

Behavioral Health Board Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, April 20, 2022
 Start Time: 3:00pm
 Adjournment: 5:00pm
 Location: Zoom Video Meeting

Present

Board Members: Chair Kyle Horst, Vice Chair Jacob Boyle, Supervisor Tami Ritter, Toby Dowd
Staff: Scott Kennelly, Holli Drobny, Geoff Davis, Jennifer Stofa, Kelly Marinello, Lindie Cano, Dr. Marcel Green, Brenda Mullenix, Kimberly Peoples, Helena Meyer, Kirk Zeller, Caitlyn Zepeda, Hope Kilby, Lillyanna Barajas-Meadows, Sarah Frohock, Melody Robinson, Brenda Sallade, Jessica Gilligan, Suzanne Rindlisbacher

Visitors: Salvador Ventura, Sage, Colleen Phipps, Danny Medina, Isabell Mahurin, Andrea Mox, Denise Peterson, Corla Bertrand, Bruce Baldwin, Paul Hahn, Isaac Garcia, Kevin Thompson, Danny Medina

Absent: Lt. Jarrod Agurkis, 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. • Geoff Davis confirmed that there is a quorum. • Kyle explained the purpose of the Resolution and asked for a motion to approve. • Supervisor Tammi Ritter put a motion on the floor to approve, seconded by Toby Dowd; approved unanimously by verbal roll call. 	<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. 	
3. Public Comments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle explained the purpose of the Public Comments section, noting that time has been set aside for general comments. • Public comments specific to an agenda item should be given at the time that item is being addressed by the Board. • Salvador Ventura asked about when in-person meetings would resume, citing the opening of several other venues to in-person participation. • Kyle thanked Salvador making a good point, noting one of the benefits of online meeting is increased public access. • Kyle added that in-person meetings or a 	

	<p>possible hybridized in-person/on-line meeting approach will be discussed at the May 5 Executive Committee meeting.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-person/online meeting format will be a discussion item on the May 5 Executive Committee agenda.
<p>4. Announcements</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle announced Geoff Davis' departure as the Board's Secretary and took a moment to recognize Geoff's years of service on the Board. • Geoff Davis stated it was an honor and pleasure to serve as the Board's Secretary. • Kyle also announced that meeting packets are now being distributed electronically. • Geoff added that the Department will make hard copy packets available upon request. • Behavioral Health Director Scott Kennelly advised that a solar flare has impacted cell phone access, which may impact attendance at today's meeting. 	
<p>5. New Business</p> <p>-Discussion on Kimberly Pemberton (Johnson)'s Consumer Representative Application</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle observed that it was good to be able to discuss and vote on a new member at today's meeting, and took a moment to encourage audience members to get the word out on Board membership opportunities. • Board membership applications are available on the Department's website. • Audience member Isaac Garcia expressed interest in a Peer Support Specialist position with the Department as well as Board membership. • Kyle asked Isaac to put his e-mail in the chat so an application could be e-mailed. • Supervisor Tami Ritter noted that the Board actually won't be discussing Kimberly Pemberton (Johnson)'s application as it was part of the meeting packet. • Geoff Davis explained the intent was to discuss Kimberly's qualifications for membership, adding that the future agenda items could be worded more concisely. • Vice Chair Jacob Boyle stated that Kimberly wants to put her lived experience to use as a Board member. • Kyle added that Kimberly has both a personal and professional interest in serving on the Board, stating that he is happy to have her share her perspectives as a member. 	

<p>-Action Item-vote to recommend Kimberly Pemberton (Johnson) to the Board of Supervisors for Consumer Representative membership</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor Tami Ritter put a motion on the floor to recommend Kimberly to the Board of Supervisors to fill a Consumer Representative position; Toby Dowd seconded the motion. • The Board unanimously voted to recommend Kimberly Pemberton (Johnson) to the Board of Supervisors to fill a Consumer Representative position. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kimberly Johnson's Consumer Representative Application will be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for approval.
<p>6. National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)-Colleen Phipps, NAMI President</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NAMI will be having its first general meeting since Fall, 2019, tomorrow, 04/21 at 6:30 via Zoom. • NAMI's hosting of a scheduled Town Hall meeting or NAMI Northern California in May is being posted; updates will be posted on their website. 	
<p>7. Consumer Perspectives -Toby Dowd</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Toby stated that he is looking forward to the Pallet Shelter Update presentation. • Toby thanked Kevin Thompson, who is in attendance at today's meeting, for his service to the community's mentally ill population. 	
<p>8. Public Safety Update, Lt. Jarrod Agurkis</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No update at today's meeting due to Lt. Jarrod Agurkis' absence. 	
<p>9. Committee Follow Up -Executive</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle advised that the Executive Committee met on April 7 to form today's meeting agenda. • The Committee also discussed the Public Comments agenda items in addition to considering adding a break period for the regular meeting. • Supervisor Tami Ritter brought the March, 2022 Incarceration Data Report to the Board and Audience's attention, asking if Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Manager Holli Drobny or BH Director Scott Kennelly, could review in Lt. Agurkis' absence. • Holli shared the report on her screen as Scott reviewed highlights of the report: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 14% of the 696 Butte County Jail inmates for March, are Behavioral Health Department clients. 	

