

REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

110 North Bailey, Box 1208
North Platte, NE 69103
(308) 534-0440

MINUTES REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

Date: April 22, 2021

I. REGION II HUMAN SERVICES (Behavioral Health Authority)

A. Introductions/Roll Call. Meeting was called to order by Dan Vinton, Chairman at 10:45 AM CDT. Roll call was taken with 15 Board members present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Jageler, Arthur Co.
 Duane Dinnel, Chase Co.
 PJ Jacobson, Dawson Co.
 Richard Bartholomew, Dundy Co.
 JR Houser, Frontier Co.
 Glenn Hofman, Gosper Co.
 Dan Vinton, Grant Co.
 Wayne Christner, Hayes Co.
 Paul Nichols, Hitchcock Co.
 Dale Schroeder, Keith Co.
 Joe Hewgley, Lincoln Co.
 Lee Wonch, Logan Co.
 Brett Nason, McPherson Co.
 Randy Dean, Red Willow Co.
 Pam Moody, Thomas Co.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Bryan Crisp, Hooker Co. Sid Colson, Perkins Co.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathy Seacrest, Regional Administrator, Region II Human Services
 Katie McCarthy, Fiscal and System Manager
 Traci Kramer, Operations & Human Resources Director
 Sheri Dawson - Director, Division of Behavioral Health
 Linda Wittmus - DHHS
 Tamara Gavin - DHHS

B. Announcements. Open Meetings Act, agenda, previous months minutes and handout materials are posted in the Board room. News media receiving meeting notification: North Platte Telegraph, Keith Co News, McCook Daily Gazette and Clipper Herald.

C. Public Forum. None.

D. Approval of Minutes. A motion was made by Lee Wonch and seconded by Brett Nason to approve the minutes of the March 25, 2021 meeting. Roll call vote, 11/0/3 (Ron Jageler, PJ Jacobson, and Dale Schroeder abstained). Motion carried.

E. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by JR Houser and seconded by Joe Hewgley to approve the agenda .as presented. Roll call vote, 15/0, motion carried.

F. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee Report - None
2. Advisory Committee Report. - None

II. Sheri Dawson, Linda Wittmus, Tamara Gavin – Division of Behavioral Health - Sheri Dawson, Director for the Division of Behavioral Health, along with Tamara Gavin and Linda Wittmuss, distributed their annual Presentation to the Region II Governing Board. The 2017-2020 Division of Behavioral Health Strategic Plan and goals were presented as well as Region II data by admission, persons served by county, and waitlist data. Sheri noted Region II's strengths including being above the statewide average and statewide target in stable living at discharge from any service. Another Region II strength presented was being above the statewide average in employment at discharge in any service. Opportunities were also discussed including assessing waitlist data to determine if there is a need for increased capacity, assessing the current structure of the organization, and conducting analysis of provider and Region Continuity of Operations Plan needs in light of recent pandemic. The Board thanked Sheri, Linda, and Tamara for their report.

III. AGENCY/SERVICES PROVIDED BY REGION II HUMAN SERVICES

A. Agency Services

1. Program Report. Kathy presented the March Behavioral Health Authority Program Report and answered any questions. Client numbers continue to stay steady in all programs.

2. Financial Report. The Agency financial report for March 2021 was reviewed.

B. Notice of Privacy Practices Update. Approval/Disapproval. We are now able to text clients for appointment reminders, rescheduling, cancellation notifications, and other communication. A section on SMS text message communication needs added to the Notice of Privacy Practices. A motion was made Brett Nason and seconded by Lee Wonch to approve the update to the Notice of Privacy Practices. Roll call vote, 13/0, motion carried.

IV. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

A. Contracted Services.

1. Program Report. Kathy presented the March Behavioral Health Authority Program Report and answered any questions.

2. Financial Report. The Contracted Provider financial report for March was reviewed.

B. Systems Coordination

1. Program Report. Kathy presented the Systems Coordination Program Report for March.

2. Financial Report. The Systems Coordination financial reports for March were reviewed.

C. Grants

1. Mental Health First Aid. This class was held at Central Community College in March in a large room with masks required. Additional trainings are scheduled throughout the year.

2. Opioid Grant. The Region continues to see a lot of people in this grant throughout the month and the Project is helping distribute Narcan at no charge to community members.

