

Behavioral Health Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, January 19, 2022
 Start Time: 3:00pm
 Adjournment: 4:50pm
 Location: Zoom Video Meeting

Present

Board Members: Chair Kyle Horst, Vice Chair Jacob Boyle, Supervisor Tami Ritter, Lt. Jarrod Agurkis, Toby Dowd

Staff: Scott Kennelly, Holli Drobny, Geoff Davis, Ana Vicuna, Jennifer Stofa, Melody Robinson, Brenda Sallade, Kirk Zeller, Jessica Gilligan, Jessica Wood, Hope Kilby, Lindie Cano, Kim Peoples, Rachel Storkan, Mart Brown, Sarah Frohock, Helena Meyer

Visitors: Kelly Doty, Tonya Fontenot, Lisa Currier, Andrea Wagner, Andrea Mox, Michelle White, Linda Luck, Jim Burfeind, Erna Frieda, Sage, Corla Bertrand, Beth Parsons, Colleen Phipps, Amber Benedict

Absent: Supervisor Debra Lucero

Agenda Item/Issue:	Discussion Summary:	Recommendation/Result/ Action/ Next Step/Person Assigned/Due Date:
1. Call to Order Action Item-Vote to Approve Assembly Bill (AB) 361	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Kyle Horst called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. • Kyle introduced himself as the 2022 Chair, and shared that he is a Professor at CSU, Chico overseeing the therapist intern program. • Geoff Davis confirmed that there is a quorum. • Kyle explained that the purpose of the Resolution is to follow the Brown Act. Kyle further advised that for online meetings, a verbal roll call is required to vote on action items. • Vice Chair Jacob Boyle, Lt. Jarrod Agurkis, Supervisor Tami Ritter, Toby Dowd, and Kyle Horst voted to approve AB 361 for today's meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board unanimously voted to meet online per the AB 361 Resolution.
2. Introductions/ Correspondence /Hand Outs	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle welcomed the Board and audience to introduce themselves. • Handouts were reviewed. • Draft November 17, 2021 minutes were reviewed. • Kyle asked for a motion to approve the draft minutes. Supervisor Tami Ritter put a motion on the floor, Lt. Jarrod Agurkis 	

	<p>seconded the motion.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Via verbal roll call, Jacob Boyle, Lt. Jarrod Agurkis, Supervisor Tami Ritter, Toby Dowd, and Kyle Horst voted to approve the minutes as written. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The November 17, 2021 approved minutes will be posted on the Department’s website.
3. Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle explained the purpose of the Public Comments section, reminding the audience that it is welcome to discuss any agenda items. It was further noted that while public comment has largely been positive in the past, a “person first” protocol should be developed to address issues that could arise (ex., time limitations, etc.). • Sage shared her concerns over the usage of the word “problem” in the REST Innovation Proposal, noting that that word perpetuates the stigma associated with mental illness. • Sage also shared the importance of alternative treatments such as acupuncture and massage as fundamental to a wholistic healing approach advocated by the Community Whole Health Alliance (CWAHA). • Sage also emphasized that the REST Proposal should account for long term stabilization. 	
4. Announcements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No announcements were made. 	
5. Ongoing Business -Review/discuss draft 2022 Strategic Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Horst initiated the discussion of the draft strategic plan by reviewing key changes from previous plans: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Summary of past year’s accomplishments was added. 2. Duties/expectations per the Board’s By-Laws. 3. Meeting organization by theme/topic • Kyle encouraged themes to be discussed and expressed an openness to any suggestions. • MHSA Manager Holli Drobny shared her screen so the Audience could view the draft strategic plan. Holli explained that the purpose of themed meetings is to create a more robust agenda that meshes with current community events such as Mental Health Awareness Month. • Kyle interjected that 2022 will be a “pilot” year for this approach, adding that the 	

