

BENTON-FRANKLIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

January 11, 2024

2:00 PM

Benton County Commissioners Meeting Room
7122 Okanogan Place – Suite E303
Kennewick, WA 99336

Agenda

- Call to Order
- Introduction of Members
- Approval of Minutes from 12/14/2023 meeting
- Public Comment
- Discussion Items
 - Recovery Center Updates – **M. Rasmussen**
 - Items completed
 - Next steps
 - Any new barriers or success to progress
 - Behavioral Health Funding Report – **M. Rasmussen**
 - Addition of “partners” into various subcommittees – **B. Ace**
 - Workforce Committee Update – **J. Roach**
- Public Comment
- Other Business
- Adjournment

Benton-Franklin Behavioral Health Advisory Committee
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BENTON-FRANKLIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes | December 14, 2023

Call to Order: 2:00 PM

Introduction of Members: All voting and non-voting members introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes from November 9, 2023: The committee members all reviewed the November 9, 2023 committee meeting minutes. Jason Bliss moved to approve the minutes as presented. No one seconded. Minutes were approved.

Public Comment: No public comments.

Discussion Items:

1. Recovery Center Updates – M. Rasmussen

- a. Have been meeting weekly with design build team
 - i. Deliverable this month
 - ii. Waiting for final numbers, then will have conversations with the Commissioners
- b. Crisis Stabilization is just one piece of the “one-stop-hub”
- c. Last month, had conversation with Health Care Authority (HCA) regarding IMD
 - i. Has had conversations since with legislatures and done more research
 - ii. Barrier isn’t as bad as expected
 - iii. Grant does NOT specify it can’t be designated as IMD
 - iv. Only issue – State’s waiver will expire, if not renewed
 1. State funds only from that point
 2. Legislatures are in favor of continuing that waiver
 - v. 16-beds will still probably be built, to be prepared for a potential expiration of the waiver
 - vi. Will set up with separate entrances, for separated addresses
 - vii. Seems like there is a workable solution
 1. We accept we may get the IMD designation
- d. **Comment:** Jason Bliss – worried about condensing all services into one building
 - i. First 4 phases only need 40,000 sq ft, there is 193,000 sq ft of building (M. Rasmussen)
 1. Part of their scope is to give us a master plan
 - a. Will show where first 4 phases **would** go and where the rest **could** go
 2. Construction should still be able to take place simultaneously
 3. If not using Bruneau for the first phases, what should we utilize it for and when.
 - a. Validation Phase – early March
- e. **Comment:** Michele Gerber – would like to see bed limits higher than 16, since we aren’t worried about having a limit (with the probable IMD designation)

- i. Would need to weigh that with the possible position to seek funding in the future if the State's waiver goes away. (M. Rasmussen)
- f. **Question:** Kevin Crowley – are there staff restrictions; how many staff per bed?
 - i. Known requirements: can't share certain staff, but unsure on the ratios (M. Rasmussen)
 - ii. Comprehensive does have staffing patterns they adhere to for their other inpatient units. (Edie Dibble – Chief Operating Officer for Comprehensive)
- g. **Comment:** J. Bliss – when the master plan comes in, figure out a way for construction to continue simultaneously
 - i. Their proposal does not change their schedule at all. They would just put all their effort now into one location and continue to build simultaneously (M. Rasmussen)

