

REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD

REGION V SYSTEMS MINUTES

June 13, 2022
Region V Services
3600 Union Drive / Zoom
Lincoln, NE
10:30 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Christa Yoakum, Lancaster County; Dan Crownover, Otoe County; Jan Lang, Pawnee County; Jerry Westring, Polk County; John Caverzagie, Richardson County; Janet Henning, Saline County; John Zaugg, Saunders County; Ken Schmieding, Seward County; Dean Krueger, Thayer County; Bill Bamesberger, York County

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ryan Svoboda, Butler County; Kenny Harre, Fillmore County; Emily Haxby, Gage County; Gale Pohlmann, Jefferson County; Jim Erickson, Johnson County; Larry Holtzman, Nemaha County

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

OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Vice Chair Caverzagie 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 at region5systems.net. Notification of this meeting and information regarding availability of the agenda was provided through a legal notice in the Lincoln Journal Star, published June 7, 2022.

CALL TO ORDER / ROLL CALL / AGENDA

In the absence of the Chair, Caverzagie called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. followed by roll call.

Present: Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Butler County, Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Johnson County, Nemaha County

Three additional documents were available. Voting will take place by voice vote to facilitate the lengthy agenda. Motion by Yoakum, seconded by Bamesberger, to approve the June 13, 2022, agenda including the additional documents provided. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

Regional Governing Board Minutes, May 9, 2022: Krueger made a motion, seconded by Schmieding, to approve the May 9, 2022, minutes as presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; abstention by Saline County; nays none. Motion carried.

Regional Governing Board Executive Committee Minutes – May 9, 2022: Yoakum reported that the Executive Committee met on May 9 to review the annual performance evaluation for Johnson. Yoakum stated that the evaluation was satisfactory, and the committee recommended a five percent increase in Johnson’s salary for FY 22-23. Lang made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to approve the salary increase for Johnson. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Copies of the Financial Report were available this morning. DeShon presented financials through April reviewing expenditures for substance abuse treatment, mental health treatment and other administrative / program costs. With 83.33 percent of the fiscal year completed, total expenditures stand at 71.84 percent, approximately 11.5 percent below the anticipated amount. DeShon provided rationale for several highlighted areas where expenditures were over 83.33 percent and anticipates that most of these areas will fall within the budget by the end of the year. Barnesberger made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the Financial Report as presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

FY 22-23 Contractual Agreements: A revised copy of the Contractual Agreements was available this morning. The various contract categories were reviewed by Region V Staff as follow:

- Division of Behavioral Health: The following DHHS contracts are amounts that come to the Region for provision of various services and trainings. Contracts with DHHS include the State-to-Region contract (\$20,586,283), contract for Mental Health First Aid (\$22,183), Prevention activities (\$326,190), Opioid use reduction (\$197,655), and Projects for Assistance in Transition for Homelessness (PATH) (\$65,000).
- Disproportionate Share Hospital Contract: This contract with DHHS is intended to facilitate the intergovernmental transfers of funds to hospitals outside of Region V. There are no funds attached to this contract as the dollars are passed through from the Region to DHHS and on to the hospital.
- Projects for Assistance in Transition for Homelessness (PATH). This contract for \$65,000 is passthrough funding from the Division to CenterPointe, which provides these services.
- Emergency Protective Custody (EPC): The Region contracts with the 15 rural counties of Region V Systems as well as Lancaster County Community Mental Health Center for stabilization services. These services are billed per consumer day.
- Network Provider: These contracts are agreements with agencies that provide behavioral health services in the Region V geographical area. Providers and contract amounts are: Associates in Counseling and Treatment, \$81,914; Blue Valley Behavioral Health, \$1,233,916; The Bridge Behavioral Health, \$980,687; CenterPointe, \$1,250,621; PIER, \$216,444; HopeSpoke, \$789,474; Houses of Hope, \$223,270; TASC, \$1,653,250; Touchstone, \$180,323; Integrated Behavioral Health Services, \$86,848; Lutheran Family Services, \$1,063,327; Mental Health Association of Nebraska, \$677,518; Mental Health Crisis Center, \$1,241,397; St. Monica’s, \$383,591; and Telecare, \$36,974. There was brief discussion regarding the fact that The Bridge is no longer providing Civil Protective Custody (CPC). Johnson noted that the Region had not been paying for that service.
- Prevention Federal Block Grant Recipients: These contracts are with the various county coalitions that receive block grant dollars for their activities. The funds are used to address substance abuse prevention, related risk factors, and mental health problems using the SAMHSA strategic prevention framework. Contracts include: Butler Believes in Youth, \$6,500; Fillmore County Coalition, \$6,500; Four County

