

South Central Regional Psychiatric Hospital Advisory Panel

Agenda

January 17, 2025 1:00-3:00 PM

Remote only

<https://www.youtube.com/@ksdept.foragingdisabilitys6122/streams>

I. Call to Order

Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary, Kansas Department for Aging and Disability Services

II. Approval of Minutes from October 18, 2024 and December 20, 2024

Scott Brunner

III. Construction Update

Tania Cole, Assistant County Manager, Sedgwick County

IV. Project Updates

Iryna Yeromenko, Acting Superintendent

Scott Brunner, Deputy Secretary

- Legislative Updates for 2025 Session

V. Forming a Citizens Advisory Committee for the Hospital

Iryna Yeromenko, Acting Superintendent

VI. Training options through Behavioral Health Center of Excellence

Michelle Ponce, Kansas Behavioral Health Center of Excellence and Association of Community Mental Health Centers of Kansas

VII. Adjourn

South Central Regional Psychiatric Hospital Advisory Panel
Minutes
October 18, 2024, 1:00-2:00 PM
Remote

Panel Members Attending

Scott Brunner, Chairperson and Deputy Secretary of Hospitals and Facilities, KDADS
Claudio Ferraro, President, Ascension Via Christi St. Joseph
Jason Gregory, Agent, InSite Real Estate Group
Mary Jones, President and CEO, Mental Health America of South Central Kansas
Marc Bennett, District Attorney, Sedgwick County
Senator Usha Reddi, 22nd District
Sarah Lopez, Sedgwick County Commissioner, 2nd District

Panel Members not in attendance:

Jeffrey Easter, Sheriff, Sedgwick County
Joan Tammany, Director, COMCARE
Representative KC Ohaebosim, 89th District
LaTasha St. Arnault, President and CEO, HumanKind Ministries
Representative Will Carpenter, 75th District
Tom Stolz, County Manager, Sedgwick County
Representative Henry Helgersen, District 83

I. Call to Order

Brunner called the meeting to order at 1:03 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes from September 20, 2024

Jones made the motion to adopt the minutes of the September meeting, and Lopez seconded the motion. Motion carried.

III. Request for Bids Release Information

Tania Cole, Assistant County Manager, provided an update on the Sedgwick County Request for Bids construction process and emphasized the less than four-week timeline. Cole reviewed multiple documents focused on the advertisement for bids, bidder qualifications, updated project renderings, and draft contracts between the construction company and Sedgwick County, which had been vetted through multiple legal entities. Referenced documents are located on the Sedgwick County website. The final construction bid will be awarded before the Board of County Commissioners on December 11th. Brunner requested panel members share the bid details with their respected contacts to promote the receipt of broad, highly qualified construction bids.

The Panel discussed the bid process details. Concern was expressed about the timing of the bid process relative to other large projects in the area. Cole and Basil Sherman, Pulse Design Group, provided reassurances to the Panel regarding the positive aspects of the bid process

timing. Brunner noted that while Panel members may receive questions from contractors/sub-contractors, questions should be directed to the Sedgwick County Purchasing Office.

IV. Project Updates

Iryna Yeromenko, Acting Superintendent, noted that the Director of Facility Services position had been posted this week and hopes to complete the hiring process in December. A consulting company will also be hired to support the continued organizational design work from the licensure and certification perspective, review construction documents, and remain a partner throughout the project. The decisions on the program will inform a plan for state licensure, joint commission certification, accreditation, and CMS requirements.

Yeromenko also indicated that a steering committee had been created that would meet monthly. Brunner noted that the steering committee is internal to KDADS and will help with program design and align with the other state hospitals, including clinical teams. Reddi requested that the steering committee's members be made known to the Panel. Brunner indicated he would provide those details.

V. Adjournment

Brunner noted there would likely not be a November meeting, due to timing of the bid process. Will look at time, possibly the 3rd week of December, which might also be held virtually.