3. Treatment Grant (COVID). We continue to help clients on this grant.

4. Outreach Grant (COVID). The Nebraska Strong Recovery Project will continue through June 2021. Statewide calls take place every other Tuesday in order to touch base.

D. Overall Financial Report. Agency and Behavioral Health Authority. Katie McCarthy reviewed the March financials. The Region 75% through end of the year.

E. Shift of Funds Request. Approval/Disapproval. A request for a Shift of Funds was presented to the Board for review. A motion was made by JR Houser and seconded by Wayne Christner to approve the shift of funds. Roll call vote, 14/0, motion carried.

F. Regional Administrator's Report

1. Updates. Kathy Seacrest asked the Board how they want to move forward with the information that was presented by the Division of Behavioral Health. Because assessing the implications of separating the Region's current organizational structure wasn't on the agenda, the Board decided not to take any action at present time. Kathy provided an update on the Community Integration building remodel at Frontier House.

V. REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

A. Appointment of Board Finance Committee. Chairman Dan Vinton appointed Randy Dean and Richard Bartholomew to be on the Board Finance Committee. No motion needed.

B. Investment/Reimbursement Report. Report was reviewed with no recommendations for change.

C. Approval of Bills for Payment. Approval/Disapproval. A motion was made by Brett Nason and seconded by PJ Jacobson to approve the following bills for payment: Richard Bartholomew \$89.60, Wayne Christner \$88.48,

Randy Dean \$144.48, Duane Dinnel \$66.08, Glenn Hofman \$123.20, JR Houser \$67.20, Brett Nason \$76.16, Dan Vinton \$36.40, Lee Wonch \$45.92, McCook Gazette \$9.60, North Platte Telegraph \$26.96, Keith County New \$6.30, Creative Builders \$ 25.000. Roll call vote, 15/0, motion carried.

V. SET NEXT MEETING DATE Thursday, May 27, 2021, 110 N Bailey, North Platte, NE

VI. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 1:10 PM CDT.

TK 04/27/2021

REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

110 North Bailey, P.O. Box 1208
North Platte, NE 69103
PHONE (308) 534-0440

MINUTES REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

Date: May 27, 2021

I. REGION II HUMAN SERVICES (Behavioral Health Authority)

A. Introductions/Roll Call. Meeting was called to order by Dan Vinton, Chairman at 10:45 AM CDT. Roll call was taken with 12 Board members present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Duane Dinnel, Chase Co.
PJ Jacobson, Dawson Co.
Richard Bartholomew, Dundy Co.
Glenn Hofman, Gosper Co.
Dan Vinton, Grant Co.
Wayne Christner, Hayes Co.
Paul Nichols, Hitchcock Co.
Dale Schroeder, Keith Co.
Lee Wonch, Logan Co.
Brett Nason, McPherson Co.
Sid Colson, Perkins Co.
Randy Dean, Red Willow Co.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Ron Jageler, Arthur Co., JR Houser, Frontier Co., Bryan Crisp, Hooker Co., Joe Hewgley, Lincoln Co.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathy Seacrest, Regional Administrator, Region II Human Services
Katie McCarthy, Fiscal and System Manager
Traci Kramer, Operations & Human Resources Director
Robyn Schultheiss, Emergency Support Program Director

B. Announcements. Open Meetings Act, agenda, previous months minutes and handout materials are posted in the Board room. News media receiving meeting notification: North Platte Telegraph, Keith Co News, McCook Daily Gazette and Clipper Herald.

C. Public Forum. None.

D. Approval of Minutes. A motion was made by Dale Schroeder and seconded by Wayne Christer to approve the minutes of the April 22, 2021 meeting. Roll call vote, 11/0/1 (Sid Colson abstained). Motion carried.

E. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by Sid Colson and seconded by PJ Jacobson to approve the amended agenda as presented. Roll call vote, 12/0, motion carried.

F. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee Report - None
2. Advisory Committee Report. - None

II. AGENCY/SERVICES PROVIDED BY REGION II HUMAN SERVICES

A. Agency Services

1. Program Report. Kathy Seacrest presented the Agency Program Report for April. The number of people requesting services continues to increase. Robyn Schultheiss, Emergency Support Program Director, discussed the Emergency Support Program and Crisis Response services. Robyn handed out a fact sheet on Emergency Protective Custody, explained the process, and answered any questions. Kathy

and Robyn explained some changes to the Crisis Response definition and how it would impact our Region. The Board discussed how much Law Enforcement likes it as is and offered to have people testify if needed to allow us to continue the service as is. The Board thanked Robyn for her presentation and her work.

