

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

Monday, March 25, 2024

5:30 p.m.

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

Sonia Silva (Dist. 1) – Chair

Michael Bryant (Dist. 3) – 2nd Vice ChairFlossie White (Dist. 4) - *Absent*Bryson Gholston (Dist. 3) – *Absent*

BreAnne Patterson (Dist. 5)

Tiara King (Dist. 2) – *Absent*Dian Schneider (Dist. 2) – 1st Vice Chair

David Kessler (Dist. 3) - Parliamentarian

Michael Herrera (Dist. 1) – *Excused*

Jeff Burdick (Dist. 1)

LaShawna Stowe (Dist. 3) – *Absent*

Genora McClanahan (Dist. 5)

Maria Espinoza (Dist. 4) – BOS Appointee

Maria Gonzalez – BHB Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Sharon Woolfolk, NAMI Kern Nicholas Siewell, Kern Medical

KERNBHRS STAFF:

Alison Burrowes

Jessica Armstrong

Liz Bailey

Isabel Cardenas

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Sonia Silva, Chair, welcomed everyone; each board member introduced themselves.
2. **Establish Quorum:** 8 present, 4 absent, 1 excused. Quorum was established.
3. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for February 26, 2024, Regular Meeting:** MOTION by David Kessler and seconded by Jeff Burdick. ALL AYES: Motion passed.
4. **Presentation(s):**
 - **“Cal-Aim Justice Involved Initiative CARE Court” – Jessica Armstrong, LMFT:** Shared a presentation on Justice Involved Re-Entry Initiative PATH (Part of Providing Access and Transforming Health) and Community Assistance, Recovery, and Empowerment Act. *Time allowed for Questions and Answers.*

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5. Public Comment: None.

6. Unfinished Business: Announcements

A. Executive BHB Meetings – Language changes in Bylaws: Draft has been submitted to County Counsel for review before submitting to the Board of Supervisors.

7. New Business: Announcements

A. Behavioral Health Board Annual Report: Data collection for the Behavioral Health Board Annual Report continues.

B. Behavioral Health Board Meeting Presentation Schedule: Working on a presentation schedule for the remainder of the year, board members are welcome to provide feedback on topics they would like to see during the regular meetings.

8. Chair Report – Sonia Silva: None.

9. KernBHRS Clinical Services Report –Jessica Armstrong, Deputy Director:

- **Kern Linkage Division:**

- Mobile Clinic with Street Psychiatry (MCSP) has officially begun their program. The team has been working closely with Flood, Churches Without Walls, and St. Vincent de Paul to reach hard to engage individuals and help get them into their appropriate level of care.
- The Homeless Adult Team (HAT) is working with Hope on Mission, Flood, Church Without Walls, and the Oildale homeless community to get individuals on the list to move into the Tiny Villages. The move in date has been pushed to mid-May.
- Supportive Housing is working with Housing Authority and Flood on service delivery and move in times for No Place like Home newest facility, College Heights, and 6th Street apartment for permanent supportive housing.

- **Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Division:**

- The Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) clinic at L St started receiving referrals for parolees and from Bridge programs at hospitals, and now has a census of 27 clients.
- College Community Services in Wasco was approved to begin providing Contingency Management services to individuals with a stimulant use disorder.
- Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) Certification corrections are currently in process and expect to be completed ahead of the April deadline.

- **Quality Improvement (QID) Division:** No major updates to report.

- **Adult System of Care:**

- Development of CARE Court program is moving forward as we are meeting and consulting with our technical assistance liaison, Matt Sandoval from Health Management Association (HMA).

- **Childrens System of Care:** No major updates to report

- **Finance:** No major updates to report.

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

- **Information Technology:**

- Electronic Health Record support team has begun doing live training for Smart Care again.
- Working diligently on looking at the different reports in Smart Care, and how to make them useful for our system not just for the services we are providing but also for the financial aspects as well.
- Fleet services has been able to secure new leased vehicles to replace 40 existing vehicles, will work with the divisions to see who will benefit from a newer or additional vehicle.

- Facilities continue to work with the HVAC project taking place here at our Westchester location, phase 1 is nearly completed. Phase 2 is scheduled to begin April 1st.
- Working on the rebranding of our signage, we have prioritized a few different locations. We will begin with the Columbus, Oswell, L St, and Mary K. Shell locations.
- **Crisis Services:**
 - Mary K Shell building construction and Psychiatric Evaluation Center (PEC) refresh scheduled to start on April 1st.
 - The Mobile Evaluation Team won a Goldie Award for Team Excellence.
 - Mobile Crisis Response continues to expand with additional staff.
 - PEC CSU is celebrating 15 years of operations.
- **Clinical Plan Services:**
 - Parent Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) staff will begin training in August.
- **Department Supports:**
 - Prop 1 has passed, and the Mental Health Services Act team will continue with weekly workgroups that focus on preliminary planning and reviewing the legislation to help make decisions.
 - May is Mental Health Month, there will be a BOS proclamation on April 23rd. The CAO office will light up in green to help reduce stigma and bring awareness to mental health.
 - The Inspiration Awards will take place on May 10th, this is an opportunity for external and internal partners to be nominated for their excellence and good work that they do.
 - May is also Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, will be incorporated and honored in the events for the month.
 - The calendar of events for the month of May will be shared with the board.

11. KernBHRS Department Report – Robin Taylor, Deputy Director on behalf of Alison Burrowes, Director:

- **Senate Bill 43:** We have been bringing together community partners and leaders for the SB43 Planning Workgroup monthly to help develop the plan and move forward with the plan.
- **Proposition 1:** This proposition has passed, and it brings significant changes to our department. These changes include redirecting some of the MHSA funds towards housing subsidies and infrastructure, as well as changes to the Behavioral Health Board. Robin Taylor and Liz Bailey will provide more education and information on Prop 1.
- **Homeless Collaborative Executive Board:** Was appointed to the Homeless Collaborative Executive Board by the County.
- **Employee Wellness Initiative:** Incorporating the Blue Zone Project into this initiative, we have received positive feedback from the staff and look forward to sharing with this group as we move forward.

12. Board Member Item: None

13. Committee Reports:

- A. Adult Treatment & Recovery Services** (quarterly): Bryson Gholston: Next meeting is May 8th. Will report on the May 27th meeting.
- B. Children's Treatment & Recovery Services** (quarterly): Dian Schneider and Jeff Burdick: Next meeting is April 11th. Will report on the April 22nd meeting.
- C. System Quality Improvement Committee** (bi-monthly): David Kessler: Met on March 25th. The presentation provided was on the DMC-ODS, Satisfaction Survey.

14. Announcements to the Public: Jeff Burdick, Wednesday is the Crisis Intervention Meeting from 3pm to 5pm at 2000 K St., everyone is welcomed to attend.

15. Adjourn: MOTION by David Kessler to adjourn to the next regular meeting in person on April 22, 2024, and seconded by BreAnne Patterson. ALL AYES: Motion passed. Adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Items Distributed via Meeting Invite

BHB 2024 Schedule

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