



**Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare**  
**Behavioral Health Advisory Committee Meeting**  
Meeting Minutes  
March 6, 2024

**Advisory Members Present:**

Jeff Leach  
Cameron Soester  
John Brady  
Chris Kelly  
Medjine Desgraves  
John Sheehan  
Michealle Vega-Hernandez

**Advisory Members Absent:**

Rob Hillabrand  
Amy Zimmer

**Region 6 Staff Present**

Patti Jurjevich  
Taren Petersen  
Melissa Schaefer  
Miles Glasgow

**Recorder:**

Bev Jackson

**1. Welcome**

Jeff Leach welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at 9:02AM. Jeff then introduced the two new members, Cameron Soester, representing Cass County and John Brady, representing Dodge County. Both Cameron and John shared some of their background and their interest in behavioral health. Everyone welcomed Cameron and John.

**2. Roll Call**

Roll call of the members determined that there was a quorum.

**3. Approval of the December 6, 2023, Meeting Minutes**

John Sheehan made the motion to approve the December 6, 2023 meeting minutes.  
Medjine Desgraves seconded the motion.  
The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

**4. Approval of the Agenda**

Jeff moved that agenda item 8 be moved up as item 6.  
John Sheehan made the motion to approve changing agenda item 8, FY25 Regional Budget Plan, up to agenda item number 6, and to approve the updated agenda.  
Medjine seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

**5. Administrator's Report – Patti Jurjevich**

Patti shared that the Nebraska Legislature's Appropriations Committee selected to build in a \$15 Million (statewide) budget reduction to our behavioral health state funding in FY25. The Governor's budget in January did have the cut in place. Patti stated that she is unsure of the exact amount that will be cut from Region 6, but that in preparing the FY25 budget, a second budget was drafted to put in place estimated cuts.

Patti shared that she and the other Regional Administrators testified as to why these cuts shouldn't be made.

Patti stated that on late Monday (3/4/24) she learned that there were not enough votes to stop the cuts.

At this point, Patti is still unsure as to the amount that would be cut from Region 6.

Patti shared that on top of this cut, Behavioral Health (BH) is also facing the 10 million rate increase for the providers that was supposed to be reimbursed to the Regions and also an 8.8 million statewide decrease in the BH budget.

Medjine asked if this has already been decided? Patti answered that it hasn't been decided how much the cuts will be in each area.

There were no further questions or comments.

**6. FY25 Regional Budget Plan – Taren Petersen**

This item was originally agenda item 8.

Taren stated that the FY25 Budget was fully prepared, but knowing that there may be cuts, a second draft has been prepped in anticipation of those cuts. Taren stated that the updated budget will now be presented in April.

Taren then shared some insight as to how the budget may look with the upcoming cuts.

She stated that she removed about 4 million from the budget.

**a. Review of Funding and Budget Narrative**

This will be reviewed at the April 3, 2024 BHAC meeting.

**b. BHAC Recommendation to the Regional Governing Board**

A motion was made to table the BHAC Recommendation to the Regional Governing Board by John Sheehan.

Cameron seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

Michealle Vega-Hernandez joined the meeting at 9:25

Cameron asked if any of these cuts will impact our youth? Taren replied if the dollars haven't been used, then yes it could. She also added that most youth are covered by Medicaid.

John B. asked if this is \$15 million statewide. Taren replied, yes, and we are estimating a \$4 million budget cut for Region 6 adding that the county match dollars may also be reduced.

John S. added that is an estimated 12% reduction for Region 6, that is substantial, he stated.

**7. Nurturing Healthy Behaviors (NHB) – Melissa Schaefer**

**a. Review of Funding and Budget Narrative**

Melissa presented a PowerPoint of the budget, workplan and a general overview of the program, with a copy included in everyone's packets.

Melissa shared that there are 4 primary services offered

- Mental Health Consultation
- Early Childhood Education Consultation
- Training
- Quality Grants

Melissa then shared the work plan and budget, stating that they plan to serve approximately 1100 children.

Medjine asked if this project will be affected by budget cuts. Melissa replied, no, as it is a separate grant.

There were no further questions or comments.

**b. BHAC Recommendation to the Regional Governing Board.**

John S. made the motion to recommend to the Regional Governing Board.

Medjine seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

**8. Election of 2024 Officers**

**a. Report from the Nomination Committee**

Chris Kelly read a statement stating that the Nomination Committee recommends nominating Jeff Leach for the position of Chair, and Rob Hillabrand for Vice Chair, each for an additional term.

**b. Election of Officers**

John B. made the motion to accept the nominations.

Medjine seconded the motion.

A roll call vote was done, and Jeff Leach and Rob Hillabrand were unanimously elected.

**9. Status Reports for Period Ending January 31, 2024**

Reports were included in the packets for everyone's review.

**a. Contract Service Report - Taren Petersen**

Taren gave an update of the January 2024 Contract Service Reports. The drawdown target is expected to be at 58.3%. Mental Health is at 36.68% and Substance Use is at 49.25%.

She then drew everyone's attention to the additional Contract Drawdown Sheet which gives the information at a quick glance.

There were no questions or comments.

**b. Emergency Service Report - Miles Glasgow**

Miles gave everyone an update on the current progress in the emergency systems, showcasing the new dashboard. He shared that the first 2 pages are the usual monthly reports, but that the 3<sup>rd</sup> page will be a focus page that will rotate monthly.

There were numerous questions and discussions on the data presented.

The Focus Page this month was EPC. Miles broke the data down further and asked for feedback, stating that if there is particular data that the Committee would like collected, he would add that to the reports

There were no further questions or comments.

**10. Public Comments**

Lorie Thomas asked if the Region 6 Behavioral Healthcare staff member present could introduce themselves to the 2 new committee members, Jeff responded yes, that would be a great idea. Staff members then stood up and introduced themselves.

There were no further public comments.

**11. Adjourn**

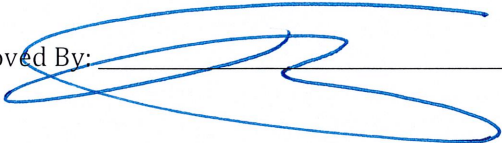
A motion to adjourn was made by John S.

John B. seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously upon voice vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:26 AM.

Prepared By: Suealy Jackson Date: 4-3-24

Approved By:  Date: 4/3/24