



March 4, 2021
Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes

P.O. BOX 85524
San Diego, CA 92186-5524
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MEMBERS PRESENT

Che Hernandez – District 1
Janice Luna-Reynoso – District 1
Joel San Juan – District 1
Bill Stewart, 2nd Vice Chair – District 1
Thomas Hathorn – District 2
Rebecca Hernandez – District 2
Jenifer Mendel, 1st Vice Chair – District 2
Deanne George – District 3
Mike Grattan – District 3
Shannon Jaccard – District 3
Ed Weiner – District 3
Jerry Hall – District 4
John Sturm – District 4
Judith Yates, Chair – District 4
Philip Deming, Member-at-Large – District 5
K.C. Strang – District 5
Nathan Fletcher, Board of Supervisors Chair – District 4

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Debbie Barnum – District 5
Michael Matthews, Member-at-Large – District 2
Richard McGaffigan – District 5

STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Aurora Kiviat Nudd, Assistant Director, Behavioral Health Services
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 Judith Yates at 2:33 p.m. via Zoom.

II. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND ROLL CALL

ON MOTION of Jenifer Mendel, seconded by Jerry Hall, BHAB approved the minutes of February 4, 2021.

AYES: 15 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0

III. PUBLIC COMMENT

Angela Rowe, licensed Clinical Social Worker and immediate past chair for the Alcohol and Drug Services Provider Association (ADSPA), submitted a public comment recommending supportive

housing programs for child welfare involved families to intervene and improve outcomes for these children.

Carol Clemens, member of the public and mother of a mentally ill man, identified the lack of effective case workers for the mentally ill and homeless populations as a gap in the fragmented chain of care. She stressed that case workers must have the tools, resources, and appropriate compensation to do a thorough job and put a stop to the “revolving door syndrome”.

Sue and Robert Caslava, members of the public, spoke in support of two proposed changes to the current HIPPA Privacy Laws made by the Office of Civil Rights. Specifically, with loosening the language regarding “good faith belief” and “reasonable and foreseeable” threat of harm as precursors to sharing information with family members. They urged this board to submit a comment to the Office of Civil Rights in support of their proposed HIPPA changes by March 22nd to: <https://www.regulations.gov/document/HHS-OCR-2021-0006-0001>.

Sandy Buendia, case manager for the Vista Hill Perinatal Case Management Program, expressed concerns with the lack of housing options and funding to support Child Welfare involved clients working on reunification. Ms. Buendia stressed the need for more housing choices and funding.

IV. ACTION ITEM: BHAB BYLAWS BOARD LETTER

Judith Yates, Chair

Noting the extensive review by this board, it is the recommendation of the BHAB to forward the current draft, as well as questions and concerns from the BHAB to County Counsel for review, with the expectation that County Counsel will attend a future meeting to address revisions with the board the revisions.

ON MOTION of Jerry Hall, seconded by Phil Deming, BHAB approved the current BHAB Bylaws draft to be sent to County Counsel for review.

AYES: 11 NAYS: 1 ABSTENTIONS: 3

V. CHAIR FLETCHER UPDATES

Nathan Fletcher, Chair, San Diego County Board of Supervisors

As stated during the recent State of the County address, Chair Fletcher stressed the importance of behavioral health as one of his highest priorities and updated the group on the following:

- Syringe Services Programs (SSP)
As part of a Comprehensive Harm Reduction Strategy, the Board of Supervisors supported moving forward on this item to be incorporated into current and future County initiatives.
- Behavioral Health Workforce
Recognizing the challenge in the workforce a San Diego County Behavioral Health Conference will be planned with representatives of the major universities, community colleges, and other behavioral health professionals with the goal of identifying the composition of the workforce needed. BHAB Chair Judith Yates will participate in the steering committee that is being formed for this initiative. Suggestions for other potential steering committee participants were provided to Chair Fletcher by BHAB members.

