



**KERN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Draft for approval

Monday, October 26, 2020
5:30 p.m.
Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Via Microsoft TEAMS

BOARD MEMBERS:

Charles Collom
Deborah Fabos
Doug Jauch
Fawn Dessy
Jean Lockhart (absent)

Jeff Burdick
Kate Tandy
Richard Hofferd
Nicole Villaruz (absent)
Bill Walker

Stephanie Hermeston
Traco Matthews
Sonia Silva

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rachel Mehia, Turning Point
Robyn Garcia, Clinica Sierra Vista
Amber Smith, BBHH
Lorre A Webb, CSUB

Marissa Treviso, Clinica Sierra Vista
Jaime Contreras, Turning Point
Mary Sawyer, Portfolio Properties
David Kessler, KCSO

Rachelle Ramirez, Telecare
Katie Sons, TAASK
Jim Wheeler, FLOOD

KernBHRS

Alison Burrowes
Lesleigh Davis
Stacy Kuwahara
Tonya Mann
Rhonda Barnhard

Shannon Tolar
Connie Hanson
Jessica Armstrong
Andrea Flores for Mitchall Patel
Christina Rajlal

1. Welcome and Introductions:
 - Dr. Kate Tandy welcomed all in attendance and provided self-instructions.
2. Establish Quorum: 10 present 2 absent; quorum established.
3. Approval of Draft September 28, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes: MOTION by Jeff Burdick and seconded by Doug Burdick to approve September 28, 2020 regular meeting minutes.
APPROVED ALL AYES.
4. Presentation by:
Rhonda Barnhard, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services, Homelessness, No Place Like Home. Rhonda gave a PowerPoint presentation answered boards questions and comments.
5. Public Comment: None
6. Unfinished Business: None
7. New Business: None



8. Chair Report – Dr. Kate Tandy –

- Presentation of the New Behavioral Health Board Executive Committee Slate of Officers:
 - Kate shared that she had the opportunity to visit the city's new Homeless Navigation Center and encouraged everyone to go out and visit. Great addition to our community.
 - Kate presented the new slate of officers and opened it up for nominations from the board:
 - Chair – Charles Collom
 - 1st Vice Chair – Sonia Silva
 - 2nd Vice Chair – Stephanie Hermeston
 - Parliamentarian – recommended David Kessler
 - Richard Hofferd was also recommended to assist if needed for his previous experience and service on the board.
 - This slate will be presented in the November board meeting to vote on.
 - Kate addressed the board and asked for any nominations from the floor. Hearing no nominations from the floor Kate advised that this slate will be presented at the November meeting.
- Director Recruitment:
 - Regarding the director recruitment Kate shared that nominations to replace Bill have been in motion for several weeks. Last month a committee was established to assist in the process. The recruitment is now in the hands of the Board of Supervisors.
 - Kate reminded the board that the Behavioral Health Board is an advisory to the Board of Supervisors who will make the final selection.
 - Deborah Fabos addressed the board and read a letter on Fawn Dessy's behalf who is not able to be present due to issues with power.
 - Fawn's letter states that she objects to the way Bill's recruitment was handled and feels that the board was not given the opportunity to function as the law intended. Fawn is asking the board to review the Welfare and Institution Code 5604.2 as the code relates to the choice of a new director.
 - Kate thanked Deborah for reading the letter.

9. Administrative Services Report – Alison Burrowers, Deputy Director

- Alison shared some updates from her Acute Care plan. One of the things they are working on is focusing on additional housing opportunities that are being discharged from hospitals or locked facility for some of the individuals that maybe on community conservatorship who have acute needs in the community.
- Alison is looking to increase in house adult residential housing facilities for more onsite service and looking at ways to WRAP around with our own staffing and other placement opportunities.
- Alison shared a collaboration with BHRS and the Bakersfield American Indian Health Project. Alison is in the process of finalizing an MOU that will outline the process of referrals between both agencies.
- The Bakersfield American Indian Health Project has also been every heavily involved in our Cultural Competency Committee and participating in a lot of outreach efforts with the organization.
- In our Substance Use Disorder (SUD) area Alison is looking at more ways to get more immediate services to individuals who are seeking substance use disorder services.
- One of the challenges Alison has come across is unless an individual is open to a treatment system in SUD, we cannot bill medical for the services. We have put in place early on assessments through our Gateway and have a Gateway phone system for easy access to initial screenings and an initial assessment. This will allow us to put a treatment plan in place and case management services that will help people get that initial linkage. These assessments will provide access to both mental health and substance abuse.

