

PRESENT: Scott Etherton, Timothy Lopez, Kevin Karmazin, Terri Burchess, Don Scheinost, Christa Yoakum (joined @1210).

OTHERS PRESENT: Debra Haeffner, Doug Headlee, Ben Kopsa, Shawn Wheat

ABSENT: Phil Tegeler, Gail Anderson, Arnold Remington

Advance public notice of the Advisory Board Meeting was posted: 555 S. 10th building public bulletin board, Lincoln Journal Star, lancaster.ne.gov ('s) Crisis Center web page on or before May 5, 2023. The meeting opened at 12:05 p.m. Chair noted the location of Open Meetings Act.

Minutes: Etherton called for approval of minutes and introductions. Introductions and vote to approve minutes of the April 2023 meeting as written - Etherton, Lopez, Karmazin, Burchess, Scheinost voted yes 5-0 to approve. Introduction of others present today were Doug Headlee, LPD liaison officer for mental health outreach and Ben Kopsa, LPD Captain of the Southwest Team and Shawn Wheat, public guest.

Agenda: Request for additions or changes – 1. a. Public Comment

Public Comment: Shawn Wheat introduced himself as a lifelong Lincolnite, student at the University of Arizona and interested citizen. He shared thoughts about his community's cohesiveness and the need for increased comprehensive approaches to address current and emerging societal issues. Yoakum noted the Surgeon General's Advisory on [Our Epidemic of Loneliness and Isolation – PDF](#).

Advisory Board Business: The Bylaws are drafted and awaiting final review before presentation to the County Board for approval. Any nominations may be submitted to the Chair.

MHCC Building Updates: Contractor visited for the bathroom fixes and the project will be scheduled once it is approved through the proper channels.

Electronic Medical Records/Qualifacts: New Contract ~ The EMR contract is continuing to be updated with Qualifacts & the county. MHCC continues month-to-month until language is finalized and approved.

Staffing Updates: RN Staffing ~ This position was offered, but the candidate withdrew and job opening was re-posted. There have been no new candidates as of this date. The newly-hired psychologist is currently in the process of onboarding. Two FTE Mental Health Tech openings as well as we will be hiring for on-call MHT positions soon.

Financial: FY 2023-24 Budget ~ The budget was submitted three weeks ago and hearing is scheduled for June 6th with County Board. End of year appropriations, if any, will need to be reviewed and permission requested from County Board as applicable.

Miscellaneous: Security System Upgrade ~ The one source application was approved and document signed by the County Board with Accurate Controls. They are now coming up with a plan for install to take place later this Summer. No interruption of business is expected during the installation project. Crisis Prevention Institute & Training ~ May is the month for in-house CPI training refresher for all direct-care staff. Ms. Gregory, MHCC's trainer, has taken advanced training and is incorporating the upgrades with enhanced holds and increased areas of competency for those staff members.

Justice In Action ~ Commissioner Yoakum spoke about the recent event she attended where some 1,000 faith-based leaders gathered at the Lancaster Event Center. The DART Group is a national group whose focus is to organize events and facilitate discussion with the needs of the community in mind. Recommendations arising out of the discussions hit two areas: Mental Health and Criminal Justice. The first recommendation for ‘navigators’ to be available to assist citizens in accessing resources/care for mental health issues and the second would be for more problem-solving courts and diversion programs for those who are involved in the Criminal Justice system.

System “Full” Meetings ~ These meetings will continue to discuss the overall system jams and continue conversations about ways to assist now and looking at longer term ideas and moving forward with those thought best to ameliorate the problems. Kopsa mentioned a couple standouts of rebuilding relationships with entities outside of the system, and pushing 988 and mobile crisis response times.

With no further business or discussion, Burchess motions to adjourn and Scheinost seconds. The meeting adjourned at 1:00pm. by a roll call vote of 6 ayes (Etherton, Scheinost, Lopez, Karmazin, Burchess, Yoakum).

Next Meeting: June 14th, 2023 @ Noon, 825 J Street.