Brunner indicated a motion to adjourn was optional since all Panel members participated virtually. The meeting adjourned at 1:31 PM.

South Central Regional Psychiatric Hospital Advisory Panel
Minutes
December 20, 2024, 1:00-2:00 PM
Remote

Panel Members Attending

Scott Brunner, Chairperson and Deputy Secretary of Hospitals and Facilities, KDADS
Claudio Ferraro, President, Ascension Via Christi St. Joseph
Mary Jones, President and CEO, Mental Health America of South Central Kansas
Senator Usha Reddi, 22nd District
Sarah Lopez, Vice-Chairperson and Sedgwick County Commissioner, 2nd District
Jeffrey Easter, Sheriff, Sedgwick County

Panel Members not in attendance:

Marc Bennett, District Attorney, Sedgwick County
Joan Tammany, Director, COMCARE
Representative KC Ohaebosim, 89th District
LaTasha St. Arnault, President and CEO, HumanKind Ministries
Representative Will Carpenter, 75th District
Tom Stolz, County Manager, Sedgwick County
Representative Henry Helgersen, District 83
Jason Gregory, Agent, InSite Real Estate Group

I. Call to Order

Brunner called the meeting to order at 1:02 PM.

II. Approval of Minutes from October 18, 2024

Adopting the October meeting minutes was not possible due to the absence of a quorum.

III. General Contractor award

Tania Cole, Assistant County Manager, announced that the Board of County Commissioners awarded the general contract for constructing the South Central Regional Mental Health Hospital to Key Construction.

The Request for Bids was issued on October 11 to over 150 vendors, with a deadline of November 26. Bids were received from J.E. Dunn Construction and Key Construction. Details of the project's key bid scope, contingency plan, and award amount are specified in the [Board of Bids and Contracts document](#).

The decision to award the contract to Key Construction was based on stringent qualification criteria, including the firm's and its officers' experience, adequate financial resources and

organizational capacity to complete the project, and strong past performance and commitment to including small businesses.

An evaluation team consisting of representatives from Sedgwick County Purchasing, Facilities, KDADS, and Pulse Design Group conducted a thorough review, which included due diligence on references and qualifications. Despite receiving only two bids, confidence in awarding to Key Construction remains high. One prospective bidder withdrew at the last minute due to workforce constraints after submitting another bid on a different project. The project's completion date remains November 30, 2026, for the 104-bed hospital.

IV. Project Updates

Iryna Yeromenko, Acting Superintendent, provided [licensing, certification, accreditation, catchment area admission data, and KDADS State Hospital Steering Committee membership documentation](#) and updates.

The new hospital is projected to take about 50% of Ascension Via Christi's State Institutional Alternative patients, easing system pressure. Some staff working on the forensic and acute side of the hospital will be managed through scheduling, emphasizing physical and organizational separation between the two programs with separate professional and medical staff, as well as medical directors for each program. If professional staff want to work both sides of the hospital, it would be treated as if they worked at another hospital, like Via Christi.

The Panel discussed managing dual-commitment patients (civil and criminal), with current catchment area patients likely remaining at Osawatomie State Hospital. The hospital's treatment model will focus on stabilization and extended care, with appropriately aligned patient flow and catchment area. The Panel also discussed the operational budget for the upcoming fiscal year.

Additionally, Ms. Yeromenko announced hiring a Director of Facility Services starting January 6.

V. Panel Feedback on Hospital Names

Brunner presented the option of South Central Regional Mental Health Hospital as the name for the new hospital, which was agreeable to the Panel.

IV. Panel feedback on public meetings in 2025

The Panel noted construction updates, personnel needs, children's services, Kansas Behavioral Health Center of Excellence initiatives, a media plan, and a groundbreaking ceremony planning as possible work tasks before the Advisory Panel's Executive Order ends in March.

VII. Adjournment

Brunner adjourned the meeting at 1:54 PM.