2. Field Responder RFP Issuance – C. Michael

- a. Draft was shared months ago
 - i. Benton County will take lead
 - ii. Modifications needed to reflect that
 - iii. Next Step: put out the RFP to request interest.
 - iv. Future Steps: Page 7 of 16, evaluation and selection process
 - 1. Subgroup that would help with this process
 - 2. Conduct interview
 - 3. Select group
 - 4. Have team to help with implementation of it
 - a. Police, Fire, Dispatch, Medical Program Directors
 - v. This group recommended moving forward already
 - 1. Make edits as mentioned, forward to Matt for final check.
- b. No motion needed to move this forward (was done in a previous meeting)
- c. **Question:** BJ Olson – the subgroup mentioned, would that be ongoing even after the implementation is successful?
 - i. Conversation for the group to decide, but may not be a bad idea (C. Michael)
- d. **Question:** Carla Prock – timeframe for the County?
 - i. Time frame for Commissioners – typically 3 weeks to a month. With holidays and cancelled meetings, realistically not until end of January (M. Rasmussen)
- e. **Question:** K. Crowley – where would the field responders work at?
 - i. Depends on who is picked
 - ii. Ideal to be directly tied into the facility
 - 1. Not in an active call, they can help with the facility
 - iii. Conversation about time to response (C. Prock)
 - iv. Base of operations with people in vehicles who are stationed in separate locations to reduce time to respond (M. Rasmussen)
 - v. Spokane – privately ran about ½ mile from the receiving center (Jim Raymond)

- vi. Can be implemented in different ways (M. Rasmussen)
 - 1. 1 model-tied into 911, 1 model- private operation
 - 2. Model previously discussed was to integrate with dispatch
 - a. RFP goes into coordination efforts
- f. RFP will be done early next week and sent to Matt.

Public Comment: No public comments.

Other Business:

- **Question:** Brian Ace – referencing the minutes, is there an update on making recommendation to partners in the sub-committees?
 - o No update currently (BJ Olson)
 - o Request to get that next meeting (B. Ace)
 - Question was whether that created a conflict of interest
- **Question:** B. Ace - any updates on the sobering center?
 - o Talked to Lourdes/Sheriff (Mike Gonzalez)
 - Timeline: 6 months away, realistically
 - Price point: will be more than indicated originally at \$600,000
 - Staffing: 3 individuals (not necessarily nurses or RNs, but are trained)
 - Facility just needs to get passed the code hurdles
 - Sprinklers, etc.
 - Early January – all fixed costs and everything ready to go
 - If ready on our end, 6-months from January (July)
 - The new CO expressed interest in being part of this group
 - Dalina is already in that position
 - o Expressed to Lourdes that they will need to have their own security and measures (J. Raymond)
 - o **Question:** J. Bliss – any hurdles?
 - Funding mechanisms in place
 - Franklin County contract, then interlocal agreement between the two Counties
 - Has the Commissioners support
 - Commissioner Peck (Franklin County) will be retiring in January 2024
 - o **Comment:** C. Michael – good that is in close proximity to the hospital, but need to think down the road. Very clear that if it moved to KGH, they would need to have staff who can medically clear people to be there and also move them to the hospital.
 - Temporary situation at Lourdes
 - Has been made clear to Lourdes
- **Question:** B. Ace – possible to get a Financial Report of current capital dollars committed to the capital side of the project as well as current operating revenue coming in for both Counties from the Mental Health tax?
 - o Matt will get this information ready for next meeting
- **Comment:** M. Gerber – Recovery coalition fundraising breakfast.
 - o Tables are almost sold out
 - o Every dollar of profit will go to buy things for the recovery center

- **Comment:** John Roach (email read by BJ Olson)
 - o Email about his meeting with Courtney Hesla from Comprehensive was previously sent out the committee.

- **Comment:** J. Bliss - a motion was made to pause capital requests a few months ago
 - o Briefly discussed in that motion, figuring out a mechanism to evaluate those requests
 - o Has there been any momentum there?
 - Something that should be looked at
 - o The moratorium expired last month
 - One person has already asked since the expiration
 - o Extend moratorium until we get costs figured out for some of the bigger things coming up
 - One-time need requests, might be ok

Motion: Jason Bliss moved to place another 90-day moratorium on funding requests. Unclear who seconded. Upon vote, motion carried.

Motion to form a committee for the evaluation mechanism, but to be addressed as new business in next meeting.

Tabled for now.

Adjourned: 2:34