<p>-Membership</p> <p>-Crisis Intervention Team (C.I.T.)</p> <p>-Performance Review Committee (P.R.C.)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Even distribution amongst clients between mental health, substance use disorder (SUD) and crisis services. ○ Client incarceration has ebbed and flowed, with a recent increase last month. ● Scott reported that the Department has a Jail Liaison clinician who refers clients to contracted Jail provider, Well Path. ● Well Path mental health services are available to all incarcerated clients, and participation is entirely voluntary and provided solely by Well Path. ● Dale Yang is the primary clinician, with other clinicians available as back up. ● Kyle asked if the Incarceration Report is available online, to which Holli affirmed that all meeting handouts are available online. ● Geoff Davis confirmed that there are no new applications on file. ● No update for today's meeting. ● No update for today's meeting. 	
<p>10. Peer Certification Update</p> <p>-Andrea Wagner</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Andrea provided a link to the California Mental Health Services Authority (CALMHSA)'s website in the chat. ● Andrea advised that there are five new documents (policies and procedures, analyses of implementation process) posted on the CALMHSA's website. ● Scholarships are available from the Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) on a one-time basis for peer certification, with 5,000 available statewide. ● The Community Whole Health Alliance (CWhA) is partnering with the California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations (CAMPHRO) in May to provide online trainings on grandparenting peer certification for those already working as peers since January; announcements on trainings 	

	<p>dates will be forthcoming.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Additional information on peer support trainings and peer and Medi-Cal peer certification billing codes have also been posted online. • The Peer Certification Exam will be prepared by an outside agency; it was further explained that the trainings will have to be revised to correspond with the exam. • Andrea took a moment to introduce Danny Medina, who is coordinating Superior Region trainings. 	
<p>11. Presentations</p> <p>-Chico In-Patient Facility Smoking Cessation Policy, Kelly Marinello, In-Patient Program Manager</p> <p>-Discussion on Board support of the In-Patient Facility Smoking Cessation Policy</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-Patient Program Manager Kelly Marinello gave a comprehensive presentation on the In-Patient's transition to becoming a non-smoking facility. • Prior to her presentation, Kelly gave an overview of her 15 years of service, which began at the Department's Crisis Services programs. Kelly concluded her overview by stating that she is proud to provide services to a special population. • California has 32 In-Patient Units, of which 27 are already non-smoking facilities. • The average stay at the In-Patient Unit is 7.11 days. • The presentation included data on: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In-Patient intensive services ○ Health hazards of smoking ○ Benefits of quitting ○ Benefits of a smoke-free facility ○ Smoking cessation planning process and timeline (June 1, 2022) ○ Transition process ○ Smoking alternatives/support ○ Doctor letter of support • During the course of the presentation, Supervisor Tami Ritter asked about what kind of smoking cessation support would be provided, which Kelly explained consisted of medication options and counseling resources, including phone app options. • Salvador Ventura began by stating this had been discussed by the Board five years ago, adding that it is beyond question that smoking 	

	<p>cessation in general is good.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Salvador expressed his concerns about smoking cessation in an in-patient setting where the average stay of a client is approximately seven days, with the concern being that smoking cessation at that point would adversely impact the client's sense of stability.• Salvador elaborated that smoking cessation should be pursued once the client has achieved a level of stability and begins or resumes receiving services on an out-patient basis.• The Board opted to not support the smoking cessation transition five years ago for the reasons stated above in addition to research that concluded nicotine helps clients stabilize.• Vice Chair Jacob Boyles asked Kelly Marinello about the different smoking cessation phone apps.• Kelly explained that there are several apps available, that staff will sit down with the client to help determine which one would work best, adding that support resources are personal for each client.• Bruce Baldwin shared that he attended the smoking cessation five years ago that Salvador referenced.• Bruce noted that 85% of in-patient units are smoke free without any dire results for the clients served there, adding that being smoke free is "the way of the world."• Bruce cited a 2020 report that supports smoke-free facilities and referenced the never-ending cycle of addiction.• Bruce expressed his gratitude for being able to provide assistance on this issue, noting that he himself was able to stop smoking.• Andrea Wagner applauded the Department's move towards a smoke-free In-Patient facility, adding that she hopes this will spread to other facilities such as the Iversen Center.• NAMI President Colleen Phipps cautioned that smoking cessation for clients spending three days in an in-patient setting could be a dangerous thing given the medications being prescribed.• Kelly Marinello addressed Colleen's concerns, explaining that a medical doctor visits each	
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client daily, and that there is 24/7 nursing staff at the facility.