Collaborative, \$58,000; Gage County MAPS, \$6,500; Jefferson County Prevention Coalition, \$6,500; Laura Osborne, \$5,000; Lincoln Medical Education Partnership (LMEP/ SCIP), \$50,000; Polk Substance Abuse Coalition, \$,500; Saline County Prevention Coalition, \$6,500; Saunders County Prevention Coalition, \$6,500; Seward County Prevention Coalition, \$6,500; Thayer County Healthy Community Coalition, \$6,500; and York County Drug Prevention Taskforce, \$6,500. The contract with Osborne is for her role in entering multi-county data for the Nebraska Prevention Information and Reporting System.

- Strategic Prevention Framework – Partnerships for Success: These twelve sub-contracts with various entities and individuals are for the purpose of providing a variety of prevention activities and include such things as WRAP training, providing Creating Lasting Family Connections, education, and leadership training, among many others. Entities include the Asian Center, \$30,000; Brooke Fullerton, \$2,000; Derek Effle, \$12,000; Gage County MAPs, \$20,000; KidGlov, \$70,000; Laura Osborne, \$1,000; LMEP, \$600; Lincoln Police Department, \$7,000; Lincoln Public Schools, \$12,000; Mental Health Association, \$11,000; Partners for Insightful Evaluation, \$10,000; Southeast District Health Department, \$50,000; and Starfish Enterprises, Ltd, \$12,000.
- Mental Health First Aid (MHFA): These contracts are pass-through dollars from the Division to provide MHFA training. Trainers are Cheryl Turner, Francisca Peterson, Janelle Moore, Jeri George, Jill Kuzelka, Maria Elena Villasante, Nebraska Children and Families Foundation and St. Monica's. Trainers are paid \$400 for each eight-hour training provided.
- Evidence-Based Practice Contracts: These contracts with Intuitive Mind Training and Consulting (\$144,940) and Motivate 2 Communicate (\$43,451) are for the purpose of providing training and consultation to implement Dialectical Behavior Therapy and Motivational Interviewing respectively. These trainings were introduced this year.
- Southeast Nebraska Disaster Volunteer Database: These contracts with Four Corners Health Department, Public Health Solutions and Southeast District Health Department, each for \$4,156 to Region V, are for the purpose of creating an efficient and effective volunteer database to call on in the event of a disaster.
- Housing and Urban Development (HUD): These contracts, funded through grants from HUD, are for the provision of Host Homes for transition age youth (\$159,670), Rural Permanent Supportive Housing in rural Region V (\$365,388), and Lincoln Permanent Supportive Housing (\$224,040).
- Miscellaneous: These contracts are with the City of Lincoln (up to \$28,000 to Region V to provide funding for BETA training), Families Inspiring Families (to collaborate with FIF to provide clinical supervision for the program in return for FIF serving two Region V clients), H4 Technology (\$96,000 to provide a central data repository for Region V), University of Nebraska Medical Center (up to \$35,807.32 for a collaborative project with BHECN for maintenance and promotion of a recruitment website), University of Nebraska Public Policy Center (\$582,733.23 for implementation of the Nebraska Youth Suicide Prevention project), and Wellbeing Initiative (up to \$80,000 to provide consumer coordination activities and promote consumer involvement).
- Building Partners: These contracts with Cause Collective (\$1,480.51), Families Inspiring Families (\$16,976.30), and Mental Health Association (\$63,292.43) are for the purpose of providing facilities usage, office space, and phone and information technology support.

- Division of Health and Human Services: This contract, in the amount of \$526,243.31 to Region V is for the purpose of providing behavioral health services supported by block grants that were issued because of the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent public health emergencies.

Johnson noted that the Region is anticipating receiving additional funding and asked that the motion include approval to move forward with adjustments as needed and bring any changes to the September meeting for ratification. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to make that motion as stated. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

FY 22-23 Contract – Lancaster County – MyLink Website: Morrissey briefly discussed this contract with Lancaster County in the amount of \$6,000 for the provision of funding for the upgrade and redesign of the MyLink website. Morrissey commented the website is an excellent source for resources, is easy to use, and is available in rural areas. Lang made a motion, seconded by Bamesberger, to approve the FY 22-23 Contract with Lancaster County for the MyLink Website. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

