

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

Monday, April 22, 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 Chair

Flossie White (Dist. 4)

Bryson Gholston (Dist. 3) – *Excused*BreAnne Patterson (Dist. 5) – *Excused*Tiara King (Dist. 2) – *Virtual*Dian Schneider (Dist. 2) – 1st Vice ChairDavid Kessler (Dist. 3) – Parliamentarian – *Absent*Michael Herrera (Dist. 1) – *Excused*

Jeff Burdick (Dist. 1)

LaShawna Stowe (Dist. 3) – *Absent*

Genora McClanahan (Dist. 5)

Maria Espinoza (Dist. 4) – BOS Appointee – *Excused*Maria Gonzalez – BHB Coordinator – *Excused***OTHERS PRESENT:**

Marisa Trebizo, CSV

Nicholas Siewell, Kern Medical

Daiane Silva

Joshua Pierce, Cornerstone Tehachapi

KERNBHRS STAFF:

Alison Burrowes

Jessica Armstrong

Emily Lyles

Isabel Cardenas

Robin Taylor

Tammy Cates

Jennie Sill

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Sonia Silva, Chair, welcomed everyone; each board member introduced themselves.
2. **Establish Quorum:** 6 present, 1 virtual, 2 absent, 4 excused. Quorum was not established.
3. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for March 25, 2024, Regular Meeting:** Deferred to the next regular meeting due to Quorum not established.
4. **Presentation(s):**
 - **“Adult Routine Services” – Emily Lyles, LCSW:** Shared a presentation on Adult System of Care (ASOC), Access and Assessment Center, Adult Recovery and Wellness Centers, Specialty Teams, and the Volunteer Senior Outreach Program (VSOP). *Time allowed for Questions and Answers.*
5. **Public Comment:**
 - A. **Joshua Pierce, Cornerstone Tehachapi:** Request for consideration to expand current contract for substance abuse and mental health disorders in Tehachapi with the goal of being able to see clients within 24 hours. Request deferred to next regular meeting due to no Quorum established.

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6. Unfinished Business:

- A. Behavioral Health Board Annual Report Draft:** Deferred to the next regular meeting due to no Quorum established.

7. New Business: Announcements

- A. Reschedule and relocate the next regular meeting due to holiday and HVAC project:** The next regular meeting is rescheduled to Monday, May 20, 2024, at 5:30 p.m., and relocated to Commonwealth 3300 Truxtun Ave, East Training Room.
- B. Behavioral Health Board Meeting Presentation Schedule:** Deferred to next regular meeting due to no Quorum established.

8. Chair Report – Sonia Silva: None.**9. KernBHRS Clinical Services Report –Jessica Armstrong, Deputy Director:**

- **Kern Linkage Division:**
 - Tuesday April 23, 2024, Kern Linkage will be participating in Justice-Involved In-Person workgroup meeting. Workgroup focus is to partner with managed care plans and correctional partners to develop a process and procedures related to the justice involved initiative.
 - The Housing Services and Supportive Housing Team are working on two large projects.
 - Bridge Housing: Program will bring rental assistance, housing navigation, supportive services, new infrastructure for housing, and a pet care competent to serve a vulnerable population and provide and provide support for independence and success.
 - Community Care Expansion Preservation Program: Program makes funds available for the preservation of licensed residential and senior care facilities serving individuals with limited resources and are at risk of homelessness. Funds are available for operating subsidy payment funds and capital project funds which are intended to help with operating costs and resources for repairs to maintain the facility and continue operating and serving this population.
- **Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Division:**
 - Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) certification corrections were completed and accepted for L St, CalWORKS, and Blanton. DHCS will reach out for a site visit in May.
- **Adult System of Care:**
 - Request For Proposal (RFP) has been awarded for Intensive Outpatient services and contract negotiations will begin soon.
- **Childrens System of Care:**
 - We have received the contract for the CHAFEE grant and are waiting to finalize it.
 - Treatment Foster Care (Oregon model) has completed the final certification audit. This evidence base model is an alternative to institutional care for foster youth and aims to reunify families.

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

- **Special Projects:**
 - Psychiatric Health Facilities Grand Opening event is on May 15th. There will be public tours from 1pm – 7pm.
 - BHCIIP funded Youth CSY and Family Resource Center in design phase with Architect.
 - Disaster Response: Critical Incident Stress Management Course next week for newly certified staff to support disaster response.

- **Information Technology:**
 - Technology Services project updates: Completed the migration to our Cerner archive solution. All the archives went into a cloud-based solution. Also working on introducing a department-wide campaign on Work with Your Widgets, on our Smart Care EHR.
 - Facility Project updates: HVAC is currently not working on the first floor of our administrative building. The process of replacing the HVAC unit is still going, work on the first floor will begin on Monday. The Mary K Shell construction project is still in progress and expected to be completed by July.
 - Fleet vehicles replacement is in progress through Enterprise.
- **Department Supports:**
 - May is Mental Health Month and there are many events scheduled for the month.
 - Professional Development: Hired 8 Behavioral Health Therapist Trainees in the past month. All were practicum students of KernBHRS.

11. KernBHRS Department Report – Alison Burrowes, Director:

- **Behavioral Health Board Annual Report:** A copy was emailed to all board members for feedback, since there is no Quorum established, we will bring it back to the next regular meeting.
- **Deputy Director:** Currently we are in a two-deputy model and have decided to move forward with filling the third deputy director's vacancy.
- **Prop 1:** The Behavioral Health Transformation, prop 1 has passed. This brings changes to the Board and will go over those changes in the summer as some of the make-up of the Behavioral Health Board will change. We have some time to implement those changes, but more information will be shared as we move forward. The timeline for implementation is July 2026, we have been planning in anticipation since October/November, and now we are just waiting for the State to provide us with guidance on how to interpret the different pieces and changes.
- **SB43:** Similarly, we are waiting for the State to provide us with guidance. We have a community planning group that meets every month, we have a lot of community partners at the table to help us. There are a lot of infrastructure needs and services changes, so there is a lot of strategizing that is happening at different levels.
- **Inspiration Awards:** This event is taking place on May 10th from 10am – 12pm at the Westchester Courtyard. You are all welcome to attend, it is a wonderful opportunity to acknowledge consumers, different community providers, and some of our staff as well.

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 20th meeting.
- B. Children's Treatment & Recovery Services** (quarterly): Dian Schneider and Jeff Burdick: Met on April 11th. EA Family Services provided a presentation on services offered such as Transitional Housing.
- C. System Quality Improvement Committee** (bi-monthly): David Kessler: Next meeting is May 20th. Will report on the May 20th meeting.

14. Announcements to the Public: None.

15. Adjourn: Next regular meeting in person on May 20, 2024, at Commonwealth 3300 Truxtun Ave, East Training Room. Adjourned at 6:15 pm.

Items Distributed via Meeting Invite

BHB 2024 Schedule

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