REGION 5 SYSTEMS
Supporting Wellness and Recovery in Behavioral Health
SINCE 1974

REGIONAL GOVERNING BOARD MINUTES
November 9, 2026
10:15 a.m.
Apace, 4433 S. 70th Street, Lincoln, NE

ROLL CALL

COUNTY	BOARD MEMBERS	ABSENT	PRESENT
BUTLER	SCOTT GRIESS		X
FILLMORE	KENNY HARRE		X
GAGE	EMILY HAXBY	X	
JEFFERSON	DANIELLE SCHWAB		X
JOHNSON	LES AGENA	X	
LANCASTER	CHRISTA YOAKUM		X
NEMAHA	MICHAEL WEISS		X
OTOE	DAN CROWNOVER	X	
PAWNEE	JAN LANG		X
POLK	JERRY WESTRING		X
RICHARDSON	JOHN CAVERZAGIE		X
SALINE	RAY ROHRIG	X	
SAUNDERS	BILL REECE		X
SEWARD	DARRELL ZABROCKI		X
THAYER	DEAN KRUEGER		X
YORK	DEB ROBERTSON		X

CALL TO ORDER / ANNOUNCEMENTS / INTRODUCTIONS
Yoakum called the meeting to order at 10:15 a.m.
Yoakum noted the Open Meetings Act information was posted in the meeting room and reminded members that meetings are public and recorded. The agenda was posted at www.region5systems.net. Notice of the meeting and agenda availability was published in the Lincoln Journal Star on November 1, 2026.

Roll was called; a quorum was present.

Others Present: Sean Fouraker, Richardson County; Michelle Nunemaker, Lutheran Family Services; Kiley Wiechman and Tanner Weir, HBE CPAs and Consultants; Traci Cooney, Tami DeShon, Theresa Henning, Patrick Kreifels, Kayla Lathrop, Kim Michael, Erin Rourke, and Amanda Tyerman-Harper, Region 5 Systems

AGENDA APPROVAL
Weiss made a motion, seconded by Zabrocki, to approve the agenda with a special presentation.
Roll Call: Yes: Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION

Chairperson, Christa Yoakum, provided certificates of appreciation to Regional Governing Board members whose service on the board ends in January 2027: Dean Krueger, Thayer County; Jan Lang, Pawnee County; John Caverzagie, Richardson County; and Michael Weiss, Nemaha County. Yoakum thanked them for their dedication to the Regional Governing Board.

PRESENTATION – MICHELLE NUNEMAKER, LUTHERAN FAMILY SERVICES

Nunemaker explained that Lutheran Family Services (LFS) had received funds to purchase two mobile treatment vans. The vans are available to the entire Region 5 Systems' area. LFS can take the van into the community for assessments, outpatient therapy, and medication management.

The treatment van would reach persons served who are unable to access services, whether that's due to transportation issues, distance issues, etc. LFS can come to a community if there are three to four persons served in need.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION / PRIORITY ITEMS

September 14, 2026, Regional Governing Board Minutes:

Harre made a motion, seconded by Caverzagie, to approve the minutes as presented.

Roll Call: Yes: Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore
Abstain: Pawnee, Polk
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

FY26 CPA Fiscal Audit Report

Wiechman and Weir presented the draft audit report of the FY26 Financial Statements with an unmodified opinion.

Krueger made a motion, seconded by Weiss, to approve the Region 5 Systems' FY26 Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report, pending the publication of the final 2026 Compliance Supplement by the federal government, Office of Management and Budget (OMB). This approval shall remain in effect provided no material changes are made to the final version. Should any material changes or adjustments arise during the completion of the final audit, the revised financial statements shall be brought back before the Regional Governing Board for further review and approval.

Roll Call: Yes: Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

Financial Report:

DeShon presented the financial report thru September 30, 2026.

Lang made a motion, seconded by Zabrocki, to approve the report as presented.

Roll Call: Yes: Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

FY27 Contractual Agreements:
Henning presented the listed contracts for Regional Governing Board approval:

Outpatient Navigation and Engagement (ONE) Grant
- $244,516 to the University of Nebraska Public Policy Center for a comprehensive evaluation of the ONE project.

Plan for One Contracts
- $65,892.19 to Capture to help an individual discharge from the Mental Health Crisis Center (MHCC) into Capture for services to help them be successful.
- An amendment for a current individual that was discharged from Mary Lanning Hospital. The original contract ($130,879.62) was approved through October 2026, and this would provide an extension through the end of June 2027 with an increase in cost due to the extension ($99,895.02).

