

REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD

REGION V SYSTEMS MINUTES

April 8, 2024

Region V Systems
1645 N Street
Lincoln, NE
10:15 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Kenny Harre, Fillmore County; Emily Haxby, Gage County; Gale Pohlmann, Jefferson County; Christa Yoakum, Lancaster County; Jan Lang, Pawnee County; John Caverzagie, Richardson County; Janet Henning, Saline County; Ken Schmieding, Seward County; Dean Krueger, Thayer County; Stan Boehr, York County

MEMBERS ABSENT: Ryan Svoboda, Butler County; Les Agena, Johnson County; Michael Weiss, Nemaha County; Dan Crownover, Otoe County; Jerry Westring, Polk County; Bill Reece, Saunders County

OTHERS PRESENT: Erin Sindel, Nick Flewelling, Integrated Behavioral Health Services (IBHS); Tami DeShon, Theresa Henning, Patrick Kreifels, Kim Michael, Sandy Morrissey, Erin Rourke, Amanda Tyerman-Harper, Marti Rabe, Region V Systems

HOUSEKEEPING / CALL TO ORDER

Pohlmann called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Pohlmann 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 March 31, 2024.

ROLL CALL / AGENDA

Roll call followed. A quorum was present.

Present: Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County

Absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County

Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Henning, to approve the April 8, 2024, agenda as presented. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PROVIDER PRESENTATION – ERIN SENDEL, CCO, AND NICK FLEWELLING, COO, INTEGRATED BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES (IBHS)

- Flewelling provided a brief history of IBHS, which began providing services in 2017, and an overview of current programs and activities. IBHS serves approximately two hundred people at any one time in

five core programs, with an emphasis on serving persons with severe and persistent mental illness. IBHS serves individuals in Lincoln and has recently expanded to a Beatrice office where Psych Res Rehab and Community Support are offered.

- IBHS was approved by this Board as the provider for the Voluntary Crisis Response Center (VCRC) and is anticipating a start date in September following rehabilitation of the site located at 14th and Adams Street. This project is a collaboration with Lancaster County which is providing ARPA funding for renovation expenses and the Region which is contributing funding for startup costs.
- Yoakum commented regarding the long-standing need for this type of voluntary service. Flewelling commented that the service is available to all the counties in the Region V catchment area. Kreifels noted that the VCRC is a core service that DHHS is requiring all Regions to bring up and Region V is positioned well to have that service in place. The VCRC will provide a “place to go” within the crisis continuum three-legged stool, “someone to call,” and “someone to respond.”

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

March 11, 2023, Regional Governing Board Minutes: Henning made a motion, seconded by Yoakum, to approve the minutes of the March 11, 2024, meeting as presented. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.

Financial Report:

- DeShon presented the financial report through February 29, 2024, briefly reviewing income and expenditures for mental health, substance use disorder and other line items. DeShon noted that the Region is monitoring several areas that may end the year slightly over budget including BHAC milage, background checks and audit expenses.
- DeShon identified a coding error in the miscellaneous line item and advised that would be corrected for the next meeting cycle. With 66.7 percent of the fiscal year completed, total expenditures stand at 64.89 percent.
- Harre made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the financial report as presented. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.

Organizational Insurance Review – Shane Ideus, Unico:

- Shane Ideus with Unico provided the organizational liability review commenting that the purpose of liability insurance is to protect the assets of the organization. The annual review is to ensure that coverage is sufficient to mitigate any risk exposure and has kept up with inflation. A high level overview was provided. Ideus commented that he has worked with the Executive Committee with planning to ensure that all possible exposures are reviewed.
- Two concerns for a business such as Region V are adequate Director and Officer management liability for any employment related risks as well as cyber insurance. Ideus commented that he felt the Region was well protected and he was comfortable with the limits established by the Corporate Compliance Team.
- The policy under review renews in October, and in the future the new policy will be reviewed at a Board meeting prior to the renewal period.
- Schmieding made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to approve the Organizational Insurance Review as presented. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.

County Match:

- Kreifels reviewed a spreadsheet regarding County matching funds noting that, based on the loss of the three million dollars to Region V, County matching funds would decrease based on the statutorily required match. Kreifels proposed that Counties consider continuing to fund the Region at the levels that are funded in the current fiscal year. Should Counties reduce their match to the level required by statute, the variance would be a net loss to Region V of \$242,917.
- Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Henning, to support the proposal to sustain the current match funding. Following further discussion, Board members discussed the need to take this request to their full County Boards. Yoakum amended the motion to request that their County Boards consider payment to Region V for Mental Health and Substance Abuse Disorder remain the same as the current fiscal year. Henning seconded that amended motion.
- Rollcall voting followed: Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County; nays York County; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.
- Kreifels will re-send the information with talking points to the Board members to share with their full boards and this agenda item will be on the May agenda as a motion for approval. Pohlmann commented that should the Counties agree to continue funding at the current level, it would demonstrate the importance of adequate funding for the behavioral health system of care.