2. Financial Report. The Agency financial report for April 2021 was reviewed.

3. Continuity of Operations Plan. The Agency Continuity of Operations Plan was reviewed.

III. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

A. Contracted Services

1. Program Report. Kathy presented the April Behavioral Health Authority Program Report. The Emergency Protective Custody number is higher than previous months. The short term residential and supported employment numbers are starting to increase a little.

2. Financial Report. The Contracted Provider financial report for April was reviewed.

3. Continuity of Operations Plan. The Continuity of Operations Plan for Contracted Services was reviewed.

B. Systems Coordination

1. Program Report. Kathy presented the Program Report of Systems Coordination services for April and answered any questions.

2. Financial Report. The Systems Coordination financial report for April was reviewed.

3. Continuity of Operations Plan. The Systems Coordination Continuity of Operations was reviewed.

C. Grants

1. Mental Health First Aid. There will be an Adult Mental Health First Aid training in Ogallala on June 19th. These trainings will continue to be offered throughout the region free of charge.

2. Opioid Grant. The Pilot Project continues to coordinate with pharmacies to have Narcan on hand free of charge for those in need. The treatment side of the grant continues to see a lot of individuals throughout the month.

3. Treatment Grant (COVID). We continue to help clients on this grant.

4. Outreach Grant (COVID). This grant ends on June 30, but will possibly be extended.

D. Overall Financial Report. Agency and Behavioral Health Authority. Katie McCarthy reviewed the April financials. The Region is 83.33% through the end of the year.

E. Alternative Compliance Requests. Community Support Program / West Central NE Joint Housing Authority. Presented an annual Alternative Compliance request for billing 15-minute increments for Community Support contract year 2021/22. The Annual Alternative Compliance request for West Central Nebraska Joint Housing Authority was presented in order to be able to provide services without an accreditation. A motion was made by Richard Bartholomew and seconded by Dale Schroeder to approve the Alternative Compliance for billing Community Support and to approve the Alternative Compliance for West central NE Joint Housing Authority for Contract Year 2021/22. Roll call vote, 12/0, motion carried.

F. State Response to Regional Budget Plan Submission. The proposed State changes to the submitted Regional Budget Plan were reviewed. The Medication Support outcomes were approved. \$328,000 has been removed from the contracted amount from the urgent outpatient program. Other cuts were made and put into unallocated categories. The Board discussed the erosion of local control and their ability to plan and provide services to their constituents. After discussion, a motion was made by Brett Nason and seconded by Lee Wonch to send a letter to Director Sheri Dawson requesting that the Regional Budget Plan be accepted as submitted and that the dollars removed be reinstated. They also requested that a copy of the letter be sent to CEO Dannette Smith, Governor Pete Ricketts, and the State Senators who represent our area. All Board members present wanted to sign the letter. Roll call vote, 12/0, motion carried.

G. Regional Administrator's Report

1. Updates. Kathy reported that all office buildings are open. We are following CDC guidelines, if individuals are fully vaccinated, they do not have to wear a mask while in the office. Therapists continue to see clients via telehealth and in-person. Kathy provided an update on the Community Integration building remodel at Frontier House. Kathy distributed a copy of Legislative Resolution 203 that will study Medicaid expansion and behavioral health. There was discussion on detox. A group has been meeting to push for detox at Great Plains Health. A suggestion was made to get in touch with smaller hospitals in the Region to see if this is something they might want to offer.