<p>-Action Item-vote to approve/adopt the 2022 Strategic Plan</p>	<p>meeting themes suggested in the plan are by no means exhaustive of what could be agendized.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The floor was then opened to discussion. • After general discussion, Supervisor Tami Ritter put a motion on the floor to approve the plan as written; Lt. Agurkis seconded the motion. • Via verbal roll call, Jacob Boyle, Lt. Agurkis, Supervisor Tami Ritter, Toby Dowd, and Kyle Horst voted to approve/adopt the plan as written. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2022 Strategic Plan will be implemented and posted on the Department's website.
<p>6. New Business</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None for this meeting. 	
<p>7. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update for this meeting. 	
<p>8. Consumer Perspectives</p> <p>-Toby Dowd</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toby shared that a major client concern is the impact COVID may have on services, including how clients will be kept apprised on what services/resources will be available during this trying time. • Toby observed that mental health services during the pandemic is a big issue for many families. 	
<p>9. Public Safety Update, Lt. Jarrod Agurkis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lt. Agurkis announced that fentanyl continues to be a major issue on the streets as well as in the County Jail. • Overdose protocol has been utilized numerous times as well as Narcan. • Lt. Agurkis stressed that is important to be cognizant and careful. In the event of possible fentanyl exposure, the first step should always be to call first responders. • Kyle Horst added that monthly jail incarceration data was included in the meeting packet. 	
<p>10. Committee Follow Up</p> <p>-Executive/ Membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle stated that the Strategic Plan was discussed in-depth at the Executive Committee meeting as well as the Board's critical need to fill numerous openings. 	

<p>-Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.)</p> <p>-Performance Review Committee (P.R.C.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle offered to make his contact information available in the Zoom chat for anyone interested in learning more about membership opportunities. • Supervisor Tami Ritter added that membership conflict of interest issues were discussed in detail at the Executive Committee meeting. • It was noted in the discussion that there was some confusion on how a member's employment could represent a conflict of interest issue. • The discussion resulted in agreement that applicants employed by service providers could be considered for membership on condition that they are consumers of mental health services, and that they recuse themselves from voting on any items that would be a conflict of interest. • Kyle added that any conflict of interest concerns could be discussed with prospective members ahead of being presented to the Board for review/approval. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update for this meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHSA Manager Holli Drobny reminded the Board and Audience that the PRC Committee not only reviews contracts, but is also kept apprised of service contract monitoring. • Review of the Passages contract is nearly complete (exit interview is next week), after which information will be shared with the PRC. • Following conclusion of the Passages contract monitoring process, the Department will then initiate a review of the African-American Family Cultural Center. 	
<p>11. Peer Certification Update</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Wagner shared that there will be information-gathering virtual meeting on January 20 for peers in the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) realm. • Andrea provided meeting information in the 	

	<p>Zoom Chat and reminded the Board and Audience that all California Mental Health Services Authority (CALMHSA) upcoming events and meetings are posted on its website.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Final word from the State Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) is pending on whether CalVoices will be approved as a second certifying body (for Peer Certification). Andrea will keep the Board posted on DHCS' decision. 	
<p>12. Presentations -DBH Youth Services Presentation, Ass't. BH Director, Ana Vicuna</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assistant BH Director Ana Vicuna gave an overview of Department Youth Services (ages 0-24). • During the course of the presentation, it was learned that services begin by contacting the Access Line or: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Calls/faxes from community providers or self-referral. ○ Agency referrals ○ Provider transfers • A client can either call the Access line or walk into a clinic for services. • Assessments are done to determine the level of care/need. There are three main levels of care, which were discussed in detail: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mild ○ Moderate ○ Severe • Dependent on the level of care, several care resources are available: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Department clinic ○ School-based ○ MHSA-Intensive Case Management ○ First Episode Psychosis Therapy ○ FSP (Full Service Partnership) • Ana opened the floor to general discussion, noting that the different levels of care/service is complex, and are designed to allow for flexibility between what care is needed and what services resources will be made available • Behavioral Health Director Scott Kennelly added that for youth services, family choice and client preference are major 	