Opioid Remediation Settlement Funds Update:

- Obvious Expenditures Recommendations: Henning reviewed the following requests:
 - MyLNK:
 - * This funding, in the amount of \$6,000, would provide for management and upkeep of the site MyLNK. MyLNK also provides monthly analytics. Additional resources across the catchment area will be added and the site will continue to be enhanced. There is also a free MyLNK App that can be downloaded to a phone, removing the barrier that internet access requires.
 - * Henning made a motion, seconded by Lang, to recommend this request be funded in the amount of \$6,000 as presented. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.
 - Opioid Video Series:
 - * Henning noted that the amount requested has changed from \$14,500 to \$6,000 as other funding has been found for the creation of the video series. This request is for the promotion and marketing of the opioid video series by KidGlov which includes digital marketing, and integration with the TalkHeart2Heart website.
 - * There was discussion regarding whether there was data supporting the value of these types of resources. Because analytics will be provided, a clearer picture of utilization will emerge over time, but research does support the use of these types of websites. Henning also commented that she does not anticipate that this will be an annual expense.
 - * Henning made a motion, seconded by Yoakum, to approve this funding request for \$6,000. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.
 - * Kreifels will send the link to the website to the Board. Henning commented that counties can use that information on their website and can contact her or Janis if they would like assistance with that. Other Regions have expressed interest in the website, and the efforts have been recognized at the national level.
- Opioid Summit:
 - The Opioid Summit was a two-day event held March 19-20, 2024, with 170 participants registered. The first day focused on prevention and treatment and the second day a provider panel presented

information while the rest of the day was spent in strategic planning and identifying priorities using the Blueprint. Three priorities within twenty-four categories were identified. The grant application is being prepared and it is anticipated that it will be sent out April 15, 2024 with applications due back on May 6, 2024.

- The applications will be evaluated by the review committee composed of stakeholders. Kreifels asked if any Board member would be interested in sitting on the review committee and Harre agreed to do so.
- Kreifels commented that SAMHSA has acknowledged Region V's implementation process as being the most methodical approach developed to date.

Prevention – Culturally and Linguistically Appropriate Services (CLAS) / Prevention Mini-grants:

- Morrissey reviewed the five applications for CLAS funding briefly describing the activities that that would be funded by these grants. Yoakum made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the requests for CLAS grants in the amount of \$6,574.56. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.
- Revision of Prevention Mini-grant Standards: Morrissey pointed out the one change requested for the mini-grant standards. This addition will stipulate that all media requires a funding statement as well as approval of the media piece prior to publication in communities.
- Revision of CLAS Standards: Morrissey noted a proposed change to the grant criteria. If approved, the limit for CLAS mini-grant funding would increase from \$1,500 to \$3,000.
- Henning made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to approve the revisions to both the Mini-grant Standards and the CLAS Standards as presented. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.

Site Visit Report Summary (Blue Valley Behavioral Health):

- Tyerman-Harper presented the site visit report for BVBH noting that the audit reviewed a two-percent sample of the contracted capacity for all services provided. There was one service, outpatient substance use disorder (SUD), where the percentage verified fell below the 95 percent threshold and corrective action was requested. For youth outpatient SUD a concern was identified, and the service will be added to BVBH's contract so BVBH can bill correctly for this service.
- Lang made a motion, seconded by Yoakum, to approve the Site Visit Report Summary for BVBH as presented. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.

Annual Survey Results: Kreifels briefly reviewed each of the attached surveys.

- 2024 Network Provider Executive Director Survey Results: Overall the feedback was positive, and changes may be implemented based on other comments. Kreifels commented that the Region appreciates the feedback even if it is negative as it leads to evaluating of current practices.
- 2024 BHAC Survey Results: Kreifels discussed comments regarding the usefulness of the BHAC in terms of decision making, stating that following evaluation by the BHAC, Board members can be assured that information on the Board agenda has been thoroughly reviewed by both the Network Providers and the BHAC. Overall comments were positive.
- 2024 Regional Governing Board Survey Results: Overall comments were positive for the Board. Kreifels expressed the significance of the Board's input noting that sitting on the Governing Board provides an opportunity to have input on behalf of their individual County. Kreifels noted that he and Kasik are planning to attend County Board meetings in the coming months and further dialog can take place at that time. Kreifels also noted that he intends to visit with each Senator representing a County in

the Region V catchment area and will reach out to Board members when there is crossover to see if they would like to participate.

- 2024 Region V Employee Survey Results: Survey results that fall under 80 percent or areas where there is a significant decline from the previous year are reviewed and may lead to changes in processes or procedures. The question about the facility being clean and well maintained received a percentage of less than the 80 percent threshold. Kreifels commented that the Region may need to be making some decisions about our current building in the future.
- Harre made a motion, seconded by Yoakum, to approve all four surveys. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.