IV. REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

- A. Report on Attorney General's Opioid Commission. Chairman Dan Vinton was contacted by the Attorney General's office. They want to have someone from Region II serve on the Opioid Commission Committee. Joe Hewgley will represent Region II.
- B. Continuity of Operations Plan. The Governing Board Continuity of Operations Plan was reviewed. A motion was made by Richard Bartholomew and seconded by Dale Schroeder to approve the Region II Human Services Governing Board Continuity of Operations Plan. Roll call vote, 12/0, motion carried.
- C. Follow up to Director Dawson's Visit. After discussion, the Board decided to send a letter to Sheri Dawson outlining what the Board has done to assess the "opportunities" that were presented in last month's presentation from DHHS.
- D. Review of Investment Policy / Finance Committee Report. Richard Bartholomew and Randy Dean presented suggestions for the Investment Policy. A few suggestions included how to allocate the Board finances and to have an attorney look at the drafted Investment Policy.
- E. Investment/Reimbursement Report. Report was reviewed with no recommendations for change at this time.
- F. Approval of Bills for Payment. A motion was by Brett Nason and seconded by Sid Colson to approve the following bills for payment: Richard Bartholomew \$66.08, Wayne Christner \$54.32, Randy Dean \$92.96, Duane Dinnel \$44.80, Glenn Hofman \$39.20, JR Houser \$33.60, PJ Jacobson \$59.36, Ron Jageler \$89.60, Pam Moody \$110.88, Paul Nichols \$47.60, Dale Schroeder \$22.40, Dan Vinton \$89.60, Lee Wonch \$16.80, Creative Builders \$25,000, Clipper Herald \$6.20, McCook Gazette \$5.20, Keith County News \$3.15 North Platte Telegraph \$13.22, Brick Wall Catering \$ 273.75. Roll call vote, 12/0, motion carried.

V. SET NEXT MEETING DATE Thursday, June 24, 2021, 110 N Bailey, North Platte, NE

VI. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 12:20 PM CDT

REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

110 North Bailey, P.O. Box 1208
North Platte, NE 69103
PHONE (308) 534-0440

MINUTES REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

Date: June 24, 2021

I. REGION II HUMAN SERVICES (Behavioral Health Authority)

A. Introductions/Roll Call. Meeting was called to order by Dan Vinton, Chairman at 10:45 AM CDT. Roll call was taken with 13 Board members present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Ron Jageler, Arthur Co.,
Duane Dinnel, Chase Co.
PJ Jacobson, Dawson Co.
Richard Bartholomew, Dundy Co.
JR Houser, Frontier Co.
Glenn Hofman, Gosper Co.
Dan Vinton, Grant Co.
Wayne Christner, Hayes Co.
Joe Hewgley, Lincoln Co.
Lee Wonch, Logan Co.
Brett Nason, McPherson Co.
Sid Colson, Perkins Co.
Randy Dean, Red Willow Co.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Paul Nichols, Hitchcock Co., Bryan Crisp, Hooker Co., Dale Schroeder, Keith Co., Pam Moody, Thomas Co.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kathy Seacrest, Regional Administrator, Region II Human Services
Katie McCarthy, Fiscal and System Manager
Traci Kramer, Operations & Human Resources Director
On phone at 11 AM: Dannette Smith, Sheri Dawson, Tamara Gavin from DHHS
Glen Monter and Doug Monter joined at 11:30 AM

B. Announcements. Open Meetings Act, agenda, previous months minutes and handout materials are posted in the Board room. News media receiving meeting notification: North Platte Telegraph, Keith Co News, McCook Daily Gazette and Clipper Herald.

C. Public Forum. None.

D. Approval of Minutes. A motion was made by Sid Colson and seconded by Brett Nason to approve the minutes of the May 27, 2021 meeting. Roll call vote, 12/0/1 (Ron Jageler abstained). Motion carried.

E. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by Ron Jageler and seconded by JR Houser to approve the amended agenda as presented. Roll call vote, 13/0, motion carried.

F. Committee Reports

1. Executive Committee Report - None
2. Advisory Committee Report - None

DHHS Response to Regional Budget Plan / Board Letter. CEO Dannette Smith, Director Sheri Dawson, and Deputy Director Tamara Gavin called the conference line to discuss the Governing Board's concerns with the state's response to the submitted Regional Budget Plan. Funds for the Region II Human Services Client Assistance Program are currently being withheld from the Region II contract. The total amount of funds withheld

is \$329,723.17. In addition, the State did not fully fund the Youth Care Program. During the phone call, the Board discussed the erosion of local control and their ability to plan and provide services to their constituents. A discrepancy in the letter sent to Kathy and the letter Sheri had was noted. CEO Smith said we would have a corrected letter by 1:00 PM. DHHS stated that even though the \$329, 723.17 has been withheld, it is still available. Director Sheri Dawson stated that the withheld funds can be added into Region II's contract once a plan for alternative use of these funds as well as expected outcomes is submitted to the Division of Behavioral Health. The Board pointed out that the program that was cut back is important in creating immediate access and that they want to use the money for that program. Other issues were discussed and the Board invited CEO Smith to come to a future Board meeting. She said she could come to the September 23rd meeting. Kathy asked about reinvestment dollars and when the Region would be able to move forward on the plans that were submitted. Sheri indicated that her staff would need to have those discussions with the Region. No explanation was given for why the Youth Care dollars were not approved.

