

REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD

REGION 5 SYSTEMS MINUTES

April 14, 2025

Apace
4433 South 70th Street
Lincoln, NE
10:15 a.m.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Scott Griess, Butler County; Emily Haxby, Gage County; Danielle Schwab, Jefferson County; Christa Yoakum, Lancaster County; Michael Weiss, Nemaha County; Dan Crownover, Otoe County; Jan Lang, Pawnee County; John Caverzagie, Richardson County; Bill Reece, Saunders County; Darrell Zabrocki, Seward County; Dean Krueger, Thayer County; LeRoy Ott, York County

MEMBERS ABSENT: Kenny Harre, Fillmore County; Les Agena, Johnson County; Jerry Westring, Polk County; Brian Pribyl, Saline County

OTHERS PRESENT: Kasey Moyer, Mental Health Association; Tami DeShon, Renee' Dozier, Theresa Henning, Trina Janis, Patrick Kreifels, Kim Michael, Sandy Morrissey, Erin Rourke, Amanda Tyerman-Harper, and Marti Rabe, Region 5 Systems

HOUSEKEEPING / CALL TO ORDER

Yoakum called the meeting to order at 10:22 a.m.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Yoakum 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 April 6, 2025.

ROLL CALL / AGENDA

Roll call followed. A quorum was present.

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

Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County

Reece made a motion, seconded by Weiss, to approve the April 14, 2025, agenda as presented. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

PRESENTATION / KASEY MOYER, MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF NE (MHA)

- Moyer presented information about the Mental Health Association and commented that MHA is a peer-run organization and has been in existence for over 20 years. Staff receive extensive training in Intentional Peer Support, Motivational Interviewing, etc. The initial service provided by MHA was

Supported Employment, providing an opportunity for persons with behavioral health conditions to experience the positive benefits of employment. Currently the focus for this service is on individuals coming out of corrections. Approximately three hundred people are served annually.

- A second service, Keya House, was established as a place to go when someone is in crisis, allowing them to avoid interaction with law enforcement and providing respite and support. Most guests at Keya report that if they hadn't come to Keya, they would have probably ended up at the Mental Health Crisis Center or the hospital. Keya also maintains a warm line and responds to hundreds of calls 24/7.
- The REAL (Respond, Empower, Advocate, Listen) program receives referrals from law enforcement. They may be called out if mobile crisis response is activated and deactivates a crisis, or if law enforcement refers individuals for follow-up to provide support and help prevent a mental health crisis in the future.
- MHA provides re-entry services for individuals who are incarcerated. MHA staff goes into jails and provides support groups and re-entry planning to help provide support and resources for individuals leaving corrections.
- Kreifels thanked MHA for all they do and for their partnership in serving persons with behavioral health concerns.

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

March 10, 2025, Regional Governing Board Minutes: Zabrocki made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the minutes of the March 10, 2025, meeting as presented. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.

Financial Report:

- DeShon presented the financial report through February 28, 2025, providing the cash position including opioid settlement funds. DeShon discussed the highlighted items that are currently over budget and provided rationale for those overages. Most of the highlighted items are annual expenditures, so it is anticipated that they will fall within the budget by the end of the year. In addition to the overages discussed last month, the Region will be monitoring employee benefits and RGB meeting expenses. With 66.6 percent of the fiscal year completed, total expenditure stands at 61.93 percent, approximately \$292,000 under budget. There are expenses outstanding for relocation costs, but it is anticipated that those final figures will be available by next month.
- Krueger made a motion, seconded by Weiss, to approve the financial report as presented. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.

FY 25-26 County Match:

- Statutory Required Match:
 - Kreifels reviewed the loss of funding for behavioral health services over the last several years. In 2023, the Legislature decreased funding across the Regions by 10.3 million dollars, and the match was subsequently reduced. Additionally, an unfunded rate increase of five percent for Network Providers over the biennium was approved by the Legislature. In 2024, an additional 15 million dollars was removed, and the required match was reduced again; however, the counties agreed to sustain the match from the previous year. Region 5 Systems' current request is a 38 percent reduction from FY 24-25 vs request for FY 25-26 in the amount of \$92,000.
 - Kreifels explained the strategies that allowed for a reduction in the FY 25-26 county match request included administrative efficiencies with fiscal software and the contract database lowering personnel expenses by reducing FTEs and re-locating to 3600 Union Drive.
 - Lang made a motion, seconded by Crownover, to accept the statutorily required county match as outlined in the "FY 25-26 County Matching Funds" document, column D: Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee

County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.

