



April 07, 2022  
Behavioral Health Advisory Board  
Meeting Minutes

---

Temporary Zoom Meeting due to Public Health orders

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Che Hernandez, Member-at-Large - District 1  
Joel San Juan - District 1  
Bill Stewart, Chair – District 1  
Janice Luna Reynoso – District 1  
Todd Boyer – District 2  
Jim Taylor – District 2  
Robin Sales – District 3  
Michael Grattan – District 3  
Mali Woods-Drake – District 3  
Amina Sheik Mohamed – District 4  
John Sturm – 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair - District 4  
Judith Yates, Member-at-Large– District 4  
Phil Deming, 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair – District 5  
Richard McGaffigan – District 5  
Carol Clemens – District 5  
Nathan Fletcher, Board of Supervisors Chair

**MEMBERS NOT PRESENT**

James Merino – District 2  
K.C. Strang – District 5

**STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services (BHS)  
Dania Barroso-Conde, Behavioral Health Advisory Board Coordinator, Behavioral Health Services

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) was called to order by Chair Bill Stewart at 2:30PM via Zoom.

**II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND ROLL CALL**

ON MOTION of Joel San Juan, seconded by Phil Deming, BHAB approved the minutes from March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.

AYES: 17 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: Sheik Mohamed

**III. PUBLIC COMMENT**

**Terra Jennings** provided comment on behalf of the Peer Advocacy Groups. Ms. Jennings addressed feedback received pertaining to person-centered care. Ms. Jennings suggested adding “Mobile Case

Managers” so they may go directly to the peers and assist them with client enrollment into programs. Additionally, having Case Managers meet people where they are, rather than having them travel to and from appointments. Lastly, her recommendation was to provide yearly transportation passes for those with no means of transportation to assist them with their commute to appointments. A copy of Ms. Jennings report will be emailed to all members for their review.

**Mercedes Webber** provided comments addressing the long wait times many of her peers face in waiting area lobbies they attend their doctor appointments.

**Mary Jo O’Brien** expressed her concerns regarding clubhouses and the ongoing changes to the programs. Ms. O’Brien provided her recommendation to shift the existing programs in the clubhouses, so they are run by the clients and the participating community rather than current management.

**Mike Matthews** shared his concerns pertaining to peer support specialists, clubhouses and consumer centers.

**Shelley Linde** submitted her public comment regarding recent orders from the state and its requirement for those on the street to enter housing with drug treatment and mental health programs. Her concerns were directed at the consequences for those who do not enter housing as required, and the possible jail time they may have to complete. Ms. Linde suggested having a locked rehabilitation program, which would have a 1-year duration and provide not only mental health but also substance use disorder (SUD) treatments, and vocational training. Additionally, she expressed her concerns with the lack of housing for those living with SUDs.

#### **IV. CHAIR FLETCHER UPDATES**

An update was provided on the recent state of the County and the behavioral health concerns discussed. Chair Fletcher discussed his concerns with the shortage of behavioral health workers, and his efforts to tackle the issue through the Behavioral Health Workforce Workgroup. Additionally, Chair Fletcher mentioned funds that will be received from the Opioid Settlement fund. Both Chair Fletcher and Supervisor Anderson will be hosting a series of meetings throughout the county with the goal to receive ideas of how-to best tackle issues of opioid addiction and on how to best utilize supportive funding.

#### **V. PRESENTATION: DEPARTMENT OF PURCHASING AND CONTRACTING (DPC)**

Jack Pellegrino, Director of Purchasing and Contracting, was present to provide members with information on how DPC operates within the county and where this information can be found, as well as the recent initiatives to increase diversity and equity among community contractors. A question-and-answer session was held regarding, how contracts are monitored, what is done when terms are not being met accordingly, and DPC’s role with BHS and contracts related to Independent Living Homes.

#### **VI. PRESENTATION: CLUBHOUSE UPDATE**

Cara Evans Murray, Assistant Medical Services Administrator with BHS’ Adult and Older Adult System of Care, was present along with NAMI San Diego CEO, Cathryn Nacario, and The Meeting Place Clubhouse Executive Director, Sharron Hedenkamp, to provide members with an overview and update on the clubhouse system with a particular focus on the clubhouse national standards and they implementation at clubhouses. A question-and-answer session was held regarding accreditation of clubhouses and the engagement of members with decision making, data on clients served and unserved by the recent procurement shifts in clubhouses, and the clubhouse accreditation model being an evidence-based practice. Staff to follow up with BHAB member Che Hernandez to discuss data pertaining to the number of clients who were not served due to recent procurement changes.

**VII. ACTION ITEM: BHAB 2022 SUBCOMMITTEES**

BHAB was presented with the proposed 2022 subcommittees to be: Criminal Justice Subcommittee and the Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Subcommittee. It was noted additional ad-hoc subcommittees may be created as needed for specific purpose or scope of work that is time-limited and with the approval of BHAB. After further discussion, the majority of members voted to abstain on approving this action as to further discuss the composition of BHAB's subcommittees, ad-hoc subcommittees, and workgroups.

ON MOTION of Judith Yates, seconded by Joel San Juan, BHAB approved the Mental Health Screening to Care Initiative.

AYES: 3 NAYS: 1 ABSTENTIONS: 11

**VIII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – PEER SUPPORT SPECIALIST CERTIFICATION BOARD MEMO**

**Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services**

- **Peer Support Specialist Board Memo**

Dr. Luke Bergmann informed members of a change in date for the Request for Information (RFI) Industry Date, an email was sent to BHAB with additional information. Dr. Bergmann encouraged members to look become informed of recent legislation introductions and additional updates pertaining to Care Court. Dr. Bergmann, Nadia Privara, and Alisha Eftekhari provided members with a Mobile Crisis Response Teams (MCRT) update to include current status as well as upcoming phases of MCRT.

**IX. CHAIR'S REPORT**

Chair Bill Stewart asked Dr. Nicole Esposito to provide members with a Medi-Cal Prescription Update. Dr. Esposito informed the group there have been weekly meetings with the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) Managed Care, Magellan, and Legal Aid to review consumer concerns such as prior authorizations to prescriptions.

**X. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Che Hernandez informed members of the upcoming NAMI Annual Walk which will be held April 30<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00am at Liberty Station.

**XI. MEETING ADJOURNMENT**

ON MOTION of Joel San Juan, seconded by Che Hernandez the meeting adjourned at 5:10PM.

AYES: 15 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0