- In Kern Linkage we are getting ready to implement an Individual Placement Support Program this is an evidence-based program for employment. We are also working with the K population over in our Children's services division. More updates to come.
- We continue to work closely with Parole and our partners over at Turning Point to transition individuals from the Acute ISMIP (Integrated Services for Mentally Ill Parolees) Program over into our service system as this program will be losing its funding at the end of the year.
- Alison spoke briefly on the opening new City Navigation Center. BHRS has staff onboard at the center five days a week to provide onsite behavioral health service.
- We are in the process of intensifying our street outreach. We want to provide more immediate behavioral health street outreach to the homeless. We continue to partner with FLOOD in the street outreach portion to see how we can provide more intensive services, engagement, and linkage to those individuals in the streets. Alison will continue to inform the board as she moves forward with this project.

10. Administrative Services Report – Stacy Kuwahara, Deputy Director

- **Date Notebook – Lesleigh Davis**
 - Lesleigh shared the PowerPoint on the Data Notebook Overview addressed board questions and comments.
 - Lesleigh will present the final version of the Data Notebook at the November Behavioral Health Board meeting.

11. KernBHRS Department Report – Bill Walker, Director

- Bill spoke on a meeting he had with the county on budgeting. There is a potential that the county will transfer 10% of realignment funds.
- The county will start looking at our funding sequences for the whole county beginning next year to determine whether or not they will be moving some of our finances.
- ACA Medical will soon come under scrutiny at the federal level. ACA medical is a huge funder to our system. Bill has given the board reports on the impact of our allocations from Mental Health services dollars and realignment dollars that all come from tax revenues.
- Bill gave kudos to BHRS staff and our clients as we try to navigate both sides and try to provide services to make the best use of our resources knowing that our dollars are reducing.
- Bill shared that on November 10th Bill and Robin will be going to the board of supervisors seeking the authority to finance the building of two Psychiatric Health facilities. One will be a sixteen-bed adolescence facility and the other will be 16 additional adult beds.
- This week Bill will have his Strategic Planning with the California Behavioral Director's Association. Some of the topics being covered are children's service systems both with the Department of Human Services, the children they serve, school-based services and how to determine which children need services based on their underlying trauma. Other topics covered will be social equity, crisis system service and other key areas as we prepare for the new waivers. The new state waiver plans have been pushed back further into the fiscal year due to COVID.
- This will be Bill's second to last meeting before his retirement. Bill encouraged the new members to email Patricia if they heard something, they are wanting more information on or an area of interest. Patricia will forward those emails onto to Bill.
- Bill reminded everyone that our next meeting will be the 23rd of November the Monday before Thanksgiving. This will be the last meeting for Bill and other members who will be terming out at the end of the year. Bill is hoping to dedicate a fair amount of time to those board members who have sat on the board for a long period of time to share some last words. Bill will also give his last address to the board that has done such a great job.

12. Board Member Item:

- Richard addressed that board and shared his appreciation for Bill and his staff for all their hard work and dedication to the board.
- Traco addressed the board and thanked Bill for all his years of service. Traco asked if a new director has already been appointed based on the letter that was read?
- Bill responded that no one has been selected. The board of supervisors traditionally interviews selected candidates in close session. The board of supervisors have determined that November 10th is the date that they will interview four candidates. The board will likely make a decision on November 17th unless no candidate is chosen at that time the position will then reopen.

13. Public Announcements: NONE

MOTION by Charles Hofferd to adjourn the meeting Seconded by Charles Collom. Next regular meeting November 23, 2020, VIA Microsoft Teams

APPROVED ALL AYES; adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Items Distributed

Behavioral Health Board Agenda

Minutes from September 28, 2020

Behavioral Health Services PowerPoint Presentation, Rhonda Barnhard, No Place Like Home

Data Notebook Preview, Lesleigh Davis, Behavioral Health and Recovery Services