

MINUTES
REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

Meeting Date: October 31, 2024

I. INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL

- A. Introductions/Roll Call. Dan Vinton, Chairman, called meeting to order at 10:45 AM CDT. Roll call taken with 11 members present.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: JR Houser, Frontier Co.
Dan Vinton, Grant Co.
Wayne Christner, Hayes Co.
Paul Nichols, Hitchcock Co.
Thad Emerson, Hooker Co.
Dale Schroeder, Keith 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: Mark Wilson, Arthur Co.
Billie Muehlenkamp, Chase Co.
PJ Jacobson, Dawson Co.
Tom Richard, Dundy Co.
Glenn Hofman, Gosper Co.
Pam Moody, Thomas Co.

OTHERS PRESENT: Katie McCarthy, Regional Administrator & Fiscal Manager, Region II Human Services
Teresa Ward, Agency/Clinical Director
Traci Kramer, Operations & Human Resources Director

- B. Announcements. Open Meetings Act, agenda, previous month's minutes and handout materials are posted in the Boardroom. News media receiving meeting notification: North Platte Telegraph, Keith County News, McCook Gazette and Clipper Herald.
- C. Public Forum. None.
- D. Approval of Minutes. A motion was made by Dale Schroeder and seconded by Paul Nichols to approve the minutes for the September 26, 2024 meeting. Roll call vote, 7/0/4 (JR Houser, Thad Emerson, Joe Hewgley, and Sid Colson abstained). Motion carried.
- E. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by Brett Nason and seconded by Sid Colson to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote, 11/0, motion carried.

II. AGENCY/SERVICES PROVIDED BY REGION II HUMAN SERVICES

- A. Agency Services
1. Program Report. Teresa Ward presented the September 2024 Agency Report and answered questions. Teresa reported numbers are staying consistent in all programs. Teresa noted that in the North Platte area, therapists in private practices are struggling to receive reimbursement from Medicaid. In addition, a therapist in private practice passed away unexpectedly. Due to both of these factors, the North Platte office has had an increase of people calling to get into services.
 2. Financial Report. The Agency financial report for September was reviewed.

III. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

- A. Contracted Services
1. Program Report. Katie McCarthy presented the Contracted Services Report for September 2024. Katie reported that some of our contracted providers have been approved as Certified Community Behavioral Health Centers (CCBHCs). Katie attended the Supported Employment quarterly call and reported that they have received a lot of referrals over the last few weeks. Katie stated that Community Connections mentoring staff helped to put on the 4th Annual International Bazaar. This cultural event had booths for 25 different countries represented.

2. Financial Report. The Contracted Provider financial report for September was reviewed.
- B. Systems Coordination
1. Program Report. Katie presented the September Program Report for System Coordination Services. Katie discussed the website called TalkHeart2Heart for Prevention Coordination. This is a new resource for parents and educators to learn how to communicate with youth, provide education, and find resources when dealing with drugs, alcohol, risky behaviors, and mental health issues. The link to the TalkHeart2Heart website can be found on the Region's website. Katie reported that Youth Systems Coordination attended the Community Planning Team Meeting where organizations worked on a Comprehensive Community Plan for youth.
 2. Financial Report. The Systems Coordination financial report for September was reviewed.
- C. Grants
1. Mental Health First Aid. These trainings continue to be offered to community members, schools and agencies throughout the region.
 2. Opioid Grant. This grant continues to help pay for medication management appointments and prescriptions for clients without insurance.
 3. Supplemental & ARPA Federal Block Grant. Staff continue to report benefits of utilizing contingency management in order for clients to stay engaged in treatment.
 4. Financial Report. The Grants financial report for September 2024 was reviewed.
- D. Opioid Settlement Funds. The Board was updated on allocations of the county opioid settlement funds as well as transactions that have occurred with the funds through the end of September. Teresa and Katie have a second meeting set up with the Gothenburg Hospital. The hospital is interested in providing detox for the area.
- E. Overall Financial Report. Agency and Behavioral Health Authority. Katie McCarthy reviewed the overall financials through the end of September. We are 25% through the year. Katie noted that we haven't utilized the Letters of Agreement much this year as compared to last year so we'll continue to keep an eye on that for the drawdown.
- F. Shift of Funds Request FY 2024/2025. This item was tabled.
- G. Regional Administrator's Report
- Katie let Board members know that Governor Pillen appointed Dr. Thomas Janousek as Director for the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH). This appointment became effective 10/21/2024. Dr. Janousek has been a Deputy Director for DBH for a couple of years. Tony Green was serving as interim director for the Division of Behavioral Health, as well as director for the Division of Developmental Disabilities. He will now just be the director for the Division of Developmental Disabilities.
 - Katie continues to meet with the other Regional Administrators regularly and will keep the Board informed on issues.

