



**MENDOCINO COUNTY BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
REGULAR MEETING**

MINUTES

**May 20, 2020
1:00 – 3:00 PM**

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://mendocinocounty.zoom.us/j/93116002544>

Meeting ID: 931 1600 2544

To join by phone:

1 (669) 900-9128 or 1 (346) 248-7799

Meeting ID: 931 1600 2544

Chairperson
Michelle Rich

Vice Chair
Meeka Ferretta

Secretary
Dina Ortiz

Treasurer
Richard Towle

BOS Supervisor
Carre Brown

1ST DISTRICT:

DENISE GORNY
LOIS LOCKART
RICHARD TOWLE

2ND DISTRICT:

DINA ORTIZ
MICHELLE RICH
SERGIO FUENTES

3RD DISTRICT:

MEEKA FERRETTA
AMY BUCKINGHAM
VACANT

4TH DISTRICT:

EMILY STRACHAN
LYNN FINLEY
VACANT

5TH DISTRICT:

MARTIN MARTINEZ
FLINDA BEHRINGER
VACANT

OUR MISSION: *"To be committed to consumers, their families, and the delivery of quality care with the goals of recovery, human dignity, and the opportunity for individuals to meet their full potential."*

Item	Agenda Item / Description	Action
1. 5 minutes	<p>Call to Order, Roll Call & Quorum Notice, Approve Agenda:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meeting called to order by Chair Rich at 1:02 PM. Quorum met Members present: Behringer, Ferretta, Finley, Fuentes, Gorny, Lockart, Martinez, Strachan, Towle, and Supervisors' Brown and Haschak. Agenda approved. 	<p>Board Action: Motion made by Chair Rich, seconded by Member Lockart to approve agenda and move BHRS Director's Report before item 4. Motion passed.</p>
2. 5 minutes	<p>Minutes of the April 15, 2020 BHAB Regular Meeting: <i>Review and possible board action.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minutes approved as written. 	<p>Board Action: Motion made by Vice Chair Ferretta, seconded by Member Strachan to approve the April 15, 2020 BHAB minutes as written. Motion passed.</p>

<p>3. 10 minutes (Maximum)</p>	<p>Public Comments: <i>Members of the public wishing to make comments to the BHAB will be recognized at this time. Any additional comments will have to be provided through email to bhboard@mendocinocounty.org.</i></p> <p>A. Supervisor Brown shared that a Proclamation was passed by the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors (BOS) recognizing May 2020 as Mental Health Awareness month in Mendocino County.</p> <p>I. Supervisor Brown also shared that at yesterday’s BOS meeting, the BOS directed that a letter be written in support of the need for realignment funding.</p> <p>B. Supervisor Haschak commented he is very appreciative of all the work the BHAB is doing in Behavioral Health.</p> <p>C. Camille Schraeder commented she has been on numerous phone calls regarding financial cuts both around innovation and realignment funds. She would like Supervisor Brown to forward the resolution the BOS voted on.</p> <p>I. Supervisor Brown informed it will be a letter that will be written, she will make sure Camille receives a copy, and will forward any other information. She commented it is important for the Governor, assembly member Jim Wood, and Senator McGuire to receive letters in support.</p>	<p>Board Action:</p>
<p>4. 30 minutes</p>	<p>Measure B Discussion and Possible Action:</p> <p>A. Process of Communication</p> <p>I. The BHAB needs to identify a process of communication, so that Vice Chair Ferretta can represent this Board as best as possible on the Measure B Committee.</p> <p>II. Chair Rich suggested that the BHAB receive the Measure B meeting agenda prior to each meeting to review any items that may need this board’s feedback.</p> <p>III. Discussion on authorizing Member Ferretta to call an Executive Committee meeting if there is a topic on the Measure B agenda that may need the BHAB’s input.</p> <p>B. Prudent Reserve</p> <p>I. The Measure B Committee will be going in front of the BOS at the June 23rd meeting in regards to establishing a Measure B prudent reserve. The prudent reserve is money set aside for unforeseen expenses, financial cuts, or in case a pandemic like COVID-19 happens again, to sustain any services covered by Measure B dollars.</p> <p>II. Discussion on whether the BHAB wants to support and send a letter to the BOS in support of the prudent reserve.</p> <p>a. The BHAB supports the prudent reserve, but agreed it is not the right time to move forward with it at this time. The Board wants to move forward at the</p>	<p>Board Action:</p> <p>Motion made by Member Strachan, seconded by Member Fuentes to authorize Vice Chair Ferretta to call an Executive Committee meeting after the Measure B meeting agenda is made if there is a topic that requires BHAB feedback or recommendations. Motion passed unanimously.</p>