- Requests for Additional County Match:
 - Region 5 Systems is requesting additional county match dollars over the statutorily required amount. If approved for consideration, the Governing Board representative and county clerk will receive an email, with a form attached, to place on their county board agenda for review and approval. The form will need to be returned by May 14 to ensure Region 5 Systems is able to present its annual budget for approval at the June Governing Board meeting. Each county board can independently approve or deny the request for additional match funding.
 - Zabrocki made a motion, seconded by Reece, to approve Region 5 Systems to issue a request for additional county match funds as outlined in the “FY 25-26 County Matching Funds” document, column E, to the respective 16 full county boards for consideration of approval. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.

FY 24-25 Contractual Agreements: Henning presented the following contractual agreements:

- Opioid Steering Committee – Obvious Expenditure:
 - The contract with DentaChem will provide the five law enforcement entities listed with Apex R7 Spectrometers. These scanners provide a safe method to detect and analyze an extensive number of different substances. Morrissey pointed out these law enforcement entities are focused around the health districts in Region 5 and these resources can be shared.
 - Lang made a motion, seconded by Caverzagie, to approve the Obvious Expenditures as presented. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.
- Mental Health First Aid (MHFA)
 - These contracts with DHHS and the two individuals listed will provide coordination and training for Adult and / or Youth MHFA in the community. Krueger made a motion, seconded by Schwab, to approve the contracts to provide MHFA. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.
- Stabilization Funds:
 - The contract with Agiloft is for the purpose of increasing efficiencies in Region 5 Systems’ contract management database through creation of a test environment. Crownover made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve the contract with Agiloft as presented. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.
- Plan for One Contracts
 - The contract with Capture Developmental and Community Services will provide one-to-one direct care staff within a residential setting to an individual transitioning from the Lincoln Regional Center under a Plan for One agreement. Ott made a motion, seconded by Zabrocki, to approve the Plan for One contract as presented. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.

Draft Region 5 Systems Interlocal Agreement: Kreifels stated that the revised Interlocal Agreement was brought to this meeting for one last dialog before it will be a motion item at the May 12 meeting. Region 5 Systems will need to seek approval from the Division of Behavioral Health for this latest draft version. If approved by the Governing Board at the May 12 meeting, Michael will issue the Interlocal Agreements, for

both Apace and Region 5 Systems, to the counties and ask that each county board approve and return the documents.

Draft Region 5 Systems Bylaws:

- Michael presented the revised Bylaws noting that the last revision was in 2019. She stated four reasons for the revisions: 1) to correlate the Interlocal Agreement with the Bylaws; 2) to allow for a thorough review by legal; 3) when applicable, to revise language to be similar to Apace, and 4) to provide clarity.
- Michael commented that many of the changes reflect clean-up language. Legal review ensured that referenced statutes were correct. In reviewing the document, Michael pointed out the various changes and the rationale behind the revisions. Zabrocki commented that at the Apace meeting there was a discussion that a quorum should be nine rather than eight, so decisions represent a clear majority.
- There was discussion regarding the role and purpose of the Executive Committee and how those individuals are selected. After discussion, it was agreed that the word “preference” in the second sentence, in Article V, Section 4. (“Officer Elections”) should be removed.
- The four Executive Committee positions are: Chair, Vice Chair, and two Members at Large. Kreifels stated that the full Governing Board is always given notice of an Executive Committee meeting and any recommendations made by the Executive Committee must be approved by the full Governing Board.
- After discussing the draft Bylaws, the Governing Board agreed that these changes should be made:
 - Article IV – “Meetings,” Section 4 (Quorum): change quorum from 8 to 9 members.
 - Article V – “Executive Committee,” Section 4 (Officer Elections): Remove the word “preference” in the second sentence.
- Per current Bylaws, any revisions made must be provided in writing to all Governing Board members at least 10 calendar days prior to the meeting where a vote will be taken to adopt. The revised Bylaws, as discussed today, will be placed on the May 12 Governing Board agenda for review and adoption.

