



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

Draft for approval

Monday, August 24, 2020
5:30 p.m.
Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Via Microsoft TEAMS

BOARD MEMBERS:

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

Jean Lockhart (absent)
Jeff Burdick
Kate Tandy (excused)
Richard Hofferd

Nicole Villaruz
Sonia Silva (excused)
Bill Walker

OTHERS PRESENT:

Rachel Mehia, Turning Point
Robyn Garcia, Clinica Sierra Vista
Amber Smith, BBHH
Stephanie Hermeston, QKinc

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

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

KernBHRS

Alison Burrowes
Lynn Corse
Robin Taylor
Shannon Tolar

Alice Kendrick
Ana Olvera
Lesleigh Davis
Stacy Kuwahara

Mitchall Patel
Tonya Mann

1. Welcome and Introductions: Jeff Burdick sitting in for Kate Tandy, welcomed all in attendance. Board members provided self-introductions.
2. Establish Quorum: 5 present 1 absent 4 excused; quorum established.
3. Approval of Draft July 27, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes: MOTION by Doug Jauch and seconded by Richard Hofferd to approve July 27, 2020 regular meeting minutes.
APPROVED ALL AYES.
4. Public Comment: None
5. Presentation by:
Tonya Mann, Behavioral Health, Alice Kendrick, MET, Doug Jauch, Kern County Sheriffs and Jeff Burdick, Bakersfield Police Department PowerPoint Presentation address questions and comments.
6. Unfinished Business: None
7. New Business
 - Development of Recruitment Plan for New Members – Bill Walker
 - Bill spoke on the plan to recruit new board members.
 - Mitchall is developing a process to streamline the recruitment process and reach the outlying Kern County Areas.



8. Chair Report – Dr. Kate Tandy – deferred to September board meeting
 - Director Recruitment
9. Adult Clinical Services Report – Alison Burrowes, Deputy Director
 - Alison shared that we continue to operate in phase 1 of our reopening. We have 25% of staffing on site at one time with some staff rotating days.
 - We have made some adjustment regarding distance learning with the schools since some of the staff will be impacted.
 - All clinics are open and operating. We are trying to provide the same level of service prior to COVID. We continue to prioritize telehealth and field-based services.
 - We continue to provide support to staff and clients by increasing our face to face services while out in the field and using iPads as means of communication.
 - We received feedback that transportation was a barrier, so we have taken some safety precautions regarding our vehicles. We have installed plexiglass in all our vehicles to ensure the safety of our staff and clients so that we may be able to provide more transportation assistance.
 - We are in the process of piloting a couple of small in person groups.
 - We started an internship with the Center for Sexuality and Gender Diversity. We have two BHRS interns that started August 5th. Our goal is to expand our staff knowledge and expertise in serving this segment of this population.
 - We continue to expand our trauma inform services. We had a total of 15 people participate in Eye Movement Desensitization and Reprocessing (EMDR) for trauma training.
 - Alison shared that we will be moving forward in the next 60 days to implement our pilot program for our Individual Placement Support (IPS) an evidence-based program to support employment for individuals with serious mental illness.
 - In Substance Use we have the two recovery stations Bakersfield and Delano. We have added some onsite services to our Bakersfield location.
 - In Delano we are building relationships with the community and reaching out to our stakeholders to see how we can make the service more relevant and covenant for the community.
 - In Kern Linkage we continue to work closely with parole and the local Integrated Services for Mentally Ill Parolees (ISMIP) program as we continue to address the early release from California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) and the transition from the ISMIP program.
 - We are getting ready for the New City Homeless Navigation Center which should open in October.
 - Our MHSA (Mental Health Services Act) funded on demand Yoga classes contracted through White Wolf Wellness foundation have been very successful and been beneficial during COVID.
10. Administrative Services Report – Stacy Kuwahara, Deputy Director
 - Stacy gave a quick update on the operations of BHRS since COVID. Stacy reported that there are no significant changes within our operations.
 - We saw a significant increase in COVID cases within our staff in July but since seen a huge decrease. All staff is getting better and are back at work.
 - Stacy shared that we received a request from the state for our Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team for support in their shelter due to the Santa Cruz fire.
 - Stacy shared that our fiscal and budget process continues. We had to make significant cuts in this budget year some fall under our realignment funding and some under MHSA (Mental Health Services Act).
 - We are planning for the next couple years and making some reduction to our MHSA programs now.
 - We are thoughtfully going through the budget and trying to make impacts that make sense and align with our main core services and avoid laying off staff.
 - The County currently has a hiring freeze but has allowed us to fill our direct service positions. This is important in maintaining our Network Adequacy Standards.

- Stacy shared that we have made some reductions to our contract providers in order to align their contract budget to what they are actually spending and avoid layoffs.
 - Stacy gave kudos to our IT system and how they have been able to help us navigate in this pandemic and come up with solutions to save money and keep our staff and clients safe.
 - We are at a new academic year with our residents and we are continuing to actively recruit psychiatrist.
 - Under QID (Quality Improvement Division) we received notice that the data notebook will be coming out to us within the next couple weeks. This year the data notebook will focus on The Use of Telehealth during the 2020 Public Health Emergency.
- 11. Specialty Clinical Services Report – Robin Taylor, Deputy Director**
- Robin shared a flyer on a community forum this week virtual stakeholder meeting.
 - Robin shared information on the LPS (Lanterman-Petris Short Act) audit. She is in the process of reviewing the report and will bring back more detailed information to the board and how this will impact Kern County.
 - Mitchall Patel, Public Information Officer (PIO) for BHRS shared and reviewed an overview of September events.
- 12. KernBHRS Department Report – Bill Walker, Director**
- Bill spoke on the millions of dollars and loss revenues that are based on different taxes.
 - Bill touched on the LPS (Lanterman-Petris Short Act) audit and the intensive programs Kern County has such as Laura's Law.
 - Bill spoke on how CDCR (California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation) and State Hospitals are working hard at recreating a stronger diversion within the communities. The state is looking to defund the ISIP (Integrated Services for Mentally Ill Parolees) program and push it to the county delivery system.
 - In the Children's System of Care, we are working with a large group to develop a multi-agency and system MOU under AB2083. Judge Marquez has taken the lead on this project which includes schools, probation, BHRS and Kern Regional Center to develop a better system and coordination of systems for our Children's System of Care.
 - Bill expects in the few months to get back to where we were under the waiver. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health waivers are due to expire June 30, 2020 and December 31, 2020. Both been pushed back. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS), The California Behavioral Directors Association (CBHDA) and both the mental health plan, substance abuse plan and the physical health care plan will go back to the table and discuss on how to integrate our programs.
 - Bill spoke on MET (Mobile Evaluation Team) and the days when BHRS did not have a MET team
- 13. Board Member Item: None**
- Richard addressed the board to speak on bill (988) from previous board meeting (7/27/20). Richard was not reporting on the bill to address violence but the issues of mental illness. Richard does not have any further information and is not requesting a correction.
- 14. Public Announcements: NONE**

MOTION by Doug Jauch to adjourn the meeting Seconded by Charles Collom. Next regular meeting September 28, 2020, VIA Microsoft Teams

APPROVED ALL AYES; adjourned at 6:43 p.m.