



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

Draft for approval

Monday, July 27, 2020

5:30 p.m.

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services

Via Microsoft TEAMS

BOARD MEMBERS:

Charles Collom (excused)
Deborah Fabos (excused)
Doug Jauch (excused)
Fawn Dessy (absent)

Jean Lockhart (absent)
Jeff Burdick
Kate Tandy
Richard Hoffer

Nicole Villaruz
Sonia Silva
Bill Walker

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rachel Mehia, Turning Point
Robyn Garcia, Clinica Sierra Vista

Marissa Treviso, Clinica Sierra Vista

Rachelle Ramirez, Telecare

KernBHRS

Alison Burrowes
Lynn Corse
Robin Taylor
Shannon Tolar

Christina Rajlal
Heather Hornibrook
Lesleigh Davis
Stacy Kuwahara

Mitchall Patel
Liz Brown
Tonya Mann

1. Welcome and Introductions: Dr. Kate Tandy, Chair welcomed all in attendance. Board members provided self-introductions.
2. Establish Quorum: 6 present 2 absent 3 excused; quorum established.
3. Approval of Draft June 22, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes: MOTION by Richard Hoffard and seconded by Jeff Burdick to approve June 22, 2020 regular meeting minutes.
APPROVED ALL AYES.
4. Public Comment: None
5. Unfinished Business:
 - 2019 BHB Annual Report –
 - Bill shared that this year due to COVID BHRS will be submitting an abbreviated updated report.
6. New Business - None
7. Chair Report – Dr. Kate Tandy
 - Kate shared that she will chair the committee for the director recruitment, replacement of Bill Walker. If you would like to be on that committee please contact Kate Tandy and cc Patricia Rodriguez and Liz Brown, HR Manager.



- Kate needs someone to chair the SQIC committee since Clarence Cryer's resigned and took on a new position. The SQIC committee meets on Mondays from 4pm-5pm before the Behavioral Health Board meeting.
- Richard Hofferd is interested in chairing the committee with guidance from Kate Tandy. Kate will follow up with Richard as will Lesleigh Davis and Stacy Kuwahara.
- Kate will be the only person left on the BHB Executive Committee. If anyone would be interested in joining the committee please contact Kate Tandy, Bill Walker or Patricia Rodriguez.
- Recruitment for the new board members is underway.

8. Specialty Clinical Services Deputy Director's Report – Robin Taylor

- Robin looked at the full fiscal year flow data and shared that it was consistent across the board with little to no impact because of COVID.
- Crisis walk-in clinic has remained consistent as well as the mobile evaluation and PEC.
- The teams are using PPE and taking all the safety precautions when meeting with clients who need specialty services and care.
- For Children's System of Care, they continue to provide services. Outpatient services has gone virtual. Teams will still go out to the homes or do face to face in the clinic if someone is in crisis.
- There has been a decrease in results from schools since school has been down however there has been an increase in referrals from Pediatricians and referrals for kids under five.
- The supervisor from our System of Care is in the process of meeting with the schools to work out the referral process and develop that partnership.
- Positive feedback was received regarding our Children's services that are being conducted virtually this is something BHRS will continue as many of our clients prefer this method.
- For our Youth Wrap Around who support our crisis will do work with our inpatient services, psychiatric evaluation center and our mobile evaluation team and emergency rooms to support our youth in crisis, they are still doing some face to face and following the same guidelines as our crisis services division.
- For our SQ RTP's we have three that are pending approval.
- MHSA first Stakeholder meeting of the fiscal year will be Thursday. Invitations will go out soon.
- Our Department Support Division is working on our Cultural Competency Annual Plan to include our department improvement goals to imbed Cultural Competency in our department and our community.
- Tonya Mann spoke on the crisis hotline and how they continue providing services in our community.

