

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

Monday, January 27, 2025

5:30 p.m.

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

Michael Bryant (Dist. 3) – Chair
Bryson Gholston (Dist. 3) – 2nd Vice Chair
Flossie White (Dist. 4)
Sonia Silva (Dist. 1)
BreAnne Patterson (Dist. 4)
Tiara King (Dist. 2) – Excused
Jackeline Cortes (Dist. 5)
Connie Perez-Andreesen (Dist. 5) – Excused

Jeff Burdick (Dist. 1) – 1st Vice Chair
*David Kessler (Dist. 4) – Parliamentarian
Michael Herrera (Dist. 1) – Absent
Ishmeet Singh (Dist. 2)
LaShawna Stowe (Dist. 3)
Genora McClanahan (Dist. 5)
Priscilla Sanchez (Dist. 5) – BOS Appointee

Maria Gonzalez – BHB Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT:**KERNBHRS STAFF:**

Robin Taylor

Belinda Vieyra

Isabel Sickler

Jazmin Solorio

Jessica Armstrong

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Michael Bryant, Chair, welcomed everyone; each board member introduced themselves.
2. **Establish Quorum:** 13 present, 2 excused, 1 absent. Quorum was established.
3. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for November 25, 2024 Regular Meeting:** MOTION by David Kessler. SECONDED by Sonia Silva. ALL AYES: MOTION PASSED.
4. **Presentation(s):** None
5. **Public Comment:** None
6. **Unfinished Business:** None

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- 7. New Business:** Appoint a Parliamentarian – The Parliamentarian shall assist with procedure during board meetings and may also train officers, advise member on parliamentary procedures supervise elections, and review and recommend rule changes.
- Nomination for Parliamentarian, Breanne Patterson. Appoint Breanne Patterson for Parliamentarian. MOTION by David Kessler. SECONDED by Byson Gholston. ALL AYES: MOTION PASSED.
- 8. Chair Report – Michael Bryant:**
- 2024 Annual Report – As we approach our March meeting, we are in the process of putting together the 2024 Annual Report. Specifically, this report will consist of Data Collection, Report Sections, and Reviewing and Editing; Flossie White and Priscilla Sanchez have kindly volunteered to assist.
 - Behavioral Health Board Training schedule – I wanted to share an opportunity to attend the Behavioral Health Board (BHB) Training sessions, which I had the privilege of attending on January 17th and 18th via Zoom. These sessions provided an in-depth review of best practices for BHBs across the state, and I found them to be extremely beneficial. I would highly recommend that any interested board members attend one of the upcoming sessions. They are 4 hours long, with two-time options: Friday 1:30pm - 5:30pm or Saturday 9:00am – 12:00pm. You have the flexibility to attend either one session or both. These training sessions are a great way to gain valuable insights into effective BHB practices. For more information or to register for a session, please visit CalBHEC.org.
- 9. KernBHRS Administrative Services – Belinda Vieyra, KernBHRS Administrator on behalf of Heather Hornibrook, Deputy Director:**
- Clinical Plan Services**
 - CAO
 - Agreements to reallocate \$69K in unspent FY 23/24 funds to the current FY were executed December 17, extending the Homeless Outreach and Emergency Shelter programs for CSV Delano and Clarvida, Taft, Ridgecrest, Tehachapi, and Mojave.
 - DHCS Children and Youth Behavioral Health initiative (BYBHI) Parent-Child Interaction Therapy (PCIT) 12 clients/families currently enrolled.
 - Department Supports**
 - MHSA
 - During February Stakeholder meeting, MHSA team will begin ongoing education to our stakeholders on current housing programs available in Kern County while listing ideas from the community on where the needs are for permanent supportive housing.
 - Planning for May is Mental Health month has begun with a goal to help spread awareness and reduce stigma surrounding mental health.
 - Currently also in the process of reviewing applications and interviewing for the new psychology intern program for the next FY.
 - Consumer Family Learning Center (CFLC): the monthly calendar events are available on website. Clarvida was awarded the operation of CFLC program through the RFP process and are now in contract negotiation phase of the process. When operated by Clarvida, the CFLC will remain in its current location.
- 10. KernBHRS Clinical Services Report – Jessica Armstrong, Deputy Director:**
- Adult System of Care:**
 - As of last Friday we are almost at 60 individuals that have been referred to us for Care Considerations. CARE continues to receive a steady flow of referrals.
 - Adult System of Care administrator has been out of office for a period of time so looking forward to having her return
 - Kern Linkage:**
 - Point in Time count is this Wednesday, many KernBHRS teams are participating