Rural Health Transformation Project
- $79,550 to DBH to expand and strengthen BETA training and train more trainers for the hearing voices training.
- BETA training presenter: Cheryl Turner (up to $800).
- BETA training presenter: Maxson Counseling and Consultation LLC (up to $1,400).
- BETA training presenter: Jill Kuzelka (up to $450).
- BETA training presenter: Autism Action Partnership (up to $1,300).
- BETA training presenter: MHA (up to $3,100).

CDC Suicide Grant
- $30,000 to the Nebraska State Suicide Prevention Coalition to reduce overall suicide morbidity by 10% within the state of Nebraska.
- $800 per training with CenterPointe to provide Assessing and Managing Suicide Risk (AMSR) training.
- $17,700 to Marcus Theatre for movie trailers in Lancaster county with suicide prevention messaging for youth and adults.
- $800 per training with Jenn Moffett to provide Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST) to the community.
- $800 per training with Joscelyn Kuts to provide ASIST training to the community.

Garrett Lee Smith
- $24,845 to Beck Institute to provide Cognitive Behavioral Therapy for Suicide Prevention (CBT-SP) training designed specifically for adolescents who have recently attempted suicide or experienced acute suicidal ideation.
- $2,750 to Jenn Moffett for Soul Shop training for faith-based clergy to provide tools for community in addressing suicide prevention.
- $30,800 to Lincoln Public Schools to support Hope Squads within 21 LPS schools and provide funding for the purchase of lockboxes, trigger locks, and cable gun locks.
- $6,500 to KidGlov for the creation of a movie trailer in both English and Spanish with information on what to do if someone is talking with them about suicide.

Partnerships for Success (PFS) Contracts
- $5,000 to KidGlov to provide project management and reporting of Power of Parents webpage for Lancaster County.
- $7,000 to Wellbeing Initiative to provide WRAP train-the-trainers for colleges and identified industry specific personnel to lead WRAP groups.
- $15,752 to Nebraska Collegiate Prevention Alliance for project management of Power Parenting profile and assist with college profile uploading on the individual college websites as well as webhosting fees.

- $17,610 to Marcus Theatre for movie trailers in Lancaster county providing Power of Parents messaging regarding high-risk drinking.
- $4,000 to the Lincoln Police Department to create a law enforcement/youth partnership in assuring establishments are not selling alcohol to minors.
- $28,315 to Public Health Solution to implement PFS deliverables within Jefferson, Saline, and Gage counties.
- $4,882 to LMO Consulting, LLC to implement PFS deliverables within Johnson, Pawnee, and Richardson counties.
- $555 to Flood Broadcasting, Inc to provide radio spots for promotion of the EX Program.
- $555 to KNZA, Inc to provide radio spots for promotion of the EX Program.

State Opioid Response (SOR) Grant

- $4,770 to Sharps Medical Waste Services to purchase a MedSafe and replacement liners for Nebraska City and Auburn.
- An amendment/increase of $8,800 to BayMark's (BAART) current year contract for provision of approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder and to support treatment and recovery support services.
- $2,000 to KidGlov to create a digital ad campaign promoting Narcan training, MedSafe locations and other SOR activities.
- $5,000 to J Chad Professional Training (Tall Cop) to provide two webinar trainings on substance use prevention.
- $14,984 to CenterPointe to contract for provision of approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder and to support treatment and recovery support services.
- $88,000 to BayMark (BAART) to contract for provisions of approved medications for the treatment of opioid use disorder and to support treatment and recovery support services.
- $250 per training to the following persons/entities to provide Narcan training within Region 5 Systems' catchment area.
    - Jill Kuzelka
    - Laura Osborne
    - Simera Reynolds
    - Andrea Hincapie
    - Four Corners Health Department

Weiss made a motion, seconded by Caverzagie, to approve the contracts as presented.
Roll Call: Yes: Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

FY26 Annual Report DRAFT:
Rourke reviewed the document and explained the report and layout.

Lang made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to accept the draft report contingent on the final financial audit.
Roll Call: Yes: Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

FY26 Management Summary DRAFT:
Rourke presented the summary that includes various organizational performance improvement indicators within Region 5 Systems.

Reece made a motion, seconded by Harre, to accept the summary as presented.
Roll Call: Yes: Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

Region 5 Supported Housing Residency Checks Report:
Tyerman-Harper presented the letter from the Department of Behavioral Health (DBH) Housing Administrator. Due to recent federal highlights on fraud, DBH implemented on-site visits with a sample of individuals who receive vouchers through Region 5 Systems' Rental Assistance Program. The site visit was to ensure that vouchers were being used appropriately, rental assistance was being received by the persons registered for this service, and to verify the physical location of the units identified as receiving rental assistance payments.