9. Administrative Services Report – Stacy Kuwahara, Deputy Director

- Stacy shared updates on the budget. Final budget was submitted to the CAO's office Friday.
- Ongoing adjustment and edits on budget will continue throughout the year as we move forward and evaluate on how the department is doing.
- BHRS received 3.7 million in realignment backfill.
- Significant cuts were made to our MHSA, AB109 and realignment funding.
- We are working on getting our MHSA budget down to 55 million.
- For MHSA and our realignment, the way we are looking at making reductions is by holding staff vacancies looking closely at our spending and our contract reductions.
- For our AB109 which is impacting our correctional mental health program we received 384,000 dollars back in the realignment backfill. Our plan is add positions back in for this program.
- Stacy is tracking all our clients and staff who have tested positive. There has been an increase in staff testing positive for COVID. It has been determined that staff is being exposed while at home.

10. Adult Clinical Services Report– Alison Burrowes, Deputy Director

- Alison spoke how we are still operating under the DOC and emergency planning.
- Last month a client survey was conducted, and it was determined that consumers were missing the face to face contact with staff, transportation was still an issue and privacy in the home while receiving services was a concern. We are addressing these issues and are trying to come up with ways to make the experiences more comfortable and integrate the information that we received from the consumers as we continue to expand our services.
- We have moved some services to in person services (with the use of PPE and social distancing) and opened some of our clinics that were previously closed.
- Under the DOC BHRS is working on a Tech Grant to support services under COVID and purchase IPADS so we can provide services and offer online platforms to consumers.
- We are looking at acute care planning and alternative to long term care placement.
- We are in the process of taking on some ISMIP consumers and familiarizing ourselves with the population while Turning Point is operational and can use their support. We are in the process of doing some problem solving and setting up a service structure as we move forward.
- We have the chronic psychosis work group whose primary focus is improving training for staff around treatment for psychosis. We are also focusing on hospital discharge protocols and adding additional support for family members through the discharge process.
- In a couple of weeks, we will be starting a training/internship program with the Center for Gender Diversity.
- We continue to work with the staff at the low barrier shelter which has been a very successful collaboration.
- We are partnering with Mercy Health who will be running the city navigation center.
- We are trying to expand and increase the access for the existing shelters here in town. We recently had a training with the Mission on de-escalation techniques, engagement and how to better access our services.
- We had 17 of our housing providers linked to the current Cares Program so they were able to secure funding for PPE.
- Our Consumer Family Learning Center is continuing with their virtual group.
- The Recovery Supports Administration is offering free Yoga classes that are held through the White Wolf Wellness foundation. These classes are offered on demand.
- Next month there will be a presentation on No Place Like Home by Rhonda Barnhard. Rhonda will be speaking on the project and the outcomes of the services through Flood Ministries and Green Gardens.

11. KernBHRS Department Report – Bill Walker, Director

- Bill spoke on the Behavioral Health Board Recruitment and the need to recruit new members. Mitchall Patel, PIO will be doing some targeted recruitment.
- Bill would like to reach out to our communities that are in Frazier Park, Ridgecrest, and other outlying areas to see if they would be willing to send a representative in that district.
- If you know anyone who would be interested in joining our board, please email Bill or Patricia.
- Bill and Mitchall are working on a plan over the next couple of months to recruit new members.
- Next month there will be a presentation on the Mobile Evaluation Team (MET) and Crisis Intervention along with Law Enforcement.
- Bill spoke on the good things that are happening up and down the state with DHCS working with us to lightening the restrictions and working with CalAIM on the process of getting back to an integration with physical health care, mental health and substance abuse.

12. Board Member Item: None

- Richard addressed the board and spoke on a bill (988) that is making its way to congress or the house. This bill is another hotline for mental health or violence.
- Richard is happy to learn that some meetings are happening at the CFLC (Consumer Family Learning Center).

13. Public Announcements: NONE

- Robyn Garcia, from Clinica Sierra Vista asked if their presentation will be rescheduled being that it was cancelled due to COVID.
- Bill informed Robyn that the plan is to tentatively have them present for the month of September. Bill will confirm with the Executive Committee and reach out to Robyn and follow-up.

MOTION by Sonia Villa to adjourn the meeting Seconded by Richard Hofferd. Next regular meeting August 24, 2020, VIA Microsoft Teams

APPROVED ALL AYES; adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

Items Distributed

Behavioral Health Board Agenda
Minutes from June 22, 2020
Flyer from SQIC Committee