Annual Survey Results: Kreifels commented that the survey results are attached for informational purposes and commented that the surveys provide valuable feedback.

- 2025 Network Provider Executive Survey Results: A discussion was held at the April provider meeting regarding two questions.
- 2025 BHAC Survey Results: BHAC survey results were discussed at the recent BHAC meeting.
- 2025 RGB Survey Results: For the RGB surveys, there was brief discussion regarding two questions.
- Reece made a motion to accept results, seconded by Lang, to accept and place on file the survey reports and findings. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.

Opioid Remediation:

- Settlement Blueprint:
 - Janis presented the Blueprint which has been revised from a year ago. Major changes include removing the names of Steering Committee members from the document, a change to the dollar amount the Nebraska has received and added language that any amount that is less than a 15 percent change from the original contract does not need to come back to the Committee for re-approval. Pages 11-14 include priorities, and highlighted priorities are new, based on the findings of the Needs Assessment recently completed. The newly identified priorities will be given priority for the next grant cycle. The last page lists all the projects that have been funded to date.
 - Zabrocki made a motion, seconded by Weiss, to approve the revised Blueprint as presented. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.
- Opioid Needs Assessment Report: The draft needs assessment was provided for informational purposes. The final report will be finished by the end of April and will be posted on the Region 5 website. Janis noted that there is a full report, in addition to this summary, that includes county specific data which

counties may find useful. Janis plans to meet with each county to discuss the data, answer questions, and provide information.

BHAC Membership – Paige Joseph: Tyerman-Harper briefly provided information regarding the BHAC applicant. Zabrocki made a motion, seconded by Lang, to approve Joseph’s membership on the BHAC. Voting aye were Butler County, Gage County, Jefferson County, Lancaster County, Nemaha County, Otoe County, Pawnee County, Richardson County, Saunders County, Seward County, Thayer County, York County; Absent: Fillmore County, Johnson County, Polk County, Saline County; Motion carried.

Mileage for Board Members: This topic was discussed at the Apace meeting. Board members were reminded that they have a legal right to request mileage reimbursement, but it is not required if they chose not to submit. Commissioner participation in board meetings is the goal and we don’t want reimbursement for mileage to be a barrier to participating. Mileage is available to support the board member.

Meals for Board Meeting: This was also discussed at the Apace meeting, and it was decided to stop providing lunch for Board meeting days.

Board Meeting Materials: The Board agreed that Board packets will no longer be mailed. The packet will be sent electronically a week prior to the meeting, and hard copies will be available at the meeting.

OTHER UPDATES / LEGISLATION / INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

Behavioral Health / Legislative Updates: Kreifels commented that he provided a status update via email this morning.

Regional Prevention Coalition System Update: Morrissey reported that Prevention is working with suicide funds and anticipates receiving an additional \$30,000 in July. Prevention is working with county attorneys and sheriffs to collect data regarding gender, age range, and means of suicide, which will help to point to trends and determine appropriate strategies to address the particular demographic represented. The SHARP assessment will be conducted this fall. The responses provide schools with needed information to determine where youth are getting access to substances. Morrissey noted that schools are receiving pushback from parents about this data collection.

BHECN Open House Networking Event: The Open House is scheduled for tomorrow, April 15, at 3600 Union Drive. The Region is partnering with BHECN in their efforts to recruit, retain and train the behavioral healthcare workforce.

FY 24-25 Capacity Utilization Summaries: These documents are provided for informational purposes. The Region uses these documents to monitor utilization of funds throughout the year to draw down as much of the allocation as possible. Currently utilization is right on margin of expected drawdown at 65 percent.

March 10, 2025, Regional Governing Board Executive Committee Minutes: No discussion.

Network Continuous Quality Improvement: No discussion.

FY 24-25 Network Management Report: Provided for informational purposes.

Training Plan: Provided for informational purposes.

IMPORTANT DATES

- April 21 – Network Provider Meeting – 9:00 a.m. - Teams
- April 30 – BHAC Meeting – 10:00 a.m. – Region 5 Systems, 3600 Union Drive
- May 12 – RGB Meeting – 10:15 a.m. – Apace, 4433 South 70th Street

ADJOURN

Having no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 11:57 a.m.