	<p>appropriate time, and with the appropriate safeguards in place to ensure that it is used for Measure B purposes.</p> <p>C. Service Gap Analysis</p> <p>I. The BHAB formed an Ad Hoc Committee last month to review the service gap analysis. The committee is conformed of Members Towle, Strachan, Lockart, and Vice Chair Ferretta.</p> <p>II. The Measure B Committee requested that the BHAB provide an assessment of the service gaps in the system of care.</p> <p>a. The board agreed to put together a PowerPoint presentation summarizing the information already gathered to suffice this request.</p> <p>D. Discussion on the Measure B item brought in front of the BOS meeting yesterday about hiring their own staff support.</p> <p>I. BHRS Director Miller explained that Measure B's request to the BOS was to hire a .25 Staff Assistant, one full time Department Analyst, and to move the Measure B Project Manager position under the appropriate budget. Alyson Bailey, the Measure B Project Manager, is now being supervised by BHRS Director Miller.</p> <p>a. The BOS agreed to hire a .25 Staff Assistant; the agreement would be to assign .25 of a current full time BHRS employee's time to Measure B, and the remaining .75 to BHRS.</p> <p>b. This item will be going on the consent calendar at the next BOS meeting for final approval.</p>	<p>Agenda item to be included at next month's BHAB meeting to get the presentation approved to present to the Measure B committee.</p>
<p>5. 15 minutes</p>	<p>Mendocino County Report: <i>Jenine Miller, BHRS Director</i></p> <p>A. Director Report Questions</p> <p>I. Director report included in agenda packet.</p> <p>II. BHRS Director Miller shared an estimate of the financial cuts that are expected for Behavioral Health for the next 3-4 years based on the Governor's May Revise, where information was provided on how State budgets will be revised. This estimate is susceptible to change depending on impacts from COVID-19. This is an impact on both realignment and MHSA dollars.</p> <p>III. BHRS is looking at reducing all MHSA contracts by 15 percent, and Specialty Mental Health contracts are expected to be reduced by at least 5 percent. BHRS is also being affected by these financial cuts; positions are being reduced as well as working with contractors to try to get within budget.</p> <p>IV. BHRS Director Miller shared there is possible movement at State level to advocate to potentially move MHSA dollars around to stabilize the system. This would potentially allow the flexibility of innovation funds.</p> <p>a. BHRS Director Miller shared she's been working to look at every option there is, how to move around</p>	<p>Board Action:</p>

	<p>dollars, and how the system will be impacted. She is hopeful they will come up with a great solution by looking at all the different things that can be done in order to stabilize the system. She stated the letter of support from the BOS is extremely important to not lose those realignment dollars.</p> <p>V. Vice Chair Ferretta asked what the BHAB can do to support the BOS in order to try and keep the realignment funding. Supervisor Brown commented she will send information with links to BHRS Director Miller, to be forwarded to all Board Members, so Board Members can submit individual or organization letters.</p> <p>VI. Supervisor Brown commented Board members can also call the Senator, Governor, and Assembly Members' offices to advocate and voice their support.</p> <p>VII. BHRS Director Miller clarified that these financial cuts will impact multiple programs in Mendocino County, not just Behavioral Health MHSA.</p> <p>B. COVID-19 Services Update</p> <p>I. The Warm Line still up and running, the extra support to have someone to talk to has been very beneficial to the community during this time.</p>	
<p>6. 10 minutes</p>	<p>RQMC Report:</p> <p>A. Data Dashboard Questions - Included in agenda packet.</p> <p>B. COVID-19 Services Update</p> <p>I. Camille commented there are various endeavors happening right now to urge the State to return to 2018/19 realignment.</p> <p>II. Camille commented she wrote a letter to the budget committee.</p> <p>III. Camille commented she thinks some of the MHSA financial cuts being considered are reasonable, but that reducing the MHSA Adult system of care by 15 percent is not.</p> <p>IV. Camille urges everyone to listen in to the next assembly meeting next week and make phone calls to advocate.</p> <p>V. Discussion on the specific metrics asked for by Supervisor Williams from RQMC, Camille stated they were not instructed to get specific metrics, he wanted data from the County but did not specify exactly what data.</p>	<p>Board Action:</p>
<p>7. 15 Minutes</p>	<p>Member Comments:</p> <p>A. Member Strachan reported on the Membership Committee. The BHAB received a resume from a candidate but have not heard back from the candidate. Member Strachan will continue to recruit for the fourth district.</p> <p>B. Vice Chair Ferretta appreciates the feedback from the Board</p>	<p>Board Action:</p>

