



**MENDOCINO COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

REGULAR MEETING

MINUTES

**February 23, 2022
10:00 AM – 12:30 PM**

Chairperson
Michelle Rich

Vice Chair
Flinda Behringer

Secretary
Jo Bradley

Treasurer
Richard Towle

BOS Supervisor
Mo Mulheren

1ST DISTRICT: DENISE GORNY LOIS LOCKART RICHARD TOWLE	2ND DISTRICT: MICHELLE RICH SERGIO FUENTES VACANT	3RD DISTRICT: MILLS MATHESON JEFF SHIPP LARANN HENDERSON	4TH DISTRICT: JULIA EAGLES VACANT VACANT	5TH DISTRICT: FLINDA BEHRINGER JO BRADLEY MARTIN MARTINEZ
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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."*

	Agenda Item / Description	Action
1. 3 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 10:03 AM. ○ Board members present: Behringer, Bradley, Fuentes, Gorny, Lockart, Martinez, Matheson, Shipp, Towle, and Chair Rich. ○ Absent by prior arrangement: Eagles and Henderson ○ Quorum met. ○ Agenda approved as presented. 	<p>Board Action: Motion made by Member Gorny, seconded by Member Fuentes, to approve the agenda as presented. Motion passes unanimously.</p>
2. 2 minutes	<p>Approval of Minutes from the January 26, 2022 BHAB Regular Meeting: Review and Possible Board Action.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Minutes approved as presented. 	<p>Board Action: Motion made by Member Gorny, seconded by Member Martinez, to approve the 1/26/2022 BHAB minutes as presented. Motion passes with 7 approvals and 3 abstentions (Matheson, Martinez, and Shipp).</p>
3. 10 minutes (Maximum)	<p>Public Comments: <i>Members of the public wishing to make comments to the BHAB will be recognized at this time. Any additional comments can be provided through</i></p>	<p>Board Action: None.</p>

	<p>email to bhboard@mendocinocounty.org.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Tiffany Carter: Advocacy Liaison with Access California of Program of Cal Voices. Here to invite the board and community, and stakeholders to the Superior Region workshops they will be holding in upcoming months. The first one is on March 23rd; it is a cross collaboration workshop that focuses on highlighting the stories for recovery from individuals with experience in Behavioral Health and criminal justice. Tiffany will forward the workshops information via email to the board. ○ Jo Silva: Would like more flyers around town so the community has information on how to access mental health services more readily available. 	
<p>4. 5 minutes</p>	<p>A. Resolution Authorizing Remote Behavioral Health Advisory Board Meetings: <i>Discussion and Possible Board Action.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The board agreed to meet via Zoom for the March meeting. 	<p>Board Action: Motion made by Member Bradley, seconded by Member Gorny to approve the remoted meeting resolution for the March BHAB meeting. Motion</p>
<p>5. 20 minutes</p>	<p>Board & Committee Reports: <i>Discussion and Possible Board Action.</i></p> <p>A. Chair – <i>Michelle Rich</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 2021 BHAB Annual Report <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Chair Rich shared a draft of the 2021 BHAB annual report. The board reviewed and provided feedback. - Final report will be brought to next meeting. ○ 2022 BHAB Calendar/Meetings <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Suggestion to keep the same meeting dates (4th Wednesday of the month), and do Zoom meetings on days when Measure B meetings are scheduled. 2022 BHAB meetings will be a mix of in person and remote meetings. Meeting times will vary depending on meeting location. - Discussion on possible locations throughout the county to hold meetings in 2022. - BHRS staff will work on finalizing a schedule and bring back to next meeting for approval. <p>B. Vice Chair – <i>Flinda Behringer</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1/24 Stepping Up meeting report: Member Behringer reports the meeting is always very well attended. Jenine mentioned changes to a map they are working on, will refer to this board to review once it is complete. BHRS, ACT, and UPD are working on creating an alert system to figure out where clients should go before they end up in jail. Community assertive treatment is in the process. Mobile crisis response is now available 7 days a week, currently recruiting for a third team member for the coast. <p>C. Secretary – <i>Jo Bradley</i></p>	<p>Board Action: None.</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. <p>D. Treasurer – <i>Richard Towle</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expenses to date update. Reminder to submit any mileage expenses to Lili for processing. <p>E. Advocacy & Legislation Committee – <i>Member Bradley, Chair Rich</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. <p>F. Appreciation Committee – <i>Member Fuentes & Martinez</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. <p>G. Contracts Committee – <i>Member Fuentes, Vice Chair Eagles, Chair Rich</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. <p>H. Membership Committee – <i>Member Behringer, Bradley, Eagles, Gorny, & Chair Rich</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. <p>I. Site Visit Committee - <i>Member Behringer, Fuentes, Martinez, & Towle</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No report. 	
<p>6. 15 minutes</p>	<p>2022 BHAB Ad Hoc Committees: Board Discussion and Possible Action. The 2022 BHAB Ad Hoc Committees for 2022 will be as follows:</p> <p>A. Advocacy and Legislation Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jo Bradley and Michelle Rich <p>B. Appreciation Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Martin Martinez and Sergio Fuentes <p>C. Contracts Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Julia Eagles, Sergio Fuentes, Michelle Rich, and Mills Matheson <p>D. Data Notebook</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Michelle Rich and Mills Matheson <p>E. Membership Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Denise Gorny, Flinda Behringer, Jo Bradley, Julia Eagles, and Michelle Rich <p>F. Site Visit Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Flinda Behringer, Martin Martinez, Richard Towle, and Sergio Fuentes <p>G. Public Comment Follow Up Committee</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Jeff Shipp and Martin Martinez <p>○ Ad Hoc committees will meet over the next month and provide an update at next month’s meeting.</p>	<p>Board Action: Motion made by Member Bradley, seconded by Member Behringer to approve the 2022 Ad Hoc committees as presented. Motion passes unanimously.</p>
<p>7. 20 minutes</p>	<p>Areas of Interest and Possible Site Visits for 2022: Discussion and Possible Board Action.</p> <p>○ Discussion and feedback on areas/topics of interest and sites the board would like to visit in 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - PHF regular updates - CRT regular updates - Site visit suggestion: Willow Terrace 	<p>Board Action: None.</p>
<p>8. 5 minutes</p>	<p>Mendocino County Report: Jenine Miller, BHRS Director</p> <p>A. Director Report Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Agenda included in agenda update. <p>B. Brief update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - BHRS is working with law enforcement and other county partners 	<p>Board Action: None.</p>