<p>-Wayfinder Youth Family Support Program, Kelly Doty, Tonya Fontenot</p>	<p>considerations when determining who will provide the services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Audience Member Jim Burfiend asked about the status of the new federally-mandated 998 service number. • Ana Vicuna advised that new service number will be discussed at the next Board meeting presentation. • Ana expressed her gratitude to all of contracted service providers, and Kyle thanked Ana for her presentation. • Scott stated that Ana’s presentation will be made available for the Board and Audience members. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonya Fontenot began the presentation by stating that she is excited that Wayfinder/Lilliput’s partnership with Butte Behavioral Health Department. • Lilliput has been providing youth mental health services for 43 years in Northern California, and recently merged with Wayfinder, which has been a major provider of youth mental health services in Southern California for over 10 years. • Services are broken down by two main age groups, 8-13, and 13-24. • Resources available include case management, socialization, and job readiness. • Kelly Doty shared numerous youth success stories that highlighted how youth feedback and empowerment are fundamental to all of the services that Wayfinder-Lilliput provides. • Youth play an active role in the program, choosing different activities and events to participate in. • Socialization is encouraged and developed on many levels in tune with the client’s comfort level and feedback. • Graduation/participation statistics were shared that demonstrated the high level of success experienced by the youth they serve. • Kelly added that in addition to socialization, youth are encouraged to become leaders in their community. • Kelly summed up Wayfinder’s service 	
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	<p>philosophy as “Full on, Full in.”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kelly opened the floor for discussion, which centered on how youth can access Wayfinder services. • It was learned that the Behavioral Health Department refers youth to Wayfinder. • In the course of general discussion, Kelly Doty shared how a transgender youth’s needs and input were valued/respected, which encouraged the youth to feel empowered to contribute even more to their programs. • Andrea Mox offered Stonewall Alliance’s services, and Kelly Doty welcomed Andrea to share Stonewall’s contact information. • Kyle Horst praised Wayfinder’s pro-socialization treatment approach, and thanked Kelly and Tonya for their comprehensive presentation. 	
<p>13. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee</p> <p>Community Program Planning and Input Process</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holli announced that the Steering Committee Chair wasn’t able to attend today’s meeting. • Holli noted that the Committee is accepting applications, and shared her screen to review the MHSA website. • The website features access to all MHSA programs (including outcome and expenditure data), upcoming events and calendars as well the Steering Committee application. • Information related to upcoming Community Input Meetings was shared. • Holli emphasized the importance of community input, highlighting how the website allows easy access to complete MHSA surveys to provide input. • The website also allows users to be added to the MHSA e-mail list to stay informed on MHSA developments. 	
<p>14. MHSA Update, Holli Drobny, MHSA Manager</p> <p>-Public Hearing for the Resiliency, Empowerment Support Team (REST) Innovation</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The REST Innovation Proposal stems from three years of stakeholder and community input. • The Department formed a workgroup to articulate an innovative way to address a 	

