

KERN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

May 19, 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) - *Absent*
Sonia Silva (Dist. 1)
BreAnne Patterson (Dist. 4) Parliamentarian - *Absent*
Tiara King (Dist. 2)
Jackeline Cortes (Dist. 5) - *Absent*
Connie Perez-Andreesen (Dist. 5) - *Absent*

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

Maria Gonzalez – BHB Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT: Hannah Garber- La Vida Nueva.

KERNBHRS STAFF: Mark Kimmel (MHSA Coordinator), Heather Hornibrook (BHRS Deputy Director), Jessica Armstrong (BHRS Deputy Director) Alison Burrowes (BHRS Director)

1. **Welcome and Introductions:** Michael Bryant, Chair, welcomed everyone; each board member present introduced themselves.
2. **Establish Quorum:** 9 present, 1 excused, 5 absent. Quorum was established.
3. **Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for April 28, 2025, Regular Meeting:** MOTION by TK SECONDED by BG ALL AYES: MOTION PASSED.
4. **Presentation(s):** PowerPoint Presentation, "La Vida Nueva" by Hannah Garber. *Time Allowed for Questions & Answers.*
5. **Public Comment:** None
6. **Unfinished Business: Maria Gonzalez, Administrative Coordinator**
 - **BHB Annual Report – Final Report**
 - Changes: Formatting and Coloring.
 - No Changes: Content

MOTION by SS SECONDED by TK ALL AYES: MOTION PASSED.

7. New Business:

- **INN CalMHSA: Mark Kimmel, MHSA Coordinator**
- Public Comment Period
 - The 30-day public comment period is scheduled from May 5 to June 4, 2025. Stakeholders are encouraged to review project materials available at kernbhhs.org and submit feedback via the survey link: [SurveyMonkey](https://www.surveymonkey.com).
- Part 1: Policies and Procedures Development
 - Development of standardized policies and procedures in alignment with Behavioral Health Information Notices (BHINs).
 - Implementation of Learning Management System (LMS) training for line staff to improve understanding and adherence to policies and reduce information silos.
 - Leadership training sessions are being planned.
 - CalMHSA is leading the creation of a statewide training platform.
 - Executive team will receive ongoing updates throughout implementation.
- Part 2: Enhanced Analytics – PHI Dashboards
 - Billing & Claiming: Focused on granular financial tracking.
 - Services & Demographics: Analyzing client data, diagnoses, and service types.
 - Operations: Monitoring Electronic Health Record (EHR) user activity.
- Inquiries
 - For questions or additional information, contact the MHSA Team at MHSATeam@kernbhhs.org

MOTION by DK SECONDED by BG ALL AYES: MOTION PASSED.

- **July Strategic Planning Dates**
 - Saturday July 12, 2025 9AM-12PM
 - Monday July 14, 2025 5:30PM-7:30PM
 - Saturday July 19, 2025 9AM-12PM
- BHB members will take a poll and decide on a date for July's meeting in June.

8. Chair Report – Michael Bryant:

- **CalBHBC Training**
 - 1-Day Training: A virtual training session will be held via Zoom from 1:30 PM to 5:30 PM. Registration is currently open.
 - 2-Day Training: An in-person training is scheduled to take place in Folsom, CA on October 17–18, 2025.

9. KernBHRS Administrative Services – Heather Hornibrook, Deputy Director:

- **Clinical Plan Services**
 - Contracts
 - Remaining board dates before the end of the fiscal year are as follows: 6/17/25 and 6/24/25.
- **Department Supports**
 - MHSA
 - Working on the upcoming Integrated Plan for FY 2026–2029 that will forecast and budgets for all funding sources in the Department.
 - Cultural Competence Team
 - Honoring AAPI month, weekly lunch and learns at Various sites, with guest speakers, cultural food and education on the Filipino heritage.
 - Psychology Internship Program

- Business as usual.
- **Training and Compliance**
 - CFLC
 - The CFLC monthly calendar is available on www.KernBHRS.org
 - Clarvida has been awarded the operation of the CFLC Program through the RFP process. Contract negotiations are currently underway. The program will remain at the Westchester facility.
- **QID**
 - Business as usual.
- **Finance**
 - Business as usual.

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

- **Adult System of Care**
 - New CARE Court Data – Attached.
- **Kern Linkage**
 - Dr. Aroldo Orantes is the new supervisor over the Supportive Pathways Opportunities Team.
 - Bernice Cuevas is the new Co-Supervisor with Correctional Behavioral Health and will oversee the Programming for Correctional Integrated Care.
- **Substance Use Division**
 - Clinica Sierra Vista has officially launched Contingency Management Services in Bakersfield, making it the 7th clinic in Kern to offer these services.
 - The SUD Residential RFP closed in late March and awards are pending.
 - A Medical Detox RFP will be posted within the next month to seek proposers to offer this service in for Medi-Cal beneficiaries for the first time in Kern.

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

- No report

12. KernBHRS Department Report – Alison Burrowes, Director:

- **Residential RFP**
 - We continue to collaborate with the city on the residential Request for Proposal (RFP).
 - The city has been awarded \$22 million for the development of a new residential facility. This will be a collaborative project with KernBHRS.
 - The current total of 109 residential treatment beds; plans are in place to add 65 additional beds.
 - Facility design will accommodate women, men, and families, ensuring resources are tailored to meet individual and family-specific needs.
- **Budget Update**
 - Participated in the State Director Association Meeting in Sacramento (Thursday and Friday).
 - No funding cuts have been made to Behavioral Health at this time. However, no funding will be available to support:
 - Senate Bill 525 (SB525)
 - Proposition 36 (Prop36)
- **Proposition 47 (Prop 47) Grant**
 - Exploring the possibility of applying for the Round 5 Prop 47 grant.
 - The county remains eligible, having been approved in Round 3.
 - The State is encouraging reapplication.

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- **Local Advisory Council**

- Discussion underway regarding quarterly meetings for LAC.
- Final decision expected in June pending further input from BHB members.

13. Board Member Item: None

14. Committee Reports:

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

- Last meeting was held on May 14, 2025. Bryson provided a report to the board. Meeting frequency has been changed to quarterly at 4:00-5:00 in person.

Children's Treatment & Recovery Services (quarterly): Jeff Burdick:

- Next meeting will be held on July 10, 2025

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

- Next Meeting will be held in September 2025

15. Announcements to the Public: None

16. Adjourn: MOTION by BG to adjourn to the next regular meeting in person on June 23, 2025, and SECONDED by DK. ALL AYES: MOTION PASSED. Adjourned at 6:55pm

Items Distributed via Meeting Invite

BHB 2025 Schedule

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