

REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD

MINUTES

May 10, 2021
Region V Services
3600 Union Drive
Lincoln, NE
10:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Dennis Byars, Gage County; Gale Pohlmann, Jefferson County; Christa Yoakum, Lancaster County; Dan Crownover, Otoe County; Jan Lang, Pawnee County; Janet Henning, Saline County; Misty Ahmic, Seward County; Dean Krueger, Thayer County; Bill Bamesberger, York County

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ryan Svoboda, Butler County; Kenny Harre, Fillmore County; Jim Erickson, Johnson County; Larry Holtzman, Nemaha County; Jerry Westring, Polk County; John Caverzagie, Richardson County; John Smaus, Saunders County

OTHERS PRESENT: Tami DeShon, C.J. Johnson, Patrick Kreifels, Kim Michael, Gretchen Mills, Marti Rabe, and Amanda Tyerman-Harper, Region V Systems

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 10:34 a.m. followed by roll call.

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

Absent: Butler County, Fillmore County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saunders County

Saline made a motion, seconded by York, to approve the May 10, 2021 agenda.

Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

Regional Governing Board Minutes:

Lancaster made a motion, seconded by Jefferson to approve the April 12, 2021 minutes as presented.

Financial Report: DeShon reviewed the financial reports that were emailed on May 10, 2021. The reports encompass 75% of the fiscal year, through March 2021. The balance sheet reflected the current cash

position at \$590,932.34 with the CD at 250,000.00. The year-to-date payment of substance abuse is \$4,846,796.39. The year-to-date Mental Health Payments is \$4,726,288.43. Administrative expenditures are broken down and the Region is not expecting to be over budget, with the exception of the supply line items, most of these expenditures were not budgeted for due to the pandemic. The overall budget is projected to come in under projected budget outcomes.

Saline made a motion, seconded by Lancaster to accept the Financial Report as presented.

Motion carried.

April Contract Shifts: Johnson discussed the contract shifts and pointed out that the shifts are four times a year for internal shifting requests when there is overproduction or insufficient funding for a line item. Lutheran Family services had two requests, HopeSpoke made five requests, and Region V Systems' unallocated line items were shifted to Associates in Counselling and Treatment and CenterPointe. CenterPointe had six requests. Johnson explained that the CenterPointe Crisis Response Line has been over producing due to the pandemic, and are getting more calls and need to staff the line, causing additional costs; unallocated Region V line items and the Mental Health Association Supported Employment funds were shifted to help the additional costs of said Crisis Response Line.

York made a motion, seconded by Lancaster to approve the April Contract Shifts as presented.

Motion carried.

Contractual Agreements: Johnson presented the contracts for the three building partners of the Region: Mental Health Association, contracting for building space and IT support in the amount of \$56,483.95; Cause Collective, contracting for building space and IT support in the amount of \$1,410.00; Families Inspiring Families, contracting for building space and IT support in the amount of \$16,892.11. Johnson also went over the Emergency Protective Custody contractual agreements with the 15 Rural Counties of Region V Systems, The Bridge Behavioral Health, Lancaster County Community Mental Health Crisis Center.

Jefferson made a motion, seconded by Pawnee to approve the Contractual Agreements (Building Partner and Emergency Protective Custody) as presented.

Motion carried.

Election of BHAC Representative: Johnson stated that the Board may pass this motion as there currently is no volunteer to be a Board Representative for the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC).

BHAC New Member Approval: Johnson stated that there are two new members that have applied to the Behavioral Health Advisory Committee (BHAC) and they will be admitted upon approval by the Board and contingent upon their respective background checks. Greg Yanak and Alexandra Kuhlman are the applicants and their resumes and qualifications to serve on the BHAC committee were briefly discussed.

Saline made a motion, seconded by Thayer to approve Greg Janak and Alexandra Kuhlman as members of the BHAC, contingent on successful background checks.

Motion carried.

Site Visit Report Summaries: Tyerman-Harper discussed the following Site Visit Report Summaries:

- Lutheran Family Services: This network provider demonstrated substantial compliance with Minimum Standards and contractual requirements. Their fiscal audit will be conducted at a later date.
- Mental Health Crisis Center: This network provider demonstrated substantial compliance with Minimum Standards and contractual requirements, their fiscal audit is pending, and no discrepancies were noted with EPCs.
- St. Monica's: This network provider unfortunately had corrective action plan in place to payback unverified units and submit a plan of correction demonstrating how billing accuracy will be improved/ensured and how the immigration status for individuals identifying as non-citizens will be verified. The Region will re-audit the program within 60-90 days of receipt of the Corrective Action Plan. Their fiscal audit will be conducted at a later date.

Saline made a motion, seconded by Lancaster to approve the Site Visit Report Summaries for Lutheran Family Services, the Mental Health Crisis Center and St. Monica's as presented.

