



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE MINUTES

April 29, 2026

10:00 a.m.

Region 5 Systems, 3600 Union Drive

ROLL CALL:

BOARD MEMBERS	ABSENT	PRESENT
GREG JANAK		X
PAIGE JOSEPH	X	
CORRIE KIELTY		X
JILL KUZELKA		X
MEINDER, REBECCA		X
MULCAHY, RACHEL		X
LAURA OSBORNE		X
KENNY HARRE		X
GALE POHLMANN		X
MICHELE VANA	X	
EVETTE WATTS	X	

Roll was called; a quorum was present.

Others Present: Traci Cooney, Tami DeShon, Patrick Kreifels, Kayla Lathrop, Kim Michael, Sandy Morrissey, and Erin Rourke, Region 5 Systems

HOUSEKEEPING / ANNOUNCEMENTS / INTRODUCTIONS

Janek called the meeting to order at 10:03 a.m.

OPEN MEETINGS ACT INFORMATION

Janek noted that Open Meetings Act information is posted as required. Notification of this meeting and information regarding availability of the agenda was provided through a legal notice in the Lincoln Journal Star, published April 15, 2026.

ADDITIONS / CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CONSENT AGENDA

Osborne made a motion, seconded by Pohlmann, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The Consent Agenda includes the 4/1/2026 BHAC minutes, FY26 Compliance Management Report and the 4/13/2026 RGB minutes. All present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

Contractual Agreements:

- Kreifels provided an update on 4 contracts with presenters to provide NAVIGATE training modules to Lutheran Family Service for the implementation of the evidence-based practice for treatment of individuals who experience First Episode Psychosis. Mulcahy made a motion, seconded by Kielty, to recommend the Board approve this contract as presented. All present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

Provider Contract Shifts:

- Deshon presented provider shifts for April 2026. Kuzelka made a motion, seconded by Osborne, to accept the contract amendments as presented and move to the Board for approval. All present voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

Draft FY27 Meeting Schedule:

- Kreifels presented the draft meeting schedule for FY27. Mulcahy made a motion, seconded by Meinders, to accept the draft schedule as presented and move to the Board for approval. All voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

FY26 Preliminary Services Purchased Expense Reimbursement Verification:

- DeShon presented the letter received from DBH. This letter is the results of their first of two audits that DBH does on Region 5 Systems, annually. Pohlmann identified an error on page 18, Region CQI Coordination MH vs. SUD expenses. Under Travel Expenses in SUD there is a total of \$4.41 for travel and Travel Expenses in MH there is no expense, however the net totals in SUD and MH are the same and there is a question if MH net total should be decreased by \$4.41. It was determined this must be an error and Kreifels will reach out to request clarification and potential correction. Harre made a motion, seconded by Osborne, to accept the survey results after correction from DBH and move to the Board for approval. All voted aye. Motion carried 8-0.

OTHER UPDATES/INFORMATION:

Behavioral Health / System Coordination / Legislative Updates:

- Legislative:
 - 1915i waiver – No response from DOJ in regard to holding back.
 - Public Policy Center Survey on housing for people with serious mental illness – waiting on results.
 - CCBHC mileage radius – Rural providers must reach 75 miles from their home office. In Lincoln, LFS and CenterPointe must reach 45 miles.
 - Service Definitions – Providers are worried that this could increase their cost of doing business. July 1 is the anticipated date that the revised definitions will be implemented.
 - Medicaid – Work requirements go into effect May 1, 2026. Also, beginning January 2027, all states are required to do redetermination every 6 months rather than the current annual.
 - 1115 Demonstration Waiver – To allow more than 16 mental health beds and to offer medical respite has been delayed to January 2027.
 - Rural Health Transformation Funds – Current grant opportunities include from DBH for retention of rural practitioners for 5 years.
 - LB722 – passed and was signed by the governor.
 - LB901 – Gaming devices be taxed. There is an allocation of 3.75% of the taxed funds to be allocated the behavioral health cash fund.
 - Next Legislative Session – Kreifels will meet with other Regional Administrators and lobbyists next week to prepare for 2027 legislative 90-day session.
- Emergency System:
 - The Pilot Project continues. MHCC has people waiting to be moved admitted to the Lincoln Regional Center.
 - Summit – June 30-July 1. The focus is the Lincoln Regional Center and access to beds, identify issues, what is working well, and develop a plan with priorities.
 - Assisted Outpatient Treatment SAMHSA Grant – Region 5 Systems applied for this grant. Potential of \$750,000 for 5 years. Region 5 would hire a Project Director and Project Coordinator. The Coordinator will oversee patient care to ensure the participant/MHB consumer is receiving what services they need. There will also be a database to track consumer progress.

- Youth Coordination:
 - SquareOne May 28 Open House – may be delayed.
- Statewide Opioid Response:
 - \$118,471 awarded – No contract is in place and Region 5 will not move forward until DBH has the contract in place. The funds need to be spent by September 30, 2026.
 - Narcan Training – Contact Trina Janis with Region 5 for information.
 - Drug Summit – September 1, 2026, at Innovation Campus.
 - Opioid Resettlement Funds – Moving forward on MOUD treatment mobile vehicle and providing services.
- Prevention:
 - Federal Block Grant Funds FY27 – Approved.
 - 4 Corners Health Department – will oversee Butler and Seward as Fiscal Agent.
 - Public Health Solutions – All 5 counties have become 1 coalition.
 - Garrett Lee Smith Grant – Looking at applying for more funding through the GLS grant (SAMSHA).
 - Youth will continue working on legislation. One topic is vaping.
- Housing:
 - 236 participants are housed; 58 on the wait list.

Draft FY27 Site Visit Schedule:

- For your information.

FY26 Attendance Log:

- For your information.

FY26 Terms of Service Summary:

- For your information. More detailed information about term limits by BHAC members will be added to the agenda for the May 27, 2026, meeting.

BHAC Membership Recruitment Flyer:

- Provided to share to recruit more members for this Board. Region 5 Systems will share on social media, with health districts and county clerks.

FY26 Capacity Utilization Summaries:

- For your information.

Training Plan:

- For your information.

OTHER BUSINESS

Kreifels announced that Region 5 Systems has been voted as one of Lincoln's Best Places to Work. The award ceremony is June 4, 2026, where placement will be learned.

IMPORTANT DATES

- May 11 – 10:15 a.m. – RGB Meeting at Apace, 4433 South 70 Street, Lincoln, NE
- May 18 – Network Provider Meeting at Region 5 Systems, 3600 Union Drive, Lincoln, NE
- May 27 – 10:00 a.m. – BHAC Meeting at Region 5 Systems, 3600 Union Drive, Lincoln, NE

ADJOURN

- There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:00 p.m.