



October 7, 2021
Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Meeting Minutes

Temporary Zoom Meeting due to Public Health orders

MEMBERS PRESENT

Che Hernandez, 1st Vice Chair– District 1
Janice Luna Reynoso – District 1
Todd Boyer – District 2
Jim Taylor – District 2
Mike Grattan – District 3
Shannon Jaccard – District 3
Ed Weiner – District 3
John Sturm – District 4
Judith Yates, Chair – District 4
Phil Deming, Member-at-Large – District 5
Richard McGaffigan – District 5

MEMBERS NOT PRESENT

Joel San Juan, District 1
Bill Stewart, 2nd Vice Chair – District 1
James Merino – District 2
Amina Sheik Mohamed – District 4
K.C. Strang – District 5
Nathan Fletcher, Board of Supervisors Chair

STAFF TO THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Luke Bergmann, 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 2:31 p.m. via Zoom. Group welcomed new member Todd Boyer, District 2.

II. CHAIR FLETCHER UPDATES

Stephanie Gioia, Director of Public Policy, Board of Supervisors, District 4

• **North County Behavioral Health Crisis Stabilization Units (CSUs)**

- The Vista Behavioral Health CSU ribbon cutting event was held on September 30, 2021. Located at 550 West Vista Way, Suite 407, Vista, California.
- The Oceanside Behavioral Health CSU is estimated to open early 2022. Located at 1701 Mission Avenue, Oceanside, California.
- These two locations will provide services in the North County to adults/older adults 18 years of age or older, experiencing a mental health or substance use crisis. Services are provided by Exodus Recovery and will be available 7 days per week, 24 hours per day.

- **Gun Violence**, Chair Fletcher and Supervisor Lawson-Remer will introduce policies to prohibit untraceable “ghost guns” in San Diego County, in addition to strengthening safe storage standards. Policy to be brought before the Board of Supervisors on October 19, 2021.

III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES AND ROLL CALL

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Richard McGaffigan, BHAB approved the minutes from September 2, 2021.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 3-Boyer/Taylor/Yates

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

Terra Jennings provided comments on behalf of her peers in START Crisis Houses who were surveyed on the challenges and barriers with behavioral health and homelessness. A full summary will be provided to the BHAB which include ideas for funding and recommendations for immediate action.

Jerry Hall expressed concerns with the lack of feedback to public comment or request for information by BHS staff. In addition, concerns were raised on the lack of stakeholder feedback for items voted by the BHAB.

John Sturm provided comments on the closure of Clubhouses and his concerns with the communication shared with the community regarding the closures.

V. INFORMATIONAL ITEM: PRESENTING THE 2022 SLATE OF OFFICERS

The BHAB Bylaws provide for establishing a Nominating Committee in September of each year. The following BHAB members were appointed to serve on the Nominating Committee: Bill Stewart, John Sturm, and Phillip Deming.

John Sturm came before the board to present the 2022 Executive Officers slate on behalf of the nominating committee:

- Bill Stewart, Chairperson
- John Sturm, 1st Vice Chair
- Phillip Deming, 2nd Vice Chair
- Che Hernandez, Member at Large (representing the alcohol and substance use community)
- Judith Yates, Member at Large (representing the mental health community)

The slate will be voted on November 4th.

VI. ACTION ITEM: AMENDING THE BHAB ORDINANCE AND BYLAWS BOARD LETTER

Judith Yates, Chair, BHAB

The BHAB Ordinance and bylaws were amended to align with language in Assembly Bill (AB) 1352 which further defined the roles of County mental health boards in 2019. Amended Ordinance and bylaws are detailed in Attachments A and A-1; B and B-1. Recommendation to include substance use under BHAB Bylaws, Section A, Duties and Responsibilities.

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Phil Deming, BHAB voted to approve the revisions in the Bylaws as noted and support the authorizations and approvals needed to advance the recommendation in this Board Letter.

AYES: 7 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 3-Boyer/Taylor/Yates

VII. ACTION ITEM: BHAB 2020 ANNUAL REPORT

Judith Yates, Chair, BHAB

The BHAB Annual Report is a requirement of local behavioral health boards/commissions, per State statute. The report is intended to convey information on the work of local behavioral health boards, provide comparisons between each California county, and share best practices. Reports are publicly

available and maintained online by the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions.

On September 22, 2021 BHAB received a draft of the 2020 Annual Report, as compiled by BHS staff with input from the BHAB Chair. Feedback was solicited to be incorporated in the final report. The report was included in the October BHAB packets for approval by the full BHAB.

ON MOTION of John Sturm, seconded by Phil Deming, BHAB voted to approve the publication of the BHAB 2020 Annual Report.

AYES: 6 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 4-Luna-Reynoso/Boyer/Taylor/Yates

VIII. PRESENTATION: CLUBHOUSES

Dr. Piedad Garcia, Deputy Direction Departmental Operations, Behavioral Health Services

As a follow-up to the presentation given to the BHAB Executive Committee in September, Dr. Piedad Garcia addressed concerns with the lack of communication to BHAB prior to the Clubhouse procurement. Following the international Clubhouse standards focused on social skills development, education and workforce development, an internal redesign of the Clubhouses initiated with the intent to introduce evidence-based practices and provide better outcomes for clients.

Guided by the Department of Purchasing and Contracting (DPC) regulations, the Request for Proposal (RFP) process was initiated twelve months prior and following a Source Selection Committee (SSC) process and recommendation, contract was awarded to San Diego NAMI. The RFP provides a 45 day start-up to transition clients. It is acknowledged that this did not provide ample time to communicate the changes to the Clubhouses or clients and note process should be extended to (90) days.

Highlights from today's conversation:

- South Region, currently NAMI is working to engage a realtor to secure a location.
- Central Region, new Clubhouse is Casa del Centro with a secured location on Imperial Avenue.
- Staffing, NAMI interviewing staff from the existing Clubhouses to give an opportunity to transition to the new Clubhouses.
- Member engagement, NAMI and BHS staff is working to engage all existing Clubhouse members and mitigate any issues during this transition. Goal is to increase participation of members with in-person services and continue with virtual services which will give access to members across all regions.
- Transportation, issues will be reported to NAMI promptly. Transportation will not be a barrier for consumers to engage in clubhouses services. Update to be provided at a future meeting.
- Contract monitoring, BHS staff to utilize the Mental Health Outcomes Management System (MHOMs) to track attendance, participation, Clubhouse members, their goals and progress.

Next Steps

- Recommended future presentation to BHAB on DPC functions.
- Dr. Piedad Garcia to return to BHAB for an update on the Clubhouses (i.e., where they are, how many members, in addition to an overview of the international standards. Recommendation to include contractor and client representation).

IX. DISCUSSION: BHAB OCTOBER RETREAT PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Judith Yates, Chair, BHAB

BHAB reviewed the draft BHAB Retreat Agenda and received input on recommended topics for the agenda. A survey will be sent to the BHAB for their top three priorities for 2022.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Luke Bergmann, Director, Behavioral Health Services

- **October Director's Report**, highlights services under the Adult/Older Adult System of Care.
- **Congratulations to Dr. Piedad Garcia**, recognized by the Corporation for Supporting Housing (CSH) for her work on supportive housing, she received the Supportive Housing Champion Award.
- **Harm Reduction**, update to be given at the November BHAB, to include an overall Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) update.
- **CalAIM Community Forum**, held on September 30th with over 200 participants enrolled. Forum provided an overview on Medi-Cal and CalAIM and allowed an opportunity for community feedback. Members encouraged to attend a future forum as they will be held periodically throughout the year.

X. CHAIR'S REPORT

Judith Yates, Chair

- **CalAIM**, periodical updates to be given to the BHAB by Dr. Jennifer Tuteur and Julie Howell. As discussed previously, the County to send a letter of recommendation to the State on CalAIM. BHS Director Bergmann to inquire as to whether or not BHAB is able to provide comments on that recommendation.
- **Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) FY 2021-22 Annual Update**, Chair Yates provided public comment on this item at the October 5, 2021 Board of Supervisor meeting which noted the gains made since 2005 within the behavioral health continuum of care system with the use of MHSA funds. Full comment will be shared with the BHAB.
- **Exemption from Brown Act in-person requirement**, as a follow-up to the notification sent by BHS staff, BHAB will continue to meet virtually. Any changes to this exemption or updates by County Counsel will be communicated promptly to the BHAB.

XII. WORKGROUP UPDATES

Criminal Justice Workgroup, Ed Weiner (District 3) and Richard McGaffigan (District 5)

The following are five specific recommendations by the workgroup: (1) No cash bail for most non-serious crimes (Los Angeles model); (2) Initiate the 988 monitoring system over time based on Federal and State legislation (CAHOOTS model in Eugene Oregon); (3) Shift responsibility for treating mental health prisoners from the Sheriff to HHSA; (4) Data Gathering Ombudsmen in the Chief Executive Office to gather data from various agencies following HIPPA guidelines; and (5) Reduce the adult jail population.

Alcohol and Other Drug Workgroup, Phil Deming (District 5)

Workgroup in the process of preparing report for the upcoming retreat which identifies gaps and weaknesses in our substance use disorder services.

Stakeholder Engagement Workgroup, Janice Luna Reynoso (District 1)

Workgroup's priority is to utilize funding allocated for community outreach by partnering with community-based organizations through a stipend-like allotment for community outreach. In addition, workgroup recommends an update to the current scheduling of board letters, reports, etc., for timely feedback from the BHAB.

XIII. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Meeting of the Minds, annual conference to be held virtually on October 18, 2021. Information will be sent to BHAB via email.

XIV. MEETING ADJOURNMENT

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

AYES: 10 NAYS: 0 ABSTENTIONS: 1-Yates