Motion carried.

FY 21-22 County Contributions: Johnson presented the proposed FY 21-22 County Contributions and mentioned that the Appropriations Committee passed a two (2) percent increase across the board for Behavioral Health Rates. Johnson said the past census (2010) was still being utilized, however, next year adjustments will be made using the newest census.

Jefferson made a motion, seconded by Pawnee to approve the FY 21-22 projected County Contributions as presented.

Motion carried.

Office Lease: Johnson explained that the Region V Systems building was purchased by a new landlord, and they wanted to split the lease to take over the parking lot and adding new stipulations of the lease. Working with legal representation, the Region was advised that we can just renew the lease without negotiations, and that is what was chosen to do.

Thayer made a motion, seconded by Lancaster to approve the Office Lease as presented.

Annual Survey Results: Johnson reported that there aren't any significant issues that came out of the recent round of yearly surveys (Network Provider Executive Director Survey, BHAC Survey, Regional Governing Board Survey, Region V Staff Survey, Best Places to Work Survey). One issue that is consistent is response time from the Region to Executive Directors, however this is always an issue stemming from some requests being more time consuming than others, and efforts are undertaken to get back to Executive Directors as soon as possible and the Region always lets them know when they cannot tackle a question immediately.

Johnson discussed the BHAC Committee, and gave them many accolades, and thanked the Regional Governing Board for their input and feedback. Michael discussed staff survey results and stated that the Family Youth Investment program always reports back issues with transportation and that is an ongoing issue addressed as needed. Any issues that are discovered through these surveys are taken to the Leadership Team, which is a team selected by peers, and staff knows that they are being represented at the table. Michael disseminated that we did not place in the Best Places to Work contest. The great thing about the Best Places to Work Survey is that Michael and other members of the Corporate Compliance Team (CCT) can go over the results, it will show areas of improvement opportunity. One of the positive results of the

survey shows that Region V Systems remains a flexible place to work for to pursue their master's degree or work with their personal schedules to create a more positive work/life balance.

A short discussion was had on the pandemic's long-term impact for employees. Johnson mentioned that it is hopeful that consumers will still have the option of telehealth post-pandemic as they are able to participate in programming more frequently; no-show rates significantly dropped during the pandemic.

Lancaster made a motion, seconded by Jefferson to approve, and place the file on foregoing survey results.

Motion carried.

OTHER UPDATES / LEGISLATION / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Behavioral Health / Legislative Updates:

- Covid 19 Impact: As mentioned prior, telehealth was shown to be a valuable tool throughout the pandemic, slashing no-show rates of consumers. The Region also has no more snow days where services completely shut down, as work can be done remotely, there is no need to suspend operations for snow days.
- Medicaid Implementation Impact: The Covid-Gap Funding assisted providers during the transitional time of Medicaid Expansion. The impact is still being explored under more typical circumstances as businesses reopen.
- Provider Budgets / Medicaid Expansion Approach: FY Budgets will be presented to the Board at the June meeting.
- Reinvestment – Supported Housing – SUD: As housing and employment is critical to overall recovery, reinvestment plans are being looked at and the Region is being thoughtful and examining all possibilities to reinvest this money.

FY Budget Plan and Reinvestment Planning: The budget will be presented to the board in June.

Prevention: No updates.

Network Continuous Quality Improvement: Kreifels presented the information available in the packet that demonstrates the various data collected by his team. Please contact him at any time for more detailed information or if there are questions after reviewing the data.

- Complaints, Appeals, Critical Incidents: Kreifels noted that many of the incidents relate to physical aggression and illegal substances found on consumers, typically within emergency and residential services.
- Ineligibles and Denials: Kreifels identified consumers who were not medically stable were a high percentage of those who could not access services through the Region.
- State Outcomes – Employment / Housing: Kreifels mentioned that Region V was above the State threshold of 85% housed in stable living.
- Q1-2 Perception of Care: Kreifels explained that the Bureau of Sociological Research conducts surveys about consumer perception of care.

RGB Annual Acknowledgement Summary Report: Included for informational purposes.

FY 20-21 Capacity Utilization Summary Reports (March): Included for informational purposes.

FY 20-21 Network Provider Management Report: Included for informational purposes.

FY 21-22 Meeting Schedule (draft): Johnson reminded everyone this is a draft and will be brought to the board for approval at the June meeting. He is hopeful the legislature won't go into a special session to require a summer Board meeting.

FY 21-22 Site Visit Schedule (draft): Included for informational purposes.

Training Schedule: Kristin Nelson with Emergency Services continues to provide BETA training for Lincoln Fire and Rescue as well as Law Enforcement officers.

OTHER BUSINESS

None.

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 17 – Network Provider Meeting – via Zoom
- June 2 – BHAC Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- June 14 – RGB Meeting – 10:30 a.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:35