- In-Patient psychiatrist Dr. Marcel Green provided an in-depth explanation on how doctors monitor for objective signs, further noting that in-patient hospitalization can become a catalyst for change.
- Kyle asked about e-cigarettes as an alternative, to which Kelly explained that due to the hazardous nature of e-cigarettes, that those are already not allowed at the facility.
- Discussion then focused on the need for continuity of smoking cessation support after release from the in-patient unit.
- Scott Kennelly expressed his support for continuing smoking cessation on an out-patient basis.
- Supervisor Tami Ritter asked how the Board's proposed support of smoking cessation could be worded since the agenda item is specifically for the in-patient unit.
- Scott interjected that the policy is for the in-patient unit, but that out-patient will support those who want to go nicotine free.
- Tami stated that she felt that smoking cessation should be part of the client's discharge plan, noting that the current proposed plan is more "PHF-centric" than "Out-Patient-centric."
- Assistant BH Director Jennifer Stofa added that a 30-day supply of medication is provided to discharged clients.
- Jennifer further stated that support is already being provided, but that consistency and continuity needs to be emphasized, and to treat smoking cessation on a dual-diagnosis basis.
- Scott Kennelly announced that welcomes collaboration with out-patient programs toward smoking cessation.
- Tami observed that is being considered for approval for the PHF could be considered for out-patient facilities at a future meeting.
- Toby Dowd thanked Kelly Marinello for her presentation.
- Kyle thanked everyone for their input, and Tami Ritter made a point to share that she understands Salvador Ventura's point of view, noting that she did research ahead of the

<p>-Action Item- vote on supporting the In-Patient Facility Smoking Cessation Policy</p>	<p>meeting before deciding to support the policy.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervisor Tami Ritter put a motion on the floor to support the In-Patient’s smoking cessation policy; Toby Dowd seconded the motion. The Board unanimously voted to support the In-Patient’s smoking cessation policy via verbal roll call. 	
<p>-Pallet Shelter Update -Paul Hahn, City of Chico Interim City Manager</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Interim City Manager Paul Hahn gave an extensive overview of the Pallet Shelter’s status: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Possibly within days of opening ○ Details are being worked out with the plaintiff ○ Facility is 99% ready ○ Jesus Center staff are in the process of moving their staff in. ○ Behavioral Health Department and the Department of Employment and Social Services (DESS) has been great in their collaborative efforts with agencies such as the Jesus Center and Torres Shelter (among others). ○ The Shelter will begin with a “soft opening” • Paul welcomed questions, and Kyle Horst thanked him for presenting on short notice. • Andrea Wagner expressed her concerns about mentally ill homeless being coerced into living at the Shelter. • Paul emphasized that the Shelter is entirely voluntary. • Outreach staff, including staff from the Behavioral Health Department, will be offering the Pallet Shelter as an option, among others, that are available. • The Shelter is not intended to be the only solution to the homeless issue, it is one component, and it will be up to the entire community to continue to work on solutions. • Tami Ritter asked when case managers can be expected to be hired. • Paul responded that it has been a challenge to find qualified case managers, and that City of Chico is working with the Jesus Center. • Additional discussion ensued with active participation by Board members and the audience. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Throughout the discussion, it was reiterated that living at the Shelter is voluntary, and that the many options and resources will be presented to homeless individuals. • It was also discussed that the City of Chico will be working towards the gradual enforcement of camping ordinances. • Towards the end of the discussion, Kyle extended an invitation to Paul for City of Chico staff to attend Board meetings as they are an excellent forum to address issues and dispel any misunderstandings of the evolving situation. • Paul stated that he is happy to work with Scott Kennelly, and Scott thanked Paul for taking the time to present at today's meeting. 	
12. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Steering Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHSA Manager Holli Drobny stated that there is no update for today's meeting, and asked the Board to remove the Steering Committee as an agenda item for future meetings. 	
13. MHSA Update, Holli Drobny, MHSA Manager Annual Update Resiliency, Empowerment Support Team (REST) Innovative Proposal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Annual Update 30 Day Public Comment Period is in process, and ends on May 16. • This is the third year of the current three-year plan; the focus will soon be on getting ready for the next three-year plan planning process. • The current Annual Update is available online; Holli shared her screen to review the MHSA website. • Selecting the "MHSA Info" button gives comprehensive access to MHSA overviews, budgets, updates, community input and more. • Holli focused on page 8 of the Program and Budget Summary to highlight the data available for public perusal. • Holli asked the Board to agendize the Public Hearing at its May 18 meeting as a formal opportunity to receive additional community and Board input on the Annual Update. • The REST Proposal will go before the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Committee for review/approval at 10:00 on April 28. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Annual Plan Update Public Hearing will be a New Business Agenda item for the May 18 meeting.

