**South Central Regional Psychiatric Hospital Advisory Panel**

**Agenda**

**December 11, 2023, 1:00-3:00 PM**

**Ruffin Building - 6th Floor Conference Room**

**100 N. Broadway, Suite 630**

**Wichita, KS 67202**

**Panel Members Attending**

Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary of Hospitals and Facilities, KDADS

Sarah Lopez, Sedgwick County Commissioner, 2nd District’

Claudio Ferraro, Ascension Via Christi St. Joseph - on Zoom

Representative Henry Helgerson, 83rd District

Jason Gregory, Downtown Wichita

Jeff Easter, Sheriff, Sedgwick County

Joan Tammany, Director, COMCARE

LaTasha St. Arnault, President and CEO, Humankind Ministries

Marc Bennett, District Attorney, Sedgwick County

Mary Jones, Mental Health Association of South Central Kansas - on Zoom

Tom Stolz, County Manager, Sedgwick County

Senator Usha Reddi, 22nd District

Representative Will Carpenter, 75th District

**Panel Member(s) not in attendance:**

Representative KC Ohaebosim, 89th District

1. **Call to Order**

Chairperson Brunner called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM. Chairperson Brunner called attention to the conflict of interest statements in the meeting packet for panel members to review and sign before going into executive session.

1. **Approval of Minutes**

The motion to adopt the minutes for November 6th and the special online meeting from November 17th was moved by Representative Helgerson. Gregory seconded.

1. **Presentation of Sedgwick County resident survey results**

Dr. Lisa Pelkey from Learning Tree Institute at Greenbush shared details from the survey open from November 3rd to November 30th. There was a total of 882 responses.

The top six non-starters for hospital locations are elementary schools, daycares or early childhood education centers, middle schools, high schools, residential neighborhoods, and public parks and recreational facilities.

The bottom four on the non-starter list were Sedgwick County jail, medical hospitals, police stations, and mental health services. Several write-in responses mentioned not in the Downtown Wichita area.

The big takeaway is that residents in Sedgwick County will likely not be in agreement with locations close to where children go to school, live, or play. The full data report will be linked in the Panel’s interim report.

Brunner announced a Town Hall meeting on December 12th, at 5:00 PM to gain further public input.

1. **Presentation and Discussion of Real Property Proposals for the Regional Psychiatric Hospital**

South Central Regional Psychiatric Hospital Advisory Panel met in a closed, executive session for a preliminary discussion of the acquisition of real property pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (6).

Vice Chair Lopez moved, Senator Reddi seconded:

“I move that the open meeting of the South Central Regional Psychiatric Hospital Advisory Panel, hereinafter referred to as the Advisory Panel, be recessed for a closed, executive meeting pursuant to K.S.A. 75-4319(a), for preliminary discussion of the acquisition of real property for the location of a proposed regional psychiatric hospital pursuant to the justification listed in K.S.A. 75-4319 (b) (6); that the Advisory Panel resume the open meeting at 2:10 PM at 6th Floor Conference Room in the Sedgwick County Offices in the Ruffin Building; and that this motion, if adopted, be recorded in the minutes and be maintained as a part of the permanent records of the Advisory Panel. The Advisory Panel will use the 6th Floor Conference Room in the Ruffin Building for the executive session. Tania Cole, Assistant County Manager for Sedgwick County and Andrew Dilts, Facilities Manager for Sedgwick County are invited to attend the executive session to provide information relevant to the discussion of real property.

Motion approved with no objection.

Adopted at 1:20 PM December 11, 2023.

Regular session resumed at 2:13 PM

1. **Review of Draft Interim Report for Sedgwick County and Governor**

The panel reviewed the *Draft Interim Report* prepared by the Learning Tree Institute at Greenbush.

Mr. Bennett would like to include the potential to build an additional 50 beds from the already proposed 50 for a total of 100.

Representative Carpenter inquired regarding the formal process of recommendations to be added from the panel. He noted he would like the consideration of a formal recommendation that will include language in the report that includes 100 beds. Sheriff Easter recommended that the wait times for Osawatomie and Larned be included in the report. He will submit the numbers going to Larned for the last three years and asked that Mr. Ferraro provide the commits from Ascension Via Christi during that time, as well.

Concerns about finding staff were raised. Representative Carpenter recommended that the Panel look at privatizing staff and see what other states are doing. He expressed concerns about contract nursing at Larned State Hospital. Member Tammany recommended evaluating the merits of privatization. Mr. Bennett noted if there is legislation that would help grow staff, that the Panel should discuss that in January.

Chairperson Brunner summarized three items: (1) Recommend 100 beds with funding. Sheriff Easter and Mr. Ferraro will work on providing numbers. (2) The decision regarding privatization of operations. (3) Workforce, any helpful legislation (2024 Session).

Representative Carpenter also mentioned discussing the State Hospital catchment areas. Chairperson Brunner noted these are tied to care and treatment areas only and that Sedgwick County is in the Osawatomie State Hospital catchment area. On the forensic side, most individuals go to Larned State Hospital.

1. **Future Meetings**

January 8, 2024

Senator Reddi asked about meeting times during the legislative session. Chairperson Brunner will discuss and come up with a plan for future meetings.

The Panel discussed and decided to hold an additional executive session after the Town Hall meeting via Zoom to discuss feedback.

1. **Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:44 PM