IV. REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

- A. Policy Manual. Annual review of updates. Katie presented revisions to the policy manual and personal policies and procedures. The meal reimbursement policy was updated for in-region and out-of region travel to align more closely with the federal per diem rates. Also, the telephone stipend section was updated. There are no other changes at this time. A motion was made by Randy Dean and seconded by Dale Schroeder to approve the Policy Manual as presented. Roll call vote, 11/0, motion carried.
- B. Investment/Reimbursement Report. Report was distributed and there were no recommendations for change.
- C. Review of Bills for Payment. A motion was made by Brett Nason and seconded by Thad Emerson to approve the following bills for payment: Wayne Christner \$52.93, Randy Dean \$160.80, Glenn Hofman \$80.40, PJ Jacobson \$127.30, Brett Nason \$45.56, Paul Nichols \$56.95, Tom Richard \$53.60, Dale Schroeder \$10.05, Dan Vinton \$87.10, Mark Wilson \$46.90, Lee Wonch \$37.52, Keith County News \$4.55, McCook Gazette \$5.37, and Column Software PBC \$9.20, Region II Human Services \$4,729.44, Region II Human Services \$22,580.12, and Brick Wall Catering, \$425.00. Roll call vote, 11/0, motion carried.

V. SET NEXT MEETING DATE Thursday, December 5, 2024 (Combined meeting with the Advisory Committee)

VI. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 11:35 AM CDT.

MINUTES
REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

Meeting Date: December 5, 2024

I. INTRODUCTIONS/ROLL CALL

- A. Introductions/Roll Call. Dan Vinton, Chairman, called meeting to order at 10:30 AM CDT. Governing Board roll call with 12 members present. Advisory Committee roll call with 6 members present

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mark Wilson, Arthur Co.
Tom Richard, Dundy Co.
JR Houser, Frontier Co.
Glenn Hofman, Gosper Co.
Dan Vinton, Grant Co.
Wayne Christner, Hayes Co.
Paul Nichols, Hitchcock Co.
Lee Wonch, Logan Co.
Brett Nason, McPherson Co.
Sid Colson, Perkins Co.
Randy Dean, Red Willow Co.
Pam Moody, Thomas Co.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: Billie Muehlenkamp, Chase Co.
PJ Jacobson, Dawson Co.
Thad Emerson, Hooker Co.
Dale Schroeder, Keith Co.
Joe Hewgley, Lincoln Co.

ADVISORY MEMBERS PRESENT: Larry Seger
John Bryant
Mick Phillips
Steve Downer (arrived at 10:33 AM CDT)
Kim Elder
Ron Jageler
Richard Bartholomew

ADVISORY MEMBERS ABSENT: Kim Blake
Linda Benjamin
Susie Deaver

OTHERS PRESENT: Katie McCarthy, Regional Administrator & Fiscal Manager, Region II Human Services
Teresa Ward, Agency/Clinical Director
Traci Kramer, Operations & Human Resources Director
Jordan Rickett, Quality Improvement Manager, Consumer Specialist
Kent Lehmann, guest from Frontier County

- B. Announcements. Open Meetings Act, agenda, previous month's minutes and handout materials are posted in the Boardroom. News media receiving meeting notification: North Platte Telegraph, Keith County News, McCook Gazette and Clipper Herald.
- C. Public Forum. None.
- D. Approval of Governing Board Minutes. A motion was made by Wayne Christner and seconded by Brett Nason to approve the minutes for the October 31, 2024 meeting. Roll call vote, 10/0/2 (Tom Richard and Pam Moody abstained). Motion carried.
- E. Approval of Advisory Committee Minutes. A motion was made by Kim Elder and seconded by Ron Jageler to approve the minutes for the August 13, 2024 meeting. Roll call vote, 6/0, motion carried.

- F. Approval of Agenda. A motion was made by Pam Moody and seconded by JR Houser to approve the agenda as presented. Roll call vote, 12/0, motion carried.

