

BENTON-FRANKLIN BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes | May 9, 2024

Call to Order: 2:00 PM

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

Voting Members: Jason Bliss, BJ Olson, Chad Michael, Erin Petty, Angie Manterola, Joel Chavez, Kim Lettrick, Brian Ace, Mat Clarke (alternate for Benton County – Law Enforcement), Sindi Saunders, John Roach (Virtual), Erika Barton (Virtual), Kevin Crowley, Mark Holyoak

Non-voting Members: Matt Rasmussen, Carla Prock, Michele Gerber, Mike Gonzalez, Ryan Washburn (Virtual), Kyle Sullivan

Approval of Minutes from April 11, 2024: The committee members all reviewed the April 11, 2024, committee meeting minutes. Jason Bliss moved to approve the minutes as presented. Chad Michael seconded. Minutes were approved.

Public Comment: No public comment.

Discussion Items:

1. Columbia Valley Center for Recovery Updates/Timeline for Deliverables – M. Rasmussen

- a. Nearing the end of the validation phase - (deliverable by **May 15th**)
 - i. Deliverable will be a “program layout”
 1. Space to be used for each program, but not an actual floor plan
 2. Finalize the validation report in **June**, after receiving our feedback
 3. Construction should start within the **June-August** window
 4. Design piece expected to be finalized by end of **October**
 5. Expected to be completed by **December 2025**
- b. Cost of operating the facility
 - i. Preliminary design and room layout needs to be complete before we can work with Comprehensive to finalize contract with solid numbers.
 1. Preliminary design expected to be complete in **August**.
- c. **Question:** B. Ace – with the program design they will deliver on, that will be on the expense side as well as the revenue side. Should be able to show the delta?
 - i. **M.Rasmussen** – Yes, should be able to get the estimate at that point.
 - ii. **Courtney** (Comprehensive) – People who qualify for medicare/Medicaid, should be able to get an estimate based on capacity
- d. Guaranteed Maximum Price (GMP)
 - i. End of **June**, they should have a floor plan and a max price (it won’t cost more than X).
 - ii. If things cost less than X, we get the dollars back and we can use that to add “betterments”
- e. Prepared a proposal to LifePoint Health
 - i. Offering First Right of Refusal (CSU only)

1. Anyone that comes into our facility, we offer to Lourdes first
 - a. If yes, we arrange transport
 - b. If no, they can stay in our facility with no time restriction
 2. Declined by LifePoint Health a couple of weeks ago
 - ii. Finding ways to work around this.
- f. **Question:** M. Gonzalez – what is going on with the Welch’s grapefruit factory?
- i. **M. Rasmussen** – not using it for this phase, due to cost. (\$6.5 million delta)
 - ii. Benton County does own the building.
 - iii. Working with Council of Governments (COG)
 1. Will evaluate facility for potential uses
 2. Could even possibly use it for different behavioral health programs
- g. **Question:** C. Prock – is there anything the committee or community partners can do to support/give voice to the concerns regarding LifePoint?
- i. **M. Rasmussen** – wouldn’t hurt to reach out individually
- h. **Question:** B. Ace – any value in looking at doing a collective statement/letter?
- i. **M. Rasmussen** – would need to check with the Commissioners
- i. **Question:** C. Michael – what is the roadblock/barrier as to why it’s a hard no with LifePoint?
- i. **M. Rasmussen** – new players, doesn’t hurt to remind them the community’s stance.
- j. **Question:** J. Bliss – reasoning for the language being put in in the first place?
- i. **Lee** (public) – Competition (which has now alleviated). Now need to figure out the specific concerns.

2. Joon Therapy Pilot – M. Rasmussen

- a. Contacted by a representative of Joon Therapy
- b. Joon Therapy – focus on youth (ages 13-26)
 - i. Online based
 - ii. Offering a pilot program (they would fund it) if we are interested
 1. Pilot program (funded fully by them), ages 13-21 (due to grant requirements)
 2. If using some of our own dollars – we could do ages 13-26
- c. Would the group like to schedule a time for a presentation from Tracy Stride of Joon Therapy?
- d. **Comment:** C. Prock – Concerns locally with kids being able to access care
 - i. Covid specific funding is leaving from the school districts
 - ii. Data and access is a significant issue
 - iii. Service gaps will increase
- e. **Question:** K. Sullivan – schools use a web-based service, is that funded with Covid dollars?
 - i. **C. Prock** – It was originally. Some school districts have found funding. Pasco uses one (Hazel Health). It was originally funded with COVID dollars, have asked if they reallocated funds, but have not heard back
- f. **Comment:** B. Ace – curious to know the utilization of this within the districts participating
 - i. **C. Prock** – absentee rates are significant when looking at data

- g. Joon Therapy connected us with gentleman from Seattle where they did a program. He is also willing to talk with the committee about how the program went.
 - i. M. Rasmussen can make the arrangements if there is interest
 - h. **Comment:** G. Cable – difference between this and Hazel Health (k-12); this potentially is 13-26.
 - i. Cool to be able to start something and follow you as you leave school
 - i. **Comment:** S. Saunders – interested to hear a presentation
 - i. M. Rasmussen will reach out to Joon Therapy and Seattle.
3. **Substance Use Disorder Service Sub-Committee** - updates
 - a. No Updates
 4. **Mental Health Services Sub-Committee** – C. Michael
 - a. Received RFP back from Comprehensive
 - i. Meeting set up for tomorrow (May 10)
 - ii. Would like to bring back recommendations to the group after their meeting.
 5. **Communications Sub-Committee** – updates
 - a. J. Roach – Did the media day with Glenn
 - i. Worthwhile and easy to do
 - ii. People still watch the local news!
 - b. G. Vaagen – BJ will be on the radio this Wednesday (May 15)
 - c. BJ Olson – looking at domain names for the Recovery Center
 - i. M. Rasmussen received an email from a graphic art company who is interested, will refer her to Communications Sub-Committee
 6. **Behavioral Health Workforce Development Sub-Committee** – C. Fordmeir
 - a. C. Fordmeir – Substance Use Disorder program at CBC
 - i. Will be starting on September 16
 - ii. Go through December 5
 - iii. Classes will be Monday-Thursday: 4pm-6:40pm
 - iv. Hopefully take up to 80
 - v. Contact CBC and enroll in the official program, or placed into classes as electives
 - b. **Question:** C. Prock – could we cross promote CBC’s new program on KONA?

Public Comment: No public comments

Other Business:

1. **M. Gerber** – Kadlec sponsoring “Witness to Addiction” talk for mental health awareness month
 - a. May 15, 6:30PM, Richland Public Library
2. **C. Prock** – Behavioral Health Committee doing their mental health promotion month content
 - a. Dust Devils promotion awareness events
 - b. May 23, 8:00AM, State of our youth symposium, Convention Center
3. **E. Petty** – St. Vincent de Paul (clothing/food shelter in Pasco)
 - a. Mobile Urgent Care Unity, “The Range”, open on Wednesdays from 1-4pm
4. **M. Gonzalez** – Sobering Center with Lourdes
 - a. Lourdes has presented to Franklin County a preliminary budget