Weiss made a motion, seconded by Lang, to accept the report as presented.
Roll Call: Yes: Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

Opioid Settlement Site Visit – BAART:
Henning presented the site visit results from an audit that was conducted on BAART as a recipient of Opioid Settlement Funds.

Zabrocki made a motion, seconded by Weiss, to accept the results as presented.
Roll Call: Yes: Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

FY26 Network Provider Audit Year End Summary:
Tyerman-Harper provided a summary of the document and explained the audit process. She stated that there is a potential to increase baseline sample size this fiscal year pending final decision by the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH).

Reece made a motion, seconded by Caverzagie, to accept the summary as presented.
Roll Call: Yes: Seward, Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

FY27 Network Performance Improvement Plan:
Rourke reviewed the document and explained it is a guide for the fiscal year for each provider.

Lang made a motion, seconded by Weiss, to accept the plan as presented.
Roll Call: Yes: Thayer, York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

Public Comment Protocol DRAFT:
Michael presented the draft document. This document will be made available to the public on Region 5 Systems' website and readily available to the Chair at every meeting for reference.
Griess asked about the requirement to sign in as that was an issue raised at their county level meetings. After discussion, it was determined to change the language regarding sign-in to optional vs. required.

Reece made a motion, seconded by Zabrocki, to accept the document contingent on language revision related to the sign-in requirement for public commenters.
Roll Call: Yes: York, Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

2026 Employee Survey Results:
Kreifels explained that this survey takes place in the fall with all Region 5 Systems employees. Survey results indicate where improvements might be made within the agency. A score of 80% per question is considered good. Kreifels reviewed the questions that fell below 80%, reporting that any percentage below that is considered for quality improvement. He also explained that he will meet with employees to address the concerns.

Harre made a motion, seconded by Krueger, to accept the survey results as presented.
Roll Call: Yes: Butler, Fillmore, Jefferson, Lancaster, Nemaha, Pawnee, Polk, Richardson, Saunders, Seward, Thayer, York
Absent: Gage, Johnson, Otoe, Saline
Motion Carried.

OTHER UPDATES / INFORMATION
Behavioral Health / System Coordination / Legislative Updates:
Legislative Updates:
- Kreifels reported that DBH is asking the Regions to reduce their FY28 budget by 5%, with a potential of an added 3%.
- Kreifels explained a document in the meeting packet that shows what the Medicaid lookback from DBH would look like for providers and how that can affect them.

Emergency System:
- Kreifels stated that SquareOne officially opened on October 20, 2026. In the first week, SquareOne had one youth in respite for five days, and two or three youth contemplated making use of the services, with an average of three walk-ins per day.

Prevention:
- With Sandy Morrissey's retirement, Kayla Lathrop is now the Prevention Manager. She introduced herself to the Board.

RideCare:
Kreifels explained that this new program is for use by law enforcement in the Region 5 Systems' catchment area for voluntary treatment seekers or consumers in Emergency Protective Custody. There is up to a 2-hour wait for a driver. RideCare currently has 6 vehicles across the state but plans to expand up to 13 vehicles.

Nebraska Summit on Navigating Acute Psychiatric Inpatient Admission Pathways:
A report attached shows the results of the Summit that was held on June 30, 2026, and July 1, 2026. Region 5 Systems will be working with stakeholders to implement new strategies to improve the system overall.

FY26 RGB Attendance Log:
For your information.

FY27 RGB Attendance Log:
For your information.

September 14, 2026, RGB Executive Committee Minutes:
For your information.

FY27 Capacity Utilization Summaries:
Kreifels explained that Region 5 Systems is right at the margin for this fiscal year, at 25%. Some of the funding is restricted so a request could be made to DBH to shift some funds from other Regions if needed.

Consumer / Family Advisory Committee Quarterly Report – Q1:
For your information.

FY27 Compliance Management Report:
For your information.

2027 Legislative Calendar:
For your information.

FY 26 Training Plan:
For your information.

IMPORTANT DATES

- January 11, 2027 – Network Provider Meeting – 9:00 a.m. via Teams
- January 27, 2027 – BHAC Meeting – 10:00 a.m. at Region 5 Systems, 3600 Union Drive Lincoln, NE (hybrid)
- February 8, 2027 – RGB Meeting – 10:15 a.m. at Apace, 4433 S 70th Street, Lincoln, NE (hybrid)

ADJOURN
The meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.