	<p>to create an alert system in Mendocino County. It is a new program, there is no funding for it, but there is a plan to start it as a small pilot project. Coordination and collaboration will be huge to making this a success.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CRT: almost done with licensing. Couple of minor things pending. The facility should be receiving its license any day now and will be able to start operating as soon as that happens. - BHRS continues to apply for different grants. Trying to create a mental health diversion program in Mendocino County. It is currently unfunded and it falls under the attorneys to help clients, so BHRS wants to create a more successful model. Recently submitted a grant application for a mentorship program in Mendocino County. This grant would allow to pay stipends for interns, and the interns would be able to rotate through various agencies. - BHRS received the EQRO audit draft report, will share the final version with the board once it is received. - Triennial audit: BHRS has been working on this massive State audit that happens every 3 years the last few weeks. The audit is scheduled for April 5 & 6, 2022. - Suicide awareness campaign: BHRS is working with NAMI on this campaign, if any board members would like to volunteer they are welcome to reach out to NAMI. Started the campaign to bring education to the community. Yard signs were created and NAMI has been getting those out to the community. Looking for peer models to get more peer involvement. Also working on 2 potential innovation projects with the Native community. - Manzanita Wellness Center community member comments: Suggestion for a jail advocate to help those in need get services when they are released from jail. Issues with accessing services through the Native communities. - Public comment follow up ad hoc committee will follow up. 	
<p>9. 5 minutes</p>	<p>RQMC Report: <i>Camille Schraeder, Redwood Quality Management Company</i></p> <p>A. Data Dashboard Questions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Not provided in agenda. Will provide once it is completed. <p>B. Brief Update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RQMC has been busy working with BHRS on the triennial audit. - Providers continue getting and handling referrals. - Discussion about how to better take care of clients when they leave the jail. Crisis tries to do a warm hand off to a provider, but it depends what time they are being let out. - Getting response in the work force, although there are still numerous vacancies. 	<p>Board Action: None.</p>
<p>10. 15 minutes</p>	<p>Children’s System of Care: <i>Board Discussion and Possible Action.</i></p> <p>A. Ad Hoc Committee Formation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conversation regarding how the board can obtain more information on the mental health services currently being provided at local schools. There are various options including forming an ad hoc 	<p>Board Action: None.</p>

