



BEHAVIORAL
HEALTH & RECOVERY
SERVICES

KERN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Monday, January 23, 2023

5:30 p.m.

In Person: 2001 28th Street, 1st Floor Training Room

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sonia Silva (Dist. 1) – Chair

Stephanie Hermeston (Dist. 1) – 1st Vice Chair

David Kessler (Dist. 3) – Parliamentarian: *Excused*

Michael Herrera – Board of Supervisors Appointee:

Deborah Fabos (Dist. 2)

Bryson Gholston (Dist. 3)

Nancy Solis (Dist. 5): *Excused*

Dian Schneider (Dist. 2) – 2nd Vice Chair

Lorre Webb (Dist. 2):

Flossie White (Dist. 4):

Jeff Burdick (Dist. 1)

Lashawna Lee (Dist. 3)

Tracy Lynch – BHB Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Ines Del Alto

KERNBHRS STAFF:

Stacy Kuwahara – Director

Alison Burrowes

Ana Olvera

Christina Rajlal

Jessica Armstrong

Lynn Corse

Tammy Cates

Adisen Daniels

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Sonia Silva, new Chair, welcomed everyone; each board member introduced themselves.
2. **Establish Quorum:** 10 present, 2 excused, Quorum established.
3. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for November 28, 2022:** MOTION by Stephanie Hermeston to approve minutes and seconded by Jeff Burdick; ALL AYES: Motion passed.
4. **“Contingency Management by Ana Olvera, Substance Use Division Administrator”.** Shared a presentation on new Contingency Management pilot program, What the pilot program is, Why it is being implemented, Who is eligible to participate, What the program will look like, and How individuals can enroll. Pilot program is only being offered to Medi-Cal recipients and they must meet the qualifications to participate. Time allowed for *Questions and Answers*.
5. **Public Comment:** None
6. **Unfinished Business:** None
7. **New Business:**
 - A. **BHB February 27th, 2023, Meeting:** In Person.
8. **Chair Report:** Parliamentarian Appointment - David Kessler agreed to continue as Parliamentarian.



9. Clinical Services Report –Jessica Armstrong, Deputy Director

- **Introduction:** Overseeing the Children's System of Care, Kern Linkage, Substance Use Disorder, and the Adult System of Care divisions. Will be managing the coordination of Housing and Homelessness.

10. Administrative Services –Alison Burrowes, Deputy Director

- **New Staffing and Divisions:** A lot of transitioning within the organization, now overseeing: Quality Improvement, Technology Services, Finance, and Medical Services divisions.
- **Electronic Health Record (EHR) Transition:** Continuing work on transition and preparing for training.
- **Quality Improvement Division Updates:** CalAIM initiatives, implement payment reform pieces in Summer 2023. Preparing for training staff on changes in process. Network adequacy standards show BHRS is currently in good standing with the state requirements for both Mental Health and Substance Abuse.
- **Consumer Family Learning Center:** Will be transitioning from Alison to another division of the department. Recovery station will be returning to Kentucky street, renovations are complete.
- **Staff Engagement Activities:** Working on staff engagement, staff retention, and wellness initiatives to our work force.

11. Specialty Clinical Services – Stacy Kuwahara, Director for Robin Taylor, Deputy Director

- **Crisis Services:**
 - **New Mobile Crisis Response requirements:** DHCS has issued a requirement for all counties to establish a mobile crisis response benefit. Calling 988 will connect with our crisis hotline and if requirements are met, a crisis response team will be dispatched to those individuals. This will start as only 3 to 8 hours a day and will slowly build up to 24/7 call response. Required to be operating by 2024. Waiting for additional details and specifics.
- **Department Supports:**
 - **Cultural Competency Update:** Preparing two Countywide Behavioral and Physical Health listening sessions that will focus on engaging some of our underserved communities to learn how we can better serve those communities.
 - **Workforce Education and Training Update:** Partnering with Public Health for year-long health campaign, "Grounded in Health," will have new theme each month, focusing on promoting overall health and wellness to our staff and community.

12. Department Report – Stacy Kuwahara, Director

- **Governors' Proposed January Budget:** Overall, lower than projected.
- **Behavioral Health Revenue Projections:**
 - 1991 and 2011 realignment are increasing.
 - MHSA revenues may be larger than typical.
- **Housing and Homelessness:**
 - Bridge Housing investments, used to find housing opportunities for the mentally ill individuals we are currently serving that are homeless. Some funds are being delayed until next year; funds received this year will go towards discovering the needs of those individuals.
 - Managed Care Plans getting increase to cover costs of up to 6 months of paid rent or temp housing for specific population.
- **Opioids and Fentanyl response:** Getting Narcan in schools and making it more accessible.

- **988 and Mobile Crisis Benefit:** Expected to be operational 2024.
- **Workforce Initiatives:** Being delayed.
- **Health 4 All:** Expanding full-scope Medi-Cal to adults regardless of insurance status.
- **BCHIP:** Round 6 delayed.
- **Incompetent to Stand Trial and Department of State Hospitals Growth Cap:** Putting growth cap on all counties that will limit amount of people allowed to be sent to State Hospitals.
- **Payment Reform:** Money flow is going into schools and Managed Care Plans.
- **Changes in 2023:**
 - Mobile Crisis benefit
 - 988 expansion
 - PEC unit expansions
 - New PHFs under construction
 - Homelessness
 - *ROEM expansion*
 - *Care court*
 - *More housing needs and resources*
 - *Additional NPLH units*
 - IST Growth Cap planning
 - Payment reform
 - Workforce Issues
 - EHR Transition
 - CalAIM reporting requirement changes
 - Youth and Children mental health needs
 - Increased SUD integration

13. Board Member Item:

- Question regarding virtual participation – Board members are allowed to participate virtually for special circumstances but cannot vote while attending virtually. A board member can take a leave of absence from meetings but cannot be gone for more than 3 consecutive meetings or 20% of the year. If a situation arises that requires a leave or virtual attendance, request ahead of time.

14. Committee Reports:

- A. Adult Treatment & Recovery Services – Lorrie Webb:** Focusing on creating and achieving goals this year.
- B. Children's Treatment & Recovery Services – Jeff Burdick:** African American youth health initiatives. Goal is to work with health care providers to integrate communications systems.
- C. System Quality Improvement Committee –David Kessler:** Not present.

15. Public Announcements: None.

- 16. Adjourn:** MOTION by Stephanie Hermeston to adjourn to the next regular meeting in person on February 27th, 2023, and seconded by Bryson Gholston. ALL AYES. Motion passed. Adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Items Distributed via Meeting Invite

BHB Agenda for January 23, 2023

Meeting Minutes (Draft) from November 28, 2022

BHB 2023 Schedule

<https://www.kernbhhs.org/behavioral-health-board>