

Behavioral Health Board Minutes
San Luis Obispo County
February 15, 2023
3:00p.m.

Members Present:

Barbara Levenson
Pam Zweifel
Marshall Hamilton
Supervisor Jimmy Paulding
Mary Bianchi
Andres Pille (CenCal)
Melissa Cummins
Amber Gallagher
Dana Ready Hunt
Tom Milder (for Robert Reyes)
Rose Fowler-Plummer
Johnny Rodriguez
Seth Stabinsky (Sherriff's office)

Health Agency Staff Present:

Anne Robin
Laura Zarate
Nick Drews

Members Absent:

Eulalia Apolinar
Joseph Kurtzman
Chris Emert

Guests:

Leslie Brown
Donna Klein
Hugo Balcazar
Jon Nibbio
Jill Rietjens
Jill Bolster-White
Lynda Kaufman
Susan Benaron
Amanda Sherlock
Frank Warren
Gina Forgette

1. **Barbara Levenson called meeting to order @ 3:04 pm.**
2. **Introductions and Announcements:**
 - Round table introductions.
3. **Public Comments:**
 - None
4. **Approval on Minutes:** Minutes from January 18, 2023.
M/S/C: Marshall Hamilton/ Melissa Cummins Abstain: None
5. **Ongoing Business:**
 - Bi-annual by-law review update: Melissa Cummins and Pam Zweifel volunteered to review the bi-annual by-laws. This copy of the bylaws was executed on May 20, 2020, and was approved and signed by Supervisor Lynn Compton September 1, 2020.

- Melissa provided several revision recommendations. Anne Robin offered to meet with the subcommittee to review and prepare a draft for the board to consider. This was agreed upon.
 - March BHB meeting in-person:
 - Due to the ending of the public health emergency the Brown Act flexibility for virtual meetings has changed. A quorum of the Board must meet in person, and members may have up to two excused absences from in-person meeting per year. There may be additional changes to the new regulation later this year.
 - The option of meeting at St. Stephen's Church has been eliminated.
 - The March 15 meeting will be convened at 2180 Johnson Ave in the Library conference room. BH will continue to look for alternative locations (such as the AG auditorium or Vets Hall) for more space.
- 6. Vote on New Members:** Three new individuals, Hugo Balcazar, Donna Klein, and Leslie Brown have applied for membership and have met all requirements.
- 7. M/S Mary Bianchi and Melissa Cummins- All three unanimously approved to move forward to Board of Supervisors.** BH will request this item to be approved at the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 21, 2023.
- 8. New Business:**
- Memberships renewals due for reappointment on June 30, 2023.
 - Pam Zweifel
 - Marshall Hamilton
 - Mary Bianchi
 - Ian Parkinson
 - Johnny Rodriguez
 - This is to notify members that they are due for renewal and gives them the opportunity to appoint someone new to take their place on the Board. Anyone that is not able to continue and does not have an alternative must let the Board know so that they are aware. The Board will be voting on these members in April. Any questions or concerns can be directed to Mary Bianchi or Pam Zweifel.
 - There are two new applicants that are going through the application process and interview process, Susan Benaron and Amanda Sherlock.
- 9. Membership Committee - Update:**
- Mary Bianchi reminded everyone that the BHB likes to have application on file for all members of the Board. For those who are representing agencies, it's a different process for their participation because they are acting as a representative of their agency. It is up to the agency who they decide to appoint. It is important to still have applications in for these participants so that we know what the time frame is, contact information, and to know a little bit about these individuals. We do ask that the alternatives have an application on file as well.

10. Committee Representatives – Update:

- AD HOC site visit: Last meeting the sites that were discussed were the Family Health Care Network, Martha's Place, MET (Mental Health Evaluation Team), and to learn more about substance use disorder. These site visits will get us through June. Other site ideas can be sent to Anne Robin, Laura Zarate, or Christy Haney. Volunteers for the MHET site visit are Mary Bianchi, Melissa Cummins, Pam Zweifel and Rose Fowler Plummer. Those who decide to volunteer after today's meeting can get in contact by email.
- Jail BHU visit: This location for a site visit and tour did not work out for a number of reasons. Sgt. Josh Pintor will be working with those who would like to participate in a tour in the upcoming weeks. Barbara Levenson will be the point of contact in working to establish a date with Sgt. Pintor. Those who have questions and are not able attend can send them to Barbara Levenson to be sure they get addressed. Some volunteers included Joseph Kurtzman and Melissa Cummins. This tour will be limited to 10 participants. If there are more than 10 that are interested, a second tour can be scheduled later this year. It is important that a list of participants is developed beforehand to get jail clearance.
- MHSA Advisory Committee update from Pam Zweifel: Members made recommendations on how to spend Prop 63 funds which was passed in 2004, Mental Health Services Act. This funding comes through a millionaire's tax. Areas in our community that are funded include community services and supports, prevention and early intervention, innovation, workforce education and training, and capital facilities technological needs The January 20, 2023, meeting, funding recommendations included an increase from 3% to 5% for CalMHSA Prevention and Early Intervention activities for the next three years. It was recommended that funding be increased for suicide prevention activities, and a program manager to provide county wide coordination for the SAFE system of care. The goals for the SAFE system of care including reducing the number of children requiring out of home care, reduce recidivism in probation involved youth, to improve school attendance and to stabilize the child in the home. SAFE is funded by probation and the department of Social Services. During our current year, funds will be decreasing by 11%. In subsequent years they will jump back up to where they were and possible even exceed those funds.

11. Member current subject of interest: Tom Milder (Probation alternative)

- Tom shared that he has been with the Probation Department for 26 years. He currently holds the position of Assistant Chief Probation Officer, second in command to Robert Reyes. He also shared his personal interest in the Board and concerns that were important to him.

12. Administrator's Report

- The BH Administrator gave a brief summary of potential impacts from the Governor's January Budget proposal.
 - i. Slight increase in 1991 Realignment Funds
 - ii. Slight increase in MHSA funds (one time)

- iii. Additional impacts anticipated due to the Cal AIM payment reform structure starting July 1

Upcoming: 90-day medi-cal eligible in-reach to the jail, which will allow for additional services and coordination of care to inmates who are eligible for medi-cal. This will begin in April 2024.

- MHSA update from Frank Warren:
 - All spending and program decisions go through a community planning process.
 - The additional funds that MHSA will have available this year will only be available for up to three years.
 - The County will reduce the MHSA operating reserve from 80-90% to closer to 50% of a year's operating expense.
 - Proposal the MHSA have a sub-committee of fiscal experts to help make decisions for the funds that will become available through this process, and would like to have a BHB member on that committee.
- BH Recruitments: The Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Program Manager is posted.
 - Medical Director, Dr. Daisy Ilano, will retire as of July 14 and her position will be posted in the next few weeks.
 - Behavioral Health Administrator position will also be posted in the next few weeks. The BHB will be included in interview process for the BH Administrator as required by code.

13. Presentation: Youth Services Site Visit- Dana Hunt

- Dana and team reported on their site visit to the SLO Youth Mental Health site. Report can be found here: I:\Admin-Fiscal\BOS Items\Behavioral Health Board \AD-HOC Committee

14. Adjourn at 5:01PM: Pam Zweifel/ Amber Gallagher