One-Time-Only (OTO) Fund Report: Johnson briefly described the provenance of the OTO funding which came through the Allocations Committee of the Legislature in 2008. Over the years the funds have been maximized to provide matching funds for grants, expand capacity, capital improvements, and various trainings among others. The remaining balance is currently \$11,583. Krueger made a motion, seconded by Yoakum, to approve the OTO Fund Report as presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Regional Budget Plan / Office Budget:

- Regional Budget Plan: DeShon reviewed the budget summary for FY 23. This summary breaks down how the funds allocated in the State-to-Region contract with DHHS are expended for provider contracts and network management activities.
- Office Budget: This document was available this morning. DeShon reviewed the anticipated income and expenditures for FY 22-23. Income sources include State and Federal funds, county contributions, grants, other contracts, and others for a total budget of \$23,982,783. Expenditures include personnel costs, operating expenses, travel, and others for a total of \$23,982,783. Johnson pointed out the utilization of general funds needed to balance the budget and noted that it may be necessary to make further adjustments to this line item and others as there are unknowns at this time. Johnson shared that part of the office budget included an evaluation of Professional Partner (PP) program salaries. It has been extremely difficult to fill positions for this program because of the salary range that was in place. The Division has provided some emergency funding which will allow for adjustments to the compensation plan for the PP program. Johnson asked for a motion with the caveat that the Region move forward with adjustments as needed and bring the revisions to the Board meeting in September for ratification.

Yoakum so moved, seconded by Lang. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Supported Employment RFP Recommendations: Tyerman-Harper presented the following RFP recommendations noting that the Special Funding Review Committee met May 15 to make these determinations:

- Goodwill Industries: The committee approved the proposal submitted by Goodwill Industries though additional information has been requested regarding the indirect costs cited. This recommendation is contingent based on the response provided by Goodwill Industries and ongoing budget negotiations. The counties that will be served by Goodwill are Butler, Fillmore, Polk, Saline, Seward, and York.
- Mental Health Association: The committee approved the proposal submitted by Mental Health Association of Nebraska (MHA) to expand Supported Employment into Gage and Saunders Counties with no additional funding based on utilization of the current contract. MHA may also expand to any of the following additional rural counties under their current funding: Jefferson, Johnson, Nemaha, Otoe, Pawnee, Richardson, and Thayer.

Bamesberger made a motion, seconded by Schmieding, to approve the Supported Employment RFP Recommendations. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Halfway House RFP Recommendations: St. Monica's was the only respondent for a gender-specific, women's only Halfway House RFP. The review committee recommended moving forward with this proposal and is seeking Board approval to continue budget planning and negotiations. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to approve the Region negotiating with St. Monica's to implement this service. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Region V Systems 22-23 Strategic Plan: Michael reviewed revisions to the Strategic Plan noting that there is typically not a lot of change to this document as the Region's processes and goals don't change from year to year. Minor changes were made to Organizational Goals 1 and 2. Both changes relate to risk mitigation to ensure that that the Region's data is secure on a web-based platform. There were changes to Goal #5 that relate to reinvestment funding, the implementation of evidence-based practices, and workforce development. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to approve the Strategic Plan as presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Alternative Compliance – CenterPointe – PIER – LPN: Tyerman-Harper explained that CenterPointe was asking to be allowed to use an LPN in their PIER program based on their inability to staff the position with a qualified Registered Nurse due to workforce shortages. Currently PIER has been forced to limit the number of people they are able to serve. Lang made a motion, seconded by Bamesberger, to approve Alternative Compliance for CenterPointe regarding the staffing of their PIER program. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

BHAC Applications: Tyerman-Harper commented that BHAC membership is currently out of compliance with the bylaws. There are two applicants for consideration, Michele Vana and Evette Watts. Both candidates were recommended by the BHAC and are highly qualified for BHAC membership. Morrissey commented that she was familiar with both candidates and highly recommended them. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to approve these two candidates for BHAC membership contingent on successful background checks. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

BHAC Attendance / Reinstatement: Johnson noted that BHAC members are required to attend 50% of the regular meetings per bylaws. Because of Covid and other considerations that has been difficult for some individuals. Johnson asked for a blanket approval to retain a BHAC member who has not met the 50% requirement. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Lang, to recommend approval of continuation for the BHAC member who is out of compliance. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Dialectical Behavior Therapy (DBT) – Fidelity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan: Kreifels explained that DBT is one of the evidence-based practices the Region was able to implement with reinvestment funds. The Region has contracted with Josh Smith of Intuitive Minds to implement DBT therapy which focuses on chronically suicidal individuals and seeks to help clients develop “a life worth living.” The plan outlines how services are delivered, ongoing expectations of providers involved in the training, and how outcomes will be monitored. The extensive training is intended to develop competence and confidence in the workforce. Krueger made a motion, seconded by Bamesberger, to approve the Fidelity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for DBT as presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Motivational Interviewing (MI) – Fidelity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan: Kreifels presented the plan for MI noting that this treatment modality was created by Brenda Jennings of Motivate 2 Communicate. The Region has worked with Jennings to implement MI within the provider network. The plan identifies ways in which fidelity to the standard will be measured, ongoing maintenance efforts, and outcome measures. The extensive training is intended to develop competence and confidence in the workforce. Lang made a motion, seconded by Yoakum, to approve the Fidelity Monitoring and Evaluation Plan for Motivational Interviewing as presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