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□ All agencies are working together to help our homeless community ○ Supportive Pathway Opportunities: This is our Dept of State Hosp funded diversion program. It allows individuals in the community when they are found incompetent to stand trial. State offered another five-year contract. We are happy with how well this program has done.

• **Substance Use Disorder Division:**

- Prop36 passed November of last year and implementation in Kern County is underway to ensure that individuals need to get into or have access to services they may need
- This new proposition made changes to who is eligible to participate in SUD treatment instead of being incarcerated and charges with felony, among other changes.
- Referrals from the court are being sent to KernBHRS for screening and assessment of SUD and ongoing SUD treatment. Network providers will be required to provide information to the court for eligible individuals.

11. KernBHRS Specialty Clinical Services Report – Robin Taylor, Deputy Director: a. Crisis Services Division ○

Mary K. Shell remodel update: Adults PEC/CSU construction was delayed due to flooring issues and anticipated completion and return to full operations in the renovated PEC/CSU around mid-February.

- East Kern Mobile Crisis services is in the implementation process with Clarvida. Clarvida staff will complete the required DHCS training modules and in-person trainings to ensure a successful implementation and operation.
- Telecare Adult Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) and Central Star Youth PHF have DHCS licensing on site all week for their site inspection. Once the License is received the facilities will be up and operational.
- Crisis Case Management Team (CCMO) will work closely with the new Telecare PHF upon opening in coordination of services and provide case management to anyone currently not open to our system of care.
- Children System of Care: We are working with our new Wrap Around. They will be working closely with our simple stars new psych health youth facility. We have an office inside the PHF for the Youth wrap around staff. They will be there daily to be able to coordinate with simple star staff at youth PHF with the youth and work with families and make sure they are receiving treatment, have quick access to care and do a lot of work together as well.
- Infrastructure and Technology Services: Still working on data exchange efforts between the managed care plans and ourselves. Kern Health System is moving forward and began discussions with Anthem and Kaiser as well.
- Medical Services: We are working diligently to complete our required MOU's with offered managed care plans. We do have a fully executed MOU with KHS. Anthem's MOU is in final stages and Kaiser is still in negotiations.
- SB 43: This Friday is our community planning meeting where we will provide updates of progress.

12. KernBHRS Department Report – Jessica Armstrong, Deputy Director on behalf of Alison Burrowes, Director:

- a. I'm excited to share that Kern County Behavioral Health and Recovery Services was officially certified on January 24, 2025! This marks a significant achievement for our team, and we are incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication that led to this certification. To celebrate this milestone, we were thrilled to have several vendors join us to offer treats and resources to our staff, helping to promote a healthier lifestyle for everyone. It was a wonderful way to come together and acknowledge this achievement while also focusing on well-being. Thank you all for your continued commitment and efforts in making this possible.

13. Board Member Item: None

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14. Committee Reports:

Adult Treatment & Recovery Services (quarterly): Bryson Gholston:

- Next meeting is in February. Will report at the February 2025 meeting.
- **Children's Treatment & Recovery Services** (quarterly): Jeff Burdick:
- Substance use services for Adolescents. Meeting again in April 2025.

System Quality Improvement Committee (bi-monthly): David Kessler:

- Met with the MHSA team to gather updates from various departments. We discussed the current allocation of funds and gained valuable insight into where the money is being directed. Next meeting held in March 2025.

15. Announcements to the Public: None.

16. Adjourn: MOTION by David Kessler to adjourn to the next regular meeting in person on February 24, 2025, and SECONDED by Bryson Gholston. ALL AYES: MOTION PASSED. Adjourned at 6:00 pm.

Items Distributed via Meeting Invite

BHB 2025 Schedule

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