

**INYO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES**  
***BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD***  
***MONDAY, September 13, 2021***  
***10:00-11:15 am***  
***Virtually Held via Zoom***

***Minutes***

***CALL TO ORDER***

The Meeting was called to order at 10:08 a.m. – Quorum established with attendance as follows:

X Jane Gillam   X Lynn Martin   X Dan Totheroh   \_\_\_ Vacant   \_\_\_ Vacant

***INTRODUCTIONS***

All present via Zoom introduced themselves.

***COMMUNITY & STAFF Virtually PRESENT***

Lisa Trunnell	Adam Veenker
Marilyn Mann	Mikaela Torres
Lucy Vincent	Jennifer Ray
Vanessa Ruggio	April Eagan
Chrystina Pope	Stephanie Tanksley
Karen Colter	Robert Rubio

***APPROVAL OF MINUTES***

No Minutes to Approve – Information Meeting Summary provided. We will be approving the minutes of this meeting next month, as we now have a quorum.

***DIRECTOR'S UPDATE***

Marilyn Mann reported that in early 2020, the Board of Supervisors changed the county codes to allow for a 5-member Behavioral Health Advisory Board and provided for the establishment of by-laws to allow for alternates who can vote if a Board Member is absent. The recent appointment of Ms. Gillam and Ms. Martin to the BHAB establishes a membership sufficient to conduct business. The Board Clerk is currently running recruitment for 30 days to try to fill the other 2 seats. One of the required positions, according to regulations and our by-laws is the position of family member of a person who has accessed services, or who is currently accessing services, at Inyo County Behavioral Health.

In response to Jane Gillam's request for clarification on Supervisor Dan Totheroh's role,

Supervisor Totheroh explained that, as a Supervisor, he was assigned by the Board of Supervisor's Board Chairman. His membership is renewed each year, and Supervisor Rick Pucci acts as alternate when Supervisor Totheroh is unable to attend.

Ms. Mann added that California Regulations governing Mental Health Advisory Boards require 1 person who is a consumer, 1 family member and 1 representative of the Board of Supervisors. This is in the regulation and in the approved by-laws.

### **