VI. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Aurora Kiviat Nudd, Assistant Director, Behavioral Health Services

The following updates were given on behalf of Dr. Luke Bergmann:

- Conflicts of Interest
Clarification was obtained by County Counsel related to participation in other governing bodies and advisory boards and whether that is an exclusion to serve on the BHAB. Per

County Counsel this is not an issue with exception to participating in a governing body with a fiduciary interest.

- Behavioral Health Continuum of Care Board Letter
Item is slated for the April 6th Board of Supervisors meeting. BHS is working on a comprehensive update and will share at the next BHAB meeting.
- Harm Reduction Strategy
As noted by Chair Fletcher, a Comprehensive Harm Reduction Strategy is taking shape. Draft documents will be shared at the next BHAB meeting.
- CalAIM Initiative
State initiative to transform the Medi-Cal program with potential system transformation, including payment reform and changes to programming. Informational presentations scheduled for the April BHAB meeting.
- Public Consulting Group (PCG)
Substantive PCG updates are included in the January and June Director's Report. Noting ongoing concerns from the BHAB, it is the recommendation to invite PCG to provide an update on deliverables at a future BHAB. BHS staff to schedule presentation.
- Children Youth and Families (CYF)
Members encouraged to review all the efforts put forward by CYF as noted in the March 2021 Director's Report. Members interested in attending the 6th Annual Critical Issues in Child and Adolescent Mental Health Virtual Conference may contact BHS staff or Yael Koenig, Deputy Director for CYF at Yael.Koenig@sdcountry.ca.gov.

VIII. **CHAIR'S REPORT**

Judith Yates, Chair, BHAB

- CalAIM - State Medi-Cal Reform
A presentation on CalAIM will be given during the April BHAB meeting. Members encouraged to review the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) materials that were sent directly to the BHAB and come prepared to ask questions as it relates to the impact of the reform to behavioral health.
- Advisory Board Chairs Annual Meeting
This meeting is chaired by Nick Macchione and includes HHSA leadership and chairs from various advisory boards including BHAB. Group to meet within the next couple of weeks with CalAIM as an agenda item. Update will be provided at the next BHAB meeting.
- BHAB Executive Board Meeting
In addition to reviewing the presentations calendar, the BHAB Executive Board is using the time to focus on priorities and how to make the BHAB meetings more productive.
- BHAB Workgroups
 - Reminder, workgroups temporary, with a duration of one year.
 - BHAB Chair ready to launch the new workgroups with a framework to consist of the following: first meeting to occur in March; workplan development April through September; deliver report and recommendations at the October retreat. BHS staff will assist with scheduling meetings virtually.
 - Workgroups encouraged to seek community-based expertise to accomplish workgroup goals.
 - Old workgroups will be sunsetting except for the Drug Overdose workgroup, with a final report expected at the April BHAB meeting.
 - BHS staff will be following up with County Counsel on the structure of workgroups.

IX. REPORTS FROM BHAB WORKGROUPS

Overdose Prevention Workgroup, Phil Deming

An update was given on the Overdose Mapping Tool; a data system used to identify trends, in addition to, linking public health, public safety and prevention. County staff is exploring this option which has been received positively in other counties across California. The workgroup acknowledged concerns regarding the protection of confidentiality and is making sure clinical and justice needs are involved and addressed.

Building a Better BHAB (BBB) Workgroup Final Report, Jerry Hall

Workgroup concluded their work, and the BBB recommends a review of the BHAB bylaws every five years. In addition, the BBB encourages new and future workgroups to have a clear focus on their priorities and to remain engaged to be effective.

X. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Bill Stewart has been selected to represent San Diego on the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions. He's currently gathering information on the use of autonomous vehicles to improve transportation equity in our region. Members are encouraged to route feedback and ideas through BHS staff.
- The annual RI Wellness and Recovery Summit is scheduled for May 5th. Information on this virtual even to be sent to group as soon as it becomes available.

XI. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

ON MOTION of Phil Deming, seconded by John Sturm, the meeting adjourned at 5:00pm.

AYES: 17 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 0