	<p>Members, and will work on making a priority list and getting the most important stuff done.</p> <p>C. Member Lockart invited the Board members to participate in the “Be the Healing” workshop by Dr. Joy DeGruy being offered tomorrow from 3:30 – 5:00 PM via Zoom.</p> <p>D. Discussion on more time being dedicated for Measure B items and updates on the BHAB agenda.</p>	
<p>8. 15 Minutes</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Round Valley Innovation Crisis Response: Extension Request: <i>Public Hearing and possible board action.</i></p> <p>A. This Innovation proposal will be going before the Oversight and Accountability Commission for permission to extend these funds. This is a project that was approved for 3 years in October 2017, but there was a delay. BHRS is requesting a 2 year extension on this project. Have made significant progress, however because of some of the delays with implementation and turnover with staff in Round Valley, BHRS is not as far along as they would have liked. This extension request extends the timeline by about 18 months and allows for time to do the evaluation project.</p> <p>I. Questions and comments will be answered formally in writing in final document that goes in front of the BOS.</p> <p>B. Formal public hearing comments:</p> <p>I. John Wetzler is wondering if this is the same exact project that was originally outlined 3 years ago.</p> <p>II. Member Ferretta supports the extension of this timeline, and would like to see it continue to be funded.</p> <p>III. Public comment hearing closed.</p>	<p>Board Action:</p>
<p>9. 15 Minutes</p>	<p>Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Tech for Trauma Innovation Project Plan: <i>Public Hearing and possible board action.</i></p> <p>A. This innovation project is intended to be expended with reversion dollars. This project looks at using technology to increase access of services for young adults and older teens. A high rate of trauma, post-traumatic stress disorder, and other trauma related diagnosis have been identified in young adult age categories. There is a lot of resistance in owning a diagnosis of mentally ill related to stigma in this age category. This project will use various technology applications for Mental Health services to see how it might increase access to services among transition age youth (TAY). If this project is successful amongst this age group, it would be extended to other age groups. Some of the applications being considered are: virtual reality, mindfulness practices, relaxation techniques, exposure therapy, etc. that might be able to be done as a virtual concept.</p>	<p>Board Action:</p>


	<p>I. Member Lockart commented on lack of personal contact this project would cause.</p> <p>II. Member Behringer asked if clients will be provided equipment to make this work. Karen stated that the proposal pre-COVID originally intended to have computers with VR devices that could be used at various different service sites. COVID-19 social distancing requirements could affect the ability to access these devices; BHRS will work with providers to determine the best way to handle all of this.</p> <p>B. Formal public hearing comments:</p> <p>I. Chair Rich thinks that the internet connectivity is an access barrier in our County. This project could create additional barriers and the ability to cover gaps and services normally done with human interaction.</p> <p>II. Member Ferretta commented she supports this innovation project as it is tech savvy and anything that can be done to engage youth in services is beneficial.</p> <p>III. Member Lockart asked how reliable the tech program is, and what company manufactures it.</p> <p>IV. Member Towle shared that the Ukiah Library offers free Virtual Reality for members of the public wishing to experience this technology the third Saturday of the month from 1:00 – 3:00 PM.</p> <p>V. Camille Schraeder commented she thinks this project is a good idea. The idea of technology applications for TAY is significantly important as there is benefit from texting, etc.</p> <p>VI. Member Behringer commented her concern is if there is going to be something written about this project if it is approved because it seems like more information is needed.</p> <p>C. The Tech for Trauma Innovation project was approved by the BHAB in the Mental Health Annual Update, but the project definitions were much smaller, and this is the full project.</p>	<p>Motion made by Member Finley, seconded by Member Fuentes to approve the full details of the MHSA Tech for Trauma Innovation Project Plan. Motion passed unanimously.</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Adjournment: 3:10 PM</p> <p>Next meeting: June 17, 2020</p>	<p>Motion made by Member Strachan, seconded by Vice Chair Ferretta to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.</p>

AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COMPLIANCE

The Mendocino County Behavioral Health Advisory Board complies with ADA requirements and upon request will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting material available in appropriate alternative formats (pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.2). Anyone requiring reasonable accommodations to participate in the meeting should contact the Mendocino County Behavioral Health Administrative Office by calling (707) 472-2355 at least five days prior to the meeting.

BHAB CONTACT INFORMATION: PHONE: (707) 472-2355 FAX: (707) 472-2788

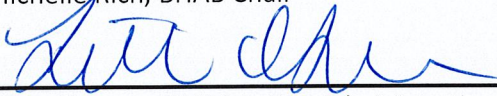
EMAIL THE BOARD: bhboard@mendocinocounty.org WEBSITE: www.mendocinocounty.org/bhab



Michelle Rich, BHAB Chair

7-6-2020

Date:



Lilian Chavoya, BHRS Acting Administrative Secretary

7-13-20

Date: