

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

Monday, November 27, 2023

5:30 p.m.

In Person: 2001 28th Street, 1st Floor Training Room**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sonia Silva (Dist. 1) – Chair

David Kessler (Dist. 3) – Parliamentarian

Flossie White (Dist. 4) – *Absent*Bryson Gholston (Dist. 3) – *Virtual*BreAnne Patterson (Dist. 5) – *Virtual*

Tiara King (Dist. 2)

Dian Schneider (Dist. 2) – 1st Vice ChairMichael Herrera – BOS Appointee – *Excused*

Michael Bryant (Dist. 3)

Jeff Burdick (Dist. 1)

LaShawna Lee (Dist. 3)

Genora McClanahan (Dist. 5)

Maria Gonzalez – BHB Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Caitlin Wheelan – BHRS Volunteer

KERNBHRS STAFF:

Jessica Armstrong

Sarah Jimenez-Puente

Liz Bailey

Alison Burrowes

Robin Taylor

Michelle Culy

Heather Hornibrook

Tammy Cates

Isabel Cardenas

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Sonia Silva, Chair, welcomed everyone; each board member introduced themselves.
- 2. Establish Quorum:** 8 present, 2 virtual, 1 absent, 1 excused. Quorum was established.
- 3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for October 23, 2023, Regular Meeting:** MOTION by David Kessler to approve minutes with correction on item 12 and seconded by Dian Schneider. ALL AYES: Motion passed.

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4. Presentation(s):

- **"Judicially Involved Clients" – Michelle Culy, Kern Linkage Administrator and Sarah Jimenez-Puente, LCSW:** Shared a presentation on Consumer Perspective: A Walk-Through Correctional Behavioral Health. Time allowed for *Questions and Answers*.

5. Public Comment: None.**6. Unfinished Business:** None.**7. New Business:**

- A. Approval of proposed BHB Executive Committee 2024:** MOTION by Tiara King and seconded by Jeff Burdick. ALL AYES: Motion passed.

8. Chair Report – Sonia Silva: Jeff Burdick, Bryshon Gholston and Sonia Silva met with Jason to discuss the Behavioral Health Director applications. Moved some forward to the Board of Supervisors.**9. KernBHRS Clinical Services Report –Jessica Armstrong, Deputy Director:**

- **Kern Linkage Division:** Correction Behavioral Health presented on Consumer Perspective: A Walk-Through Correctional Behavioral Health.
- **Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Division:**
 - **SUD Administration:**
 - Working with the County Administrative Office to determine the next steps for proposed programs in Kern. These include Medical Detox and a Community Grants program to allow for potential flexibility in awarding funds to various communities.
 - Continuing to plan for behavioral health linkages from correctional facilities as will be required in the Cal-AIM Criminal Justice Initiative. Will take part in a meeting to be scheduled with the County Administrative Office, Kern County Sheriff's Office, Kern County Department of Human Services, and others in order to develop our respective implementation plans.
- **Quality Improvement (QID) Division:** No major updates to report.
- **Adult System of Care:**
 - WISE Supervisor now has her certificate in the PEARLS Program and will be able to take the Train the Trainer Courses once she successfully completes the in-person/client sessions.
 - The NE RAWC has reopened for business.
 - Looking ahead to the new year, the ASOC is starting the planning process for de-centralizing access to behavioral health treatment. Each geographical provider will be an access point and all specialty services will be available at each geographic location.
- **Childrens System of Care:**
 - Received the awarding of the CHFFA CY grant for acquisition of the facilities to house the Children's Crisis Residential Program.

10. KernBHRS Specialty Clinical Services Report – Robin Taylor, Deputy Director:

- **Crisis Services:**
 - 988 text chat started at the end of October, in October we received around 67 interactions, for November we are at about 317 interactions. Text is much more popular than the chat feature. Feedback from staff is that it takes more time to be able to respond and requires more time than the hotline. We are moving forward to training all of the hotline staff to be able to assist with the text feature since it requires a different skill set.

- Mobile Crisis Response benefit, the change to our Mobile Evaluation Team will start on January 1, 2024. We will have a 24/7 Mobile Crisis Response hotline and our team will respond without law enforcement. We will continue our partnership with law enforcement and continue with joint response when needed. Our plan was submitted to DHCS, we received a great response with minor feedback on changes that need to be readjusted. We will be resubmitting to the state this week.
- Mary K Shell fire safety improvement construction plan has been approved by the fire department and the state. It is anticipated that it will be three months of construction time, we do not have a set schedule yet but will have it soon.
- **Department Supports:**
 - MHSA continues evaluation and planning process for Proposition 1
 - Stakeholder meetings are coming up, invitations will be sent and posted to the public. There is a Spanish meeting scheduled for December 6 at 12:30pm. and an English meeting on December 7 at 12:30pm.
 - Professional Development Growth Opportunity, getting a great response from our staff. As part of our recruitment and retention plan, staff can access a fillable form through the use of a QR code to obtain access to training opportunities that will help improve their professional development.
- **Medical Services:**
 - Working on contracts with Medi-Cal Managed Care Plans, Kaiser and Anthem.

11. KernBHRS Department Report – Alison Burrowes, Interim Director:

- **Welcome newly appointed Board Member:** Welcomed Tiara King, had the opportunity to meet and share some information on our department and the organization chart. Any board members that would like to meet and discuss the organization chart or the organizational structure of the department, please feel free to reach out to me.
- **Brown Act Standards:** Working towards making the information of our standing meetings public, that the agenda and the minutes are all shared on the public website.
- **SB43:** This was discussed in the previous meeting; this expands the Grave Disability standards to include substance use disorders. There will be a presentation to the Board of Supervisors on December 19, 2023, to request a resolution to delay implementation up to the year 2026 due to the significant infrastructure that needs to be in place. More updates to come on this.
- **Proposition 1:** Still doing internal planning. This will shift a significant amount of funding from treatment services into housing subsidies and will not allow us to spend funding on treatments the same way. Will have to make significant changes to our programming. We will listen to our stakeholders and community members and integrate that feedback into the changes that we must make.

12. Board Member Item:

- **Dian Schneider:** Request made for item to be added to the next agenda to review by-laws and ensure we are complying.

13. Committee Reports:

- A. Adult Treatment & Recovery Services** (quarterly): Bryson Gholston: Met on November 8th. The presentation provided was on Enhanced Medical Services or Enhanced Care Management. Can share the PowerPoint presentation and information to anyone that is interested.
- B. Children's Treatment & Recovery Services** (quarterly): Dian Schneider and Jeff Burdick: Next meeting is January 4th, will report at January 24th meeting.
- C. System Quality Improvement Committee** (bi-monthly): David Kessler: Next meeting is January 22nd, will report at January 22nd meeting.

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14. Announcements to the Public: None.

15. Adjourn: MOTION by Dian Schneider to adjourn to the next regular meeting In Person on January 22, 2024, and seconded by Jeff Burdick. ALL AYES: Motion passed. Adjourned at 6:25pm.

Items Distributed via Meeting Invite

BHB 2023 Schedule

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