<p>Proposal</p> <p>-Action Item-vote to recommend the REST Innovation Proposal to the Butte County Board of Supervisors</p>	<p>primary community problem.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• MHSA Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSAOAC) input was utilized.• A 30-Day Public Hearing began on December 20, ending on January 20.• Public Comments are still being reviewed, with 29 e-mails supporting of the Proposal already processed.• Holli opened the floor for discussion.• Andrea Wagner stated that she is excited that the Department is actively listening to the peer perspective, which includes calling for more peer education.• Andrea shared her concern that there needs to be an equal ratio of peers and counselors.• Jim Burfeind added access to services is critical for families.• Holli thanked everyone for their comments.• Colleen Phipps, NAMI Butte County President, stated that she is very excited about the REST Proposal. <p>Prior to the floor being opened for a motion to recommend the REST Proposal to the Butte County Board of Supervisors, Holli advised the Board of the following to insure transparency:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ A “deeper dive” into the feedback provided will be taken to insure all input is addressed; the Board could vote to recommend to the BOS on the condition of being advised of any changes to demonstrate due diligence.○ Allow a week or two to incorporate any outstanding input prior to being submitted to the BOS for review at its 02/22 meeting.○ Share the updated REST Proposal to the Board at its February 16 meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Kyle stated his support for recommending the REST Proposal to the BOS under the conditions Holli detailed.• Scott Kennelly advised that most feedback on the Proposal has been overwhelmingly positive, noting the great feedback from the community.• Scott further explained that a lot of eyes are on this project, and could be replicated	
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	<p>elsewhere if it's successful in Butte County.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holli took a moment to thank Amber Benedict for her work as the Everhart Program Manager. • Holli explained that the goal is to start the REST program on July 1; if approved by the BOS, the next step would be to get the Proposal on the MHSOAC agenda. • Kyle opened the floor for a motion to recommend the REST Proposal under the conditions outlined above. • Lt. Agurkis put a motion on the floor to recommend; Toby Dowd seconded the motion. • Via verbal roll call, Jacob Boyle, Lt. Agurkis, Toby Dowd, and Kyle Horst voted to recommend the REST Proposal to the BOS (Supervisor Tami Ritter was not available to vote due to having to leave the meeting early). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The REST Innovation Proposal will be submitted to the BOS for review/approval; Holli will present the updated proposal at the February 16 regular meeting.
<p>15. Director's Report, Scott Kennelly, Director</p> <p>COVID</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Since January, 32 Department staff have tested positive, and many have been exposed. • 4-6 staff have been testing positive per day, which has wreaked havoc on service delivery. • The Omicron variant is highly contagious, and it isn't always known how the staff member was exposed and/or infected. • Service delivery is being re-evaluated, with a focus on minimizing face-to-face services whenever possible. • Requests for face-to-face services will be honored, utilizing appropriate safety protocols. • The recent surge has impacted both line staff and supervisors/managers. • The Department requests "grace and patience" during this trying time. • Scott noted his appreciation for staff still providing services. • The Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) had to shut down to new referrals, and is adjusting 	

<p>Behavioral Health Infrastructure Program</p>	<p>as necessary.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The program, which will provide funding for much needed infrastructure statewide, is coming to fruition. • A Request for Proposals (RFP) will be issued by the state at the end of January, and will be due in April. • The Department is preparing to propose regional facilities for youth and adult. • Scott cautioned that this is going to be a highly competitive grant; it is hoped that a regional approach will prioritize the Department's proposals. • \$2.2 billion is available statewide. 	
<p>California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (CalAIM)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scott announced that with CalAIM, homeless outreach services are now reimbursable. • The Department is working with other agencies (ex., Department of Employment and Social Services) to serve three populations under CalAIM: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mentally Ill Homeless ○ Severely Mentally Ill ○ High Service Utilizers • Scott advised that collaborating and providing these services will be a complex process. 	
<p>BMX Site</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The BMX Site will be opening soon now that the lawsuit has been settled with the utilization of pallet shelters (177 total, with some having double occupancy). • Opening the BMX site is required before the camping ordinance can be enforced. • Behavioral Health and Department of Employment and Social Services is committed to assisting residents of the BMX facility and those who will be affected by the enforcement of the camping ordinance as appropriate. • A contracted provider is anticipated to be selected soon who will oversee the BMX Site. 	
<p>Creekside Place</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Creekside Place will provide housing for older adult mentally ill consumers, and construction is well underway. 	

<p>Prevention Unit</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creekside Place is anticipated to be open later this year. • The Department's Prevention Unit has opened a much-needed Wellness Center at the Paradise High School thanks to a North Valley Community Foundation Grant. • It was noted that providing services early on reduces the likelihood of future mental health and/or substance use disorder issues in adulthood. • General discussion on shelter/service needs in foothill communities was discussed; during the course of conversation, Scott shared information on the Butte County Community Service Center located at 7200 Skyway Paradise. • The Service Center houses Behavioral Health, DESS, and other departments to provide services in the foothill/ridge area. • Scott added that there is an outreach team at the Magalia Substation to further enhance service access to outlying areas such as Magalia and Stirling City. 	
<p>16. Public Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None for this section. 	
<p>17. Adjournment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Horst adjourned the meeting at 4:50pm, after encouraging Board members to attend the February 3 Executive Committee and reminding everyone of the February Access to Care/CalAim-themed regular meeting. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Behavioral Health Board will conduct its next meeting on Wednesday, February 16, 2022 at 3:00pm. The Executive Committee will conduct its next meeting on Thursday, February 3, 2022 at 11:00.