



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD ACTION ITEM – DECEMBER 3, 2020

APPROVAL OF THE REVISED BHAB BYLAWS

The County of San Diego (County) Board of Supervisors (Board) established the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) in 2014, by merging the County Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board with the County Mental Health Board. At that time, bylaws were adopted in accordance with Board Policy A-74, Citizen Participation in County Boards, Commissions and Committees, which oversees special citizen boards which advise the Board and County staff on issues of policy and serve as links to the community.

In 2018, the BHAB bylaws were revised, guided by a workgroup BHAB formed to undertake the process. In 2019, Assembly Bill (AB) 1352 was passed, which further defined the roles of County mental health boards, necessitating further revisions to the BHAB bylaws. The Building a Better BHAB Workgroup was tasked with leading the revision effort and held meetings with members and staff to determine the appropriate changes to produce a final draft of the revised bylaws, which was reviewed at the 2020 BHAB Retreat. The edits reflect changes in BHAB operations, improve internal governance of the group, and ensure conformity with current California Welfare and Institutions Code, as modified by AB1352.

It is, THEREFORE, staff's recommendation that BHAB approve updates to the bylaws and authorize County staff to move forward with the process of securing Board of Supervisors approval to amend the local ordinance governing BHAB.