



# APRIL R1BHAC MINUTES

04/02/2026 | Meeting Called to Order at 1:00 p.m. by Amanda Booth

## In Attendance

RIBHAC Members: Don Lease, Pam Goding, Valerie Coop, Amanda Booth Via zoom: Lisa Simmons

A quorum was not established at the April meeting; therefore, all agenda items must be ratified in the May Meeting.

Region 1 Staff: Holly Brandt, Jeanne McKerrigan, Kim Burry and Irene Guerrero

Introduction: N/A

## Approval of April 2026 Agenda (motion) Voice Vote

A motion to approve the April 2026 agenda was made by Pam Goding with a second by Don Lease. All members voting aye. This agenda item will need to be ratified in the May meeting.

## Approval of March 2026 Minutes (motion) Voice Vote

A motion to approve March 2026 minutes made by Don Lease with a second motion by Valerie Coop. All members voting aye. This agenda item will need to be ratified in the May meeting.

## Extension Letter From CARF (Informational)

Received an extension for CARF accreditation survey. New expected timeline: **August–September.**

Reason: Lack of available surveyors; backlog of agencies.

Accreditation status remains active despite delay.

Concerns noted:

- Timing conflicts with audit season.

Discussion:

- Telehealth survey option offered but not feasible for CARF at this time.

## Stakeholder Survey (Informational)

Annual stakeholder survey was not available for review.

Decision: Tabled until next meeting.

## Disaster Response Update Wildfires (Informational)

Affected areas: Morrill County, Garden County, and surrounding regions.

Response actions:

- Deployment of Region 1 disaster response team.





- Community outreach in Oshkosh.
- “Coffee and Chat” event held (low attendance but valuable feedback).

Key observations:

- Community members are hesitant to seek visible help.
- High stress among families, especially mothers.

Upcoming efforts:

- Participation in local events (speaker sessions, extension office event).
- Distribution of behavioral health resources.
- Planning youth-focused outreach activities.

Telehealth initiative:

- Collaboration with state and external providers for remote counseling access.
- Goal: Private, anonymous support options.

Additional considerations:

- Potential firefighter support groups (CISD model).
- Anticipated delayed mental health impact post-disaster.

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### Crisis Stabilization Update (Informational)

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Initial issue:

- State indicated no operational funding available.

Follow-up:

- Subsequent clarification suggests funding may be available.
- Written confirmation requested and partially received.

Interim actions:

- Region identified ~\$95,000 internally (reallocated funds).
- One existing service (PGx testing) may be discontinued (pending provider discussion).

Concerns:

- Budget constraints. Limited grant opportunities. Sustainability for uninsured populations.

Future funding strategies:

- County opioid settlement funds. Grants and local foundations. Advocacy with state officials if needed.

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### Questions from members and non-members

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Amanda Booth asked about the HART funding. It was confirmed that the HART program will continue into next fiscal year, though a waitlist is anticipated. She also, inquired whether PPHD receives opioid settlement funding, and it was confirmed that it does.

\*A motion to adjourn the meeting at 1:34 p.m. was made by Don Lease and seconded by Pam Goding. All members voted in favor. Motion carried.

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### Next Meeting

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Next Meeting 05/07/2026 at 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m., Region 1 South Conference Room