FY2020-FY2023 Region V Prevention Programmatic Monitoring: Tyerman-Harper noted that the Board has already reviewed and approved this report in a preliminary form in February. The final report removed any significant findings following review by the Division. Lang made a motion, seconded by Henning, to approve and place on file the final Prevention Programmatic Monitoring report. Voting aye were Fillmore County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saline County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; nays none; absent: Butler County, Johnson County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Polk County, Saunders County. Motion carried.

Interlocal Agreement Draft:

- Michael reviewed revisions to the interlocal agreement, noting that some revisions are for the purpose of maintaining the historicity of the interlocal agreement, and several areas are “language cleanup.” Currently Region V Systems and Apace operate under the same interlocal agreement. The main reason these agreements are being revised is to create two separate agreements, one for Apace and one for Region V Systems.
- The Region is asking that Board members share this document with their Boards. Kreifels and Kasik will be visiting Counties to provide more information and discuss the changes. DeShon discussed the revision related to how billing will occur under the revised document. Billing will be due quarterly, on September 1, October 1, January 1, and April 1. Michael will send a reminder to Board members to encourage them to discuss this in their respective Counties. It was noted that approval of the revised document requires unanimous approval from all sixteen Counties. There was no motion at this time.

OTHER UPDATES / LEGISLATION / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Behavioral Health / Legislative Updates: Kreifels presented the following information:

- LB1355, the opioid settlement bill, introduced by Senator Vargas is moving forward.
- Today is day fifty-six of the 60-day Legislative session with the last day being the 18th.
- Interim study LR392, focused on Medicaid and provider rates, introduced by Senator Hansen, will be under consideration.
- Interim studies LR420 and 422 will be looking at the Regional System of Care funding concerns and the approval process.

Regional Budget Plan Process and Timeline: DeShon reported that the Regional Budget Plan was submitted to the Division on Friday, April 5, 2024. Currently the Region is in the process of answering questions and providing any additional documents and other next steps as needed. Final approval is anticipated by mid-May.

Medicaid Unwind: Rourke reported that Medicaid has finished 75 percent of the re-evaluations and 67 percent of those reviewed continue to be eligible. There has been a slight increase in Medicaid enrollment. Rourke noted that the pace of the re-evaluations has slowed down.

Emergency System Update: DHHS continues to try to get individuals admitted to Lincoln Regional Center (LRC) who are waiting for competency restoration or on a Mental Health Commitment within 30 days. In addition, the Division is working to get individuals who are deemed discharge ready into the community

within 30 days. For a number of people who cannot be restored to competency and discharged for safety reasons or other complexities, they will be converted to a Mental Health Board commitment.

Regional Prevention Coordination System Update: Morrissey reported that Prevention is waiting to hear about budget approval. Morrissey commented that vaping is a major safety concern and focus area for prevention. Environmental scans will take place in all Region V Counties using Counter Tools, an evidence based practice which aims to reduce the detrimental impact of unhealthy substances such as tobacco, alcohol, etc.

Network Continuous Quality (CQI) Improvement:

- FY 23-24 Q2 Network CQI Data Synopsis: Rourke explained that for the first time a Data Synopsis was included which notes high level observations from the various reports. The BHAC requested to continue to get the synopsis as part of the agenda packet with the reports being emailed for informational purposes. The Board agreed to try that approach for a cycle or two.
- FY 23-24 Q2 Complaints, Appeals, Critical Incidents
- FY 23-24 Q2 Ineligibles and Denials
- FY 23-24 Q2 National Outcome Measures
- FY 23-24 Q2 Perception of Care
- FY 23-24 Q1 Quality File Review
- FY 23-24 Q2 Recovery Outcomes
- FY 23-24 Q2 Stable Living & Employment at Discharge
- FY 23-24 Q2 Zero Suicide System

March 11, 2024, Regional Governing Board Executive Committee Minutes: Minutes are provided for informational purposes.

FY 23-24 Capacity Utilization Summaries: Summaries are provided for informational purposes. Kreifels commented that the Region's goal is up utilize above 70 percent of the Regional allocation, and based on current trends it is anticipated that the drawdown will be between 77 and 85 percent compared to 62 percent last year.

FY 23-25 Training Plan: Provided for informational purposes.

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 8 – Executive Committee Meeting
- May 1 – BHAC Meeting – 10:00 a.m.
- May 13 – RGB Meeting – 10:15 a.m. – to be held at Region V Systems, 1645 N Street, Lincoln, NE
- May 20 – Network Provider Meeting – 9:00 a.m.

ADJOURN

There being no further business the meeting adjourned at 12:25 p.m.