- b. Asking the committee if they feel the Sobering Center should be opened in the interim
- c. **Clarifying Question:** B. Ace – “go it alone”, does that mean Franklin County funded project? Would an individual from Benton County be able to utilize the services provided?
 - i. **M. Gonzalez** – Fully funded by Franklin County, and yes absolutely they would have access to the services.
- d. **Comment:** M. Rasmussen – brought up the idea of the Franklin County sobering center to the Law & Justice Council. They agreed they would utilize that service and determine once the Recovery Center opens if they would continue to need to utilize that initial service.
 - i. Benton County would support a share of the operational costs, but not able to support any construction costs
- e. **Question:** J. Bliss – Same location as proposed previously? And are the permits ok?
 - i. **M. Gonzalez** – adjacent to the jail, vacant building on Margaret. There will be some permitting issues, but in talks currently about that topic.
 - ii. **M. Holyoak** – identified there is a need for a recovery center, Lourdes would take on the costs of construction as needed.
- f. **Comment:** C. Michael – Hoping that the medical screening component and transport are in the conversations to take the pressure off the Fire/EMS agencies, unless there is a critical medical need.
 - i. **M. Holyoak** – Yes, it is in the conversations
- g. **Comment:** C. Michael - A lot of the dollars will disappear quickly once ground breaks on the facility, hoping this is being communicated out to the community.
- h. **Question:** K. Crowley – Are the operational costs increasing due to more staff and security needs? Will that be ongoing costs or a one-time need?
- i. **Clarifying Question:** BJ Olson – Is there an ask from the Franklin County Commissioners?
 - i. **M. Gonzalez** – Yes, ask is the opinion from the committee to give back to the Franklin County Commissioners. Hearing support and also caution.
- j. **Question:** K. Crowley – Previously talked about this being a stopgap, were told it was a quick turnaround. Would the timelines today be equal?
 - i. **Mauricio** – Would be a 6-month turn around after dealing with the Dept. of Health licensing
- k. **Question:** M. Gerber – Who will be welcome in the Sobering Center?
 - i. **Mauricio** – Sobering Center will be for those needing sobering from drugs and alcohol
 - ii. **BJ Olson** – This would be a less than 24 hour stay
- l. **Comment:** K. Crowley – Would like to see the timeline for the sobering center and how it marries up with the Recovery center, before making a motion.
 - i. **BJ Olson** – Recommendation for the Frankling County Commissioners would be tabled until next month.
 - ii. **K. Crowley** – Previously, the committee showed favor of the sobering center
 - 1. **BJ Olson** – recommendation was for both Counties
 - iii. **J. Chavez** – Substance Abuse Sub Committee previously recommended certain language was to be placed in the contract for sobering services. Some of that was we start the sobering center but with the understanding that when the Recovery Center comes on board we would reevaluate the need of the interim sobering center.
- m. **Question:** C. Prock – do we know the classification for the level of licensure needed for the sobering center?
 - i. **Mauricio** – Just an extension of the hospital
- n. **Comment:** B. Ace – October 2023, there was a formal motion for the interim sobering center
- o. **Question:** C. Prock – what is the group’s acceptable time frame now that we are 6-months later?
 - i. It would offer a full year of support if it could open in December 2024
- p. **Question:** C. Fordmeir – Will there be a pre-arrest diversion intention at the sobering center?
 - i. **Mauricio** – totally different than a jail

- ii. **M. Holyoak** – someone that is arrested, would still go to jail. The sobering center would be for law enforcement that did not choose to arrest. Sobering Center will have referral services.
- q. **Comment: K. Lettrick** – Timeline element is critical, along with cost
 - i. **M. Gonzalez** – will continue to work with Mauricio and Matt
- r. **Comment: B. Ace** – still a meaningful service no matter the timeline. Committee is to just make recommendation to the County Commissioners, they still will decided whether they want to act on it.
- s. **Question: J. Bliss** – If LifePoint/Lourdes will burn the cost of remodeling and repair, what is the rising cost for in the presented budget for Franklin County?
 - i. **M. Holyoak** – staffing and recruitment costs are the main factor of the delta.

MOTION: Brian Ace moves to recommend to the Franklin County Commissioners to enter into a contract with Lourdes for sobering services at the new identified location, for a period of time that makes sense to both parties. Joel Chavez seconded.

Discussion:

- i. What is the difference between this motion and the one that was passed in October? – J. Bliss
 - a. Nothing, just reaffirming – BJ Olson
- ii. Was the motion that was made before, did that include the RFP and cost? – K. Crowley
 - a. Not mentioned in the notes – B. Ace
 - b. Believes it was based on the original cost – J. Bliss
- iii. Currently, would vote No. The service is needed, but as a committee, we need to recommend something that is a full package saying, we support it at this cost and provide this service. The cost has doubled and still not sure what is needed. – K. Crowley
- iv. We believe in the service, but don't have a fleshed-out plan. – C. Michael

MOTION WITHDRAWN: Brian Ace requests to withdraw his motion. No discussion. Motion is withdrawn.

- 5. **M. Holyoak** – Lourdes Counseling Center will now be known as Lourdes Behavioral Health, as of 5/6/2024
- 6. **J. Bliss** – Request to have Mark continue to have conversations regarding the First Right of Refusal proposal and rejection.
 - a. **K. Sullivan** – Concern centered around those who for whatever reason aren't accepted at Lourdes, but need more than 3-days.
- 7. **K. Harnish** (virtual chat) – Hazel Health is the organization the Pasco School District is contracted with.

Adjourned: 3:07pm