	<p>committee, doing site visits, or inviting guest speakers to BHAB meetings.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Camille will provide a report on the services available as well as current grants currently in the works. - Suggestion to invite UUSD Superintendents to a future meeting. - The board will not create an Ad Hoc committee at this time, but will invite speakers and request reports throughout the year. 	
<p>11. 15 Minutes</p>	<p>Felony Restoration: <i>Discussion and Possible Board Action.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - John Wetzler joined the meeting to present on this item. - Jail felony restoration program update: Naphcare currently does their own felony restoration program. J Holden has been working with the county to do misdemeanors but that will come to an end soon. For anyone sentenced as of January 1, 2022 there is a whole new process. A competency program for the misdemeanor program was started by J Holden 6-8 years ago, but that will be coming to an end due to misdemeanor law changes. The new process will be either mental health diversion, AOT, or LPS conservatorship. Once a person is declared incompetent to stand trial, judges will now decide if they qualify for MH diversion, AOT, or make a recommendation to determine LPS conservatorship. - Mr. Wetzler’s report regarding his daughter, her history, and a CA State Supreme Court finding that addresses the problems in the jails: - A copy of a letter from California Assemblymember Jim Wood to Mr. Wetzler is included in the agenda packet. - Mr. Wetzler shared that his daughter lived a normal life until 27 years old, then was diagnosed with schizophrenia. She ended up in jail and was determined to be incompetent to stand trial. Mr. Wetzler’s daughter was remanded to a state hospital in Napa, but there was not a bed available. She spent 125 days in county jail as there were no beds available. Was released to a bed in Napa, when she came out of hospitalization, she was doing very well. 4.5 months later she stopped taking her meds and is currently back right to where she started. She has refused any mental health services available to her. - CA State Supreme Court decision issued a ruling that states that holding a defendant in local county jails that have been deemed incompetent to stand trial is a cruel and unusual punishment, thus unconstitutional. These defendants usually spend months incarcerated often in solitary confinement separated from jail population awaiting a bed in the state hospital system. - Mr. Wetzler’s suggestion is to increase the number of beds in the state hospital system because they do a great job. He encourages the board and community to write a letter to state representatives and start a campaign regarding the need for more psychiatric beds in state hospitals. - Camille Schraeder: if jail entry reason is street drugs, should be dealt as a co-occurring disorder. When severely mentally ill clients stop taking meds, we need some barrier to force/coerce/strongly recommend that they get help through psychiatry, med support etc. 	<p>Board Action: None.</p>

	<p>They should not be released freely without first being connected to services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Before the board writes a letter, they would like additional information before taking action. 	
<p>12. 15 Minutes</p>	<p>Crisis Update Regarding Out of County Clients: <i>Discussion and Possible Board Action.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sarah Livingston joined the board to provide an update on crisis. - Sarah reports that since COVID crisis has become much more diversible. They are responding more and more to sister agencies and clinics as well as law enforcement. - Jan. 16 – Feb. 16 had 202 calls, 39 of those calls were law enforcement. - Crisis meets with the jail and jail discharge planner every Monday to identify individuals that need support upon discharge. They also identify those that will more than likely need a crisis intervention upon release. Those individuals are flagged and when they are released, crisis is contacted. Crisis responds to the jail, they try to do it earlier in the day to connect them to appropriate services. They also arrange that medications are accessible upon release with the jail. - Out of county contacts: About 6-8 people/month from Lake County come to Mendocino County to access services. Some of the challenges and reports they are hearing from parents and citizens that they do not have services in their county. So they are coming to the Ukiah hospital to receive help. While it is not a lot of individuals, it is quite time consuming and has a huge financial impact. - Camille Schraeder: Camille will be requesting to the BH Lake County Director to allow RCS, who has a contract for services in Lake County, to provider crisis intervention services to Lake County residents and bill for the service, as this is a significant issue. Camille comments counties need to be able to take care of their residents. - Short Doyle is what is required if an individual is going to be placed in psychiatric facility and cannot guarantee insurance or they do not have insurance. In these instances, Mendocino County writes and signs a letter assuring Mendocino County will pay for that hospitalization cost (guaranteeing payment) if it is the only way for the individual to get treated even if they are not a Mendocino County resident. Medi-Cal reimbursement is not guaranteed and in many instances, Mendocino County does not get reimbursed for the realignment share of cost. - RQMC will provide a report of the numbers so the board can have a better understanding of the financial impact this has on Mendocino County. 	<p>Board Action: None.</p>
<p>13. 15 Minutes</p>	<p>Follow Up on CalAIM and Services to the Mild to Moderate: <i>Discussion and Possible Board Action.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tabled. 	<p>Board Action: None.</p>

14. 3 Minutes	Member Comments: - Member Martinez thinks this year will be very productive and is very appreciative of all board members who continue to show up and do work.	Board Action: None.
15. 2 minutes	Adjournment: 12:41 PM	Board Action: Motion made by Member Martinez, seconded by Member Bradley to adjourn the meeting.

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

<i>Michelle Rich</i>	5/19/2022
Michelle Rich, BHAB Chair	Date
<i>Lilian Chavoya</i>	5/19/2022
Lili Chavoya, BHRS Program Specialist I	Date