<p>May is Mental Health Month</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Holli shared the link to the meeting in the chat. • The Department will give a five-minute presentation consisting of five slides, and will have 15 minutes to answer any questions. • Stakeholders and Department staff will be present, and Holli welcomed Board and audience attendance. • The Oversight and Accountability Commission will give its decision at the meeting, there won't be a wait period to find out if they will approve the proposal. • 13 letters of support have been received, including from the City of Chico, Chico Police Department, Butte County Sheriff's Office, Jesus Center and the Torres Shelter. • Scott Kennelly praised Holli and her team for their hard work, and thanked everyone for their input on the proposal. • Holli announced that May is Mental Health Month. • A Community Event Calendar will be posted featuring May is Mental Health Month events; Holli welcomed events to be submitted for posting on the calendar. 	
<p>14. Director's Report, Scott Kennelly, Behavioral Health Director</p> <p>Budget</p> <p>Class/Comp Study</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Budget Season is in process, and the Department has already submitted its initial Fiscal Year 22/23 budget to the Board of Supervisors. • Last minute updates to the initial budget include 18 sunset positions (fixed term) and 13 regular help, full time positions. • Scott will be explaining to the Board of Supervisors that the full-time positions aren't growth positions, they are regulatory necessity positions to meet State and Federal regulatory requirements (ex., Network Adequacy mandate). • The Class/Comp Study is still in process, with unions working with the County on classification and salary details. 	

<p>Loan Repayment and Stipend Program</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • \$5K to \$10K available yearly depending on what education track the employee is in. • The program is intended to help with staff longevity and retention. • New incentives are in in process that are designed to attract new staff and interns. • Scott noted that he is looking forward to having a fuller workforce. • Loan repayment and stipend applications are available on the Department’s website. 	
<p>1st Amendment Groups</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1st Amendment groups videotape lobbies of public agencies and thrive on conflict. • Staff have been educated on how to respond and signage is in place to safeguard client confidentiality. • The Department hasn’t yet experienced any 1st Amendment encounters; Scott wanted to advise the Board on a precautionary basis. 	
<p>Infrastructure</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department is limited on how many grants it may apply for, so it is focused on two grants that would allow for the redesign and expansion of Chico Youth Services and Oroville Adult Services as “one stop shop” centers, similar in concept to the Chico Adult Services location at 560 Cohasset Rd. 	
<p>Crisis Residential</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Department is working with the new provider to open the Bellavista Crisis Residential facility. • The facility is ready to open upon State approval; Scott has been reaching out to the State at increasingly higher levels to expedite the approval. • Scott reiterated that the facility is ready, and staff have been hired, all that is required is for the State to approve. 	
<p>Triennial Review</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Triennial Review will be held via Zoom May 3-May 5. • The Triennial Review involves chart auditing, interviewing staff and clients and identifying areas of improvement. • Scott cautioned that there may be delays in hearing back from Department staff as “al hands are on deck” to focus on Triennial requirements. 	

<p>Psychiatric Residential Program</p> <p>Community Outreach</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The initial hospital partnership did not go through; the Department is now working with the Chico-based Veteran’s Administration and Sutter Yuba Mental Health on getting accredited. • Upon accreditation, the first four psychiatric resident doctors will begin providing services on an in-patient and out-patient basis starting in 2024. • Scott is giving educational presentations throughout the County (ex., Chico City Council). • The Department is preparing for North and South Campus gatherings as an open forum for questions and suggestions. • Scott explained that these gatherings will be a good opportunity to receive community input. 	
<p>15. Public Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andrea Wagner gave additional CAMHPRO updates, including an announcement on the upcoming Statewide Conference on June 13 and 14th. • CAMHPRO events and updates are available online: CAMHPRO Mental Health Peer Support Organization • An audience member shared her personal experience with mental health services and her success at becoming and staying tobacco-free. 	
<p>16. Adjournment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Kyle Horst adjourned the meeting at 5:00pm. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Behavioral Health Board will conduct its next meeting on Wednesday, May 18 at 3:00pm. The Executive Committee will conduct its next meeting on Thursday, May 5, 2022 at 11:00.