually. There was brief discussion regarding how and to whom training opportunities are disseminated. Johnson indicated that he would follow up to see if the ListServe includes everyone when a training is announced.

### ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 12:11 p.m.

### IMPORTANT DATES

- Weekly – Network Provider Meeting – via conference call
- September 2 – BHAC Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- September 14 – RGB Meeting – 10:30 a.m.