



District 2 Citizens Advisory Board Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 2024 | 6 p.m.
Ark Valley Conference Room, CDDO
615 N. Main, Wichita, KS 67203

Board Members in Attendance: Martha Pint, Ashlie Brockleman, Tony Martinez, Lupe Montes, Jeff Hersh, Max Tjaden

County Representatives: Commissioner Sarah Lopez, Amana Vann and Malachi Winters, COMCARE

1. Call to Order:
 - a. Martha Pints called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Roll Call Vote:
 - a. Board members identified themselves by saying, "Here."
3. Introduction of New Members:
 - a. Student, Nicole Rivera, was sick and could not attend the meeting.
 - b. Max Tjaden is a farmer from Clearwater who is taking over Dr. Bill Hammers' seat on the CAB. Tjaden's family has been in the area for 143 years! Max has a strong agricultural background and served on the Farm Bureau Board.
4. Approval of Minutes from 1/2/2024:
 - a. Jeff Hersh made a motion to approve the Jan. 2 meeting minutes. Ashlie Brockleman seconded the motion. It carried unanimously.
5. Public Agenda:
 - a. No public comment here.
6. New Business:
 - a. COMCARE Community Crisis Center Presentation by Amanda Vann & Malachi Winters
 1. Services offered include 988, Evidence-Based Therapeutic Interventions, Crisis Peer Support, ICT, Mobile Crisis Unit, Assisted Outpatient Treatment, 911 Embedded Integrated Care Specialist and Morris Place.
 2. ICT-1 Team started in 2019 and included a QMHP (Qualified Mental Health Professional), police officer and paramedic.
 3. ICT 2-5 Teams started in Oct. 2023.
 4. Two embedded ICS call takers now work in 911 dispatch. They provide a direct warm handoff of 911 calls to Emergency Services staff. The goal is to keep at least 50% of patients in community for treatment.
 5. The Mobile Crisis Unit handles referrals from 988 line and is staffed 24/7.
 6. Stabilization and Residential Services include the Crisis Observation Unit, Crisis Stabilization Unit, Morris Place and Children's Crisis Bed.
 7. Field Based Case Management is short-term assistance, helps with patients who use crisis services more than average. The goal is to reduce crisis services in hospitals and jails.
 8. Liaison Services provide short-term case management following discharge from hospitals or release from incarceration through the Kansas Department of Corrections (KDOC) or Sedgwick County's Adult Detention Facility.
 9. Emergency Services include the 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline, which is staffed 24/7. National calls are pushed to the county closest to the patient. Mobile

dispatch Services, welfare checks and care coordination with hospitals are also available.

10. COMCARE also provided Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) for people under a court order to receive treatment after they have been hospitalized.
11. Lupe Montes asked how many calls on average the ICT teams handle? Malachi Winters said currently the teams are getting 2-4 calls per shift.
12. Lupe Montes asked how far the ICT teams travel to take calls? Malachi Winters said ICT 1 covers all of Wichita. ICT 2-5 can cover outlying parts of the county, especially small towns that don't have many mental health resources.
13. Tony Martinez asked who from small towns call for ICT? Malachi Winters said anyone can call 911 and request an ICT team. COMCARE does outreach to spread the word about their services.
14. Jeff Hersh asked how many clients are young, under 15 years old? Amanda Vann and Malachi Winters did not have an exact number, but said schools are made aware of COMCARE's services. Fridays are often busy because weekends can be stressful for kids and trigger anxiety issues.
15. Lupe Montes asked how long clients can stay in the Crisis Observation Unit. Amanda Vann said they are assessed every 23 hours in lieu of hospitalization. If they need medical stabilization or further reduction of symptoms, they can be moved to the Crisis Stabilization Unit.
16. Jeff Hersh asked if COMCARE Crisis Center deals with drug-related issues? Amanda Vann said yes, they have a place for people to detox, but clients needing a medical detox often have to go to the hospital. Medication services are only available Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
17. Lupe Montes asked about the working relationship with the VA hospital? Amanda Vann said it's minimal because most vets go to the VA for services covered by VA benefits.
18. Jeff Hersh asked if COMCARE has a lot of support for homeless clients? Amanda Vann and Malachi Winters said yes, they often connect unhoused clients with shelters and services in the community. COMCARE works with the homeless frequently through the Crisis Center and mobile teams. COMCARE's Center City also focuses on the homeless who are NOT in crisis.
19. Tony Martinez asked about the cost of COMCARE services. Amanda Vann and Malachi Winters said clients are charged on a sliding fee scale. COMCARE will file with insurance when possible.

b. Discussion of Future Agenda Items by Stephanie Birmingham, Strategic Communications

1. MAPC needs to make a solar energy presentation to all CABs before the March 6 BoCC meeting so Justin Constantino will be at the March 5 D2 CAB meeting.
2. Appraiser Mark Clark wants to speak to all CABs in March so he too will give a presentation at the March 5 D2 CAB meeting. Both speakers have been asked to limit their PowerPoints to 30 minutes each.
3. Stephanie Birmingham will ask Susan Erlenwein of Environmental Resources to postpone her March 5 presentation to a later date.

4. Sarah Lopez suggested inviting Elora Forshee from Emergency Communications to speak at the June meeting.

7. Other Business

- a. Commissioner Lopez discussed the new location chosen for the state's new psychiatric hospital and the town hall meeting on Feb. 26 at Wichita South High School to answer questions from the public. She encouraged CAB members to attend.
- b. Lupe Montes asked that CAB members be emailed the details of the town hall meeting. Stephanie Birmingham agreed to do that.
- c. Tony Martinez asked what Jeff Lange is getting in return for the land donated for the psych hospital? Commissioner Lopez said the Lange family has a child with mental health issues and feels strongly about mental healthcare.
- d. Commissioner Lopez would like the psych hospital to be built with 100 beds from the start, not 50, instead of expanding capacity later.
- e. Sarah Lopez said she is joining the Mental Health & Substance Abuse Coalition (MHSAC), taking over the seat for David Dennis who will not seek re-election.

8. Adjournment

- a. The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m. to tour COMCARE Crisis Community Center.