II. AGENCY/SERVICES PROVIDED BY REGION II HUMAN SERVICES

A. Agency Services

1. Program Report. Teresa Ward presented the October 2024 Agency Report and answered questions. Teresa reported the Youth Care Coordination numbers were lower in October, but a lot of referrals have come in this month. The Day Support program has had a lot of people attending daily. Teresa noted there were more units for the region reported this month in the Outpatient Mental Health Adult program, so we might finally be seeing this as a result of Medicaid expansion unwind.
2. Financial Report. The Agency financial report for October was reviewed.
3. Client Satisfaction Surveys. Annual Client Satisfaction Survey results were mailed to Board and Advisory members prior to the meeting. Teresa reported a great return rate again this year with 98.24% of surveys returned. The returned surveys had a lot of high ratings and great remarks. All comments, positive and negative, were included in the results. We hired someone to manage the ARM and ARM program this year and she has done an exceptional job getting people connected in this service. The surveys reflected this and it's great to see the increased numbers for this program. Teresa noted that we saw an increase in the number of surveys given out this year throughout all programs. The results will be shared with staff members to congratulate them all on a job well done in making a difference in the people's lives we serve.

III. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AUTHORITY

A. Contracted Services

1. Program Report. Katie presented the October Program Report for System Coordination Services. Katie noted that there were no diversions for emergency protective custodies. We had a few people in Short-Term Residential and Therapeutic Community in October. Katie reported that Lutheran Family Services was selected as a Certified Community Behavioral Health Center (CCBHC) and they are looking to expand services in the area.
2. Financial Report. The Contracted Provider financial report for October was reviewed.

B. Systems Coordination

1. Program Report. Katie presented the October Program Report for System Coordination Services. Prevention System Coordination has been working on getting information out about the 988 Suicide and Crisis hotline. Katie has been talking to the contractor for Housing System Coordination and trying to think of creative ways to utilize these funds to help people.
2. Financial Report. The Systems Coordination financial report for October was reviewed.

C. Grants

1. Mental Health First Aid. The Prevention Director is in the process of working with an individual interested in becoming a trainer that can facilitate the class in English and Spanish.
2. Opioid Grant. This grant continues to help pay for medication management appointments and prescriptions for clients without insurance.
3. Supplemental & ARPA Federal Block Grant. We continue to talk to schools to implement the Hope Squad Program which is a peer-to-peer suicide prevention program.
4. CDC Comprehensive Suicide Prevention Grant. This grant is through the Public Policy Center and focuses on reducing the morbidity and mortality rate of suicide of Nebraska met, ages 25-64 years old. Trainings and educational materials will be provided through this grant.
5. Financial Report. The Grants financial report for October 2024 was reviewed.

- D. Opioid Settlement Funds. The Board was updated on allocations of the county opioid settlement funds as well as transactions that have occurred with the funds through the end of October. Katie reported that the statewide Advisory Committee for these funds appointed all of the Regional Administrators as non-voting members to the committee. The Regional Administrators will report on the opioid settlement funds at the committee meetings.

- E. Overall Financial Report. Agency and Behavioral Health Authority. Katie McCarthy reviewed the overall financials through the end of October. We are 33.33% through the year. Katie noted that we are right on track for Agency totals as well as Contract totals. We haven't utilized the Letters of Agreement as much this year compared to last year, so we have reminded staff that these are an option for clients.

- F. Shift of Funds Request FY 2024/2025. A motion was made by Brett Nason and seconded by Randy Dean to approved the Shift of Funds Request for FY 2024/2025 as presented. Roll call vote, 12/0, motion carried.
- G. Regional Administrator's Report
- Katie reported all the Regional Administrators had a meeting this week in Kearney with Dr. Thomas Janousek, Director for the Division of Behavioral Health (DBH). Discussion was held about DBH hiring case management staff to meet with people in assisted living facilities that have a severe and persistent mental illness diagnosis.
 - Katie noted that the Regional Administrators are looking at possible upcoming legislation.

IV. REGION II HUMAN SERVICES GOVERNING BOARD

- D. Investment/Reimbursement Report. Report was distributed and there were no recommendations for change.
- E. Review of Bills for Payment. A motion was made by Brett Nason and seconded by Pam Moody to approve the following bills for payment: Wayne Christner \$64.99, Sid Colson \$43.55, Randy Dean \$107.20, Thad Emerson \$63.65, JR Houser \$40.20, Brett Nason \$50.25, Paul Nichols \$56.95, Dale Schroeder \$26.80, Dan Vinton \$107.20, Lee Wonch \$20.10, Keith County News \$9.10, McCook Gazette \$10.08, Column Software PBC \$10.94, and Brick Wall Catering \$647.00. Roll call vote, 12/0, motion carried.

V. SET NEXT MEETING DATE

GOVERNING BOARD – January 23, 2025 @ 10:30 AM CDT
ADVISORY COMMITTEE – TBD

VI. ADJOURNMENT Meeting adjourned at 10:57 AM CDT.

Submitted by Traci Kramer on 12/12/2024