II. AGENCY/SERVICES PROVIDED BY REGION II HUMAN SERVICES

A. Agency Services

1. Program Report. Kathy Seacrest presented the Agency Program Report for May and answered questions. Kathy mentioned there is a higher number of Medicaid clients now as opposed to a year ago. We are seeing this in all services. The Region continues to help a lot of individuals with the urgent outpatient service.
2. Financial Report. The Agency financial report for May 2021 was reviewed.

III. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

A. Contracted Services

1. Program Report. Kathy presented the May Behavioral Health Authority Program Report. The Emergency Protective Custody number continues to fluctuate from month to month. Kathy reported that Supported Employment continues to get a high number of individuals employed. Short Term Residential and Halfway/therapeutic community didn't have any units due to Medicaid expansion. However, the Region still helps clients get into programming and makes sure services are in place when the clients are discharged.
2. Financial Report. The Contracted Provider financial report for May was reviewed.

B. Systems Coordination

1. Program Report. Kathy presented the Program Report of Systems Coordination services for May and answered any questions.
2. Financial Report. The Systems Coordination financial report for May was reviewed.

C. Grants

1. Mental Health First Aid. There will be an Adult Mental Health First Aid training in Ogallala on June 19th. These trainings will continue to be offered throughout the region free of charge.
2. Opioid Grant. The South West District Health Department will meet with community members in Grant, NE and McCook, NE to discuss Opioid Overdose Strategic Planning.
3. Treatment Grant (COVID). We continue to help clients on this grant.
4. Outreach Grant (COVID). The team presented a suicide prevention training to DHHS staff in May.

D. Overall Financial Report. Agency and Behavioral Health Authority. Katie McCarthy reviewed the May financials. The Region is 91.67% through the end of the year.

E. Shift of Funds Request. A request for a Shift of Funds was presented to the Board for review. A motion was made by Lee Wonch and seconded by Sid Colson to approve the shift of funds request for June and also to approve an emergency shift of funds at the end of the fiscal year if needed. Roll call vote, 13/0, motion carried.

F. DHHS Contract for Services FY 2021/2022. The Board reviewed the contract that was sent on 6/23/2021. \$329,723.17 has been withheld. The Board was divided about signing the contract due to the exclusion of the dollars. However, the Board does not wish to risk the rest of the contract and put client care in jeopardy. A motion was made by PJ Jacobson and seconded by Ron Jageler to authorize Kathy Seacrest to sign the DHHS Contract for FY 2021/2022. Roll call vote, 10/3, motion carried.

G. Adult Day Service License Renewal. A motion was made by JR Houser and seconded by Brett Nason to sign the Adult Day Service Licensure Application as presented. Roll call vote, 13/0, motion carried.

H. Regional Administrator's Report

1. Updates. Kathy provided an update on the Community Integration building remodel at Frontier House. The building will open mid-July and Supported Employment will be in that building as well. Kathy continues to have monthly phone calls with the other Regional Administrators across the state.

IV. REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

- A. Building Lease. Tabled.
- B. Review of Investment/Reimbursement Policy / Finance Committee Report. An attorney looked at the current Investment Policy as well as the drafted Investment Policy. She provided some feedback that will be discussed more at the next meeting.
- C. Investment/Reimbursement Report. Report was reviewed with no recommendations for change.
- D. Approval of Bills for Payment. A motion was by Brett Nason and seconded by JR Houser to approve the following bills for payment: Richard Bartholomew \$66.08, Wayne Christner \$54.32, Sid Colson \$72.80, Randy Dean, \$91.84, Duane Dinnel \$44.80, Glenn Hofman \$39.20, PJ Jacobson \$59.36, Brett Nason \$42.00, Paul Nichols \$47.60, Dale Schroeder \$22.40, Dan Vinton \$47.60, Lee Wonch \$16.80, McCook Gazette \$5.20, Keith County News \$3.15, North Platte Telegraph \$15.22, Creative Builders \$18,000.00, Brick Wall Catering \$375.00. Roll call vote, 13/0, motion carried.

V. SET NEXT MEETING DATE Thursday, July 22, 2021, 110 N Bailey, North Platte, NE

VI. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 12:00 PM CDT