FY 22-23 Network Provider Performance Improvement Plan (PIP): Kreifels presented the FY 22-23 PIP explaining that this type of monitoring is a requirement for CARF accreditation and indicates the standards of excellence the Region conforms to. Categories include access, effectiveness, efficiency, satisfaction, evidence-based practices, service enhancement outcomes and reinvestment service outcomes. Schmieding made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to approve the PIP as presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Summer 2022 Prevention Mini-Grant Summary: Morrissey presented the mini-grant award summary for the summer cycle noting that entities applying for the summer cycle have a full year to use the funds. Applicants include two from Exeter-Milligan. The first request, for \$1,365 is for the purpose of hosting an “Addiction to Redemption” presentation and the second requests \$755.15 for Fifth Quarter activities. The Asian Center is requesting \$3,000 to provide a summer camp for young leaders. Morrissey commented that the Asian Center has been proactive and innovative in developing pathways to acclimation to a new culture. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to approve the Prevention Mini-Grant Summary in the amount of \$5,120.15. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

FY 22-23 Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) Grant Summary: Morrissey presented the four applicants for CLAS grant funding. Applicants are St. Monica’s for \$1,500 to provide appropriate sensory room updates; UNO Grace Abbott Training and Supervision for \$1,500, for CLAS standards training for community providers; LMEP / SCIP, \$1,500, for cultural competency training for providers and school professions, and LMEP / SCIP, \$972, for translation of materials and resources. Lang made a motion, seconded by Bamesberger, approve the CLAS Grant Summary, in the amount of \$5,472 as

presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

Site Visit Report Summaries: Tyerman-Harper reviewed the site visit summary reports for Houses of Hope, which includes TASC and Touchstone, Mental Health Crisis Center, and St. Monica's. For the three agencies all units audited were accounted for resulting in 100% compliance. Each agency also demonstrates substantial compliance with minimum standards and contractual requirements. Fiscal audits will occur for the non-fee-for-services programs. Krueger made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the Site Visit Report Summaries as presented. Voting aye were Lancaster County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Polk County, Richardson County, Saline County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none. Motion carried.

OTHER UPDATES / LEGISLATION / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Johnson commented that some of the non-motion items have been discussed earlier under other topics. The following topics had no additional discussion:

- Behavioral Health / Legislative Updates
- Emergency System
- Reinvestment/ARPA Projects / Workforce Emergency Funding
- Prevention
- BHAC Membership / Recruiting
- Network Continuous Quality Improvement / Regional Data Overview FY22Q3
- Wellness Initiative Quarterly Report
- FY 21-22 Capacity Utilization Summary Reports
- FY 21-22 Compliance Management Report
- FY 22-23 Training Plan

15% Rate Increase / FY 23 Allocations: Johnson noted that funding approved by the Legislature for a 15% rate increase will not be available until August and reinvestment funds may be used to cover this expenditure until those funds are allocated.

Civil Protective Custody (CPC) – The Bridge Behavioral Health: The Bridge is no longer providing CPC services and counties which have contracted with The Bridge have been notified. The Region has not been funding that program and any individual County contracts will have expired by September 1. Community meetings are ongoing to find the best ways to serve the individuals who can no longer be taken to The Bridge.

County Visits: Johnson reported that he has completed the majority of County Visits to date with five remaining. Some visits have been via Zoom, teleconference, or telephone, and all have gone well;

Venue / Format for FY 22-23: There was brief discussion about where the Board would meet during the 22-23 meeting cycle. Board members expressed satisfaction with meeting at Region V Services. Regarding the possibility of continuing hybrid meetings, the Region will attempt to get a clear answer on the legality of hybrid meetings for entities created by interlocal agreements. Legal advice may be sought.

IMPORTANT DATES

- June 27 – Network Provider Meeting
- August 31 – BHAC Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- September 12 – RGB Meeting – 10:30 a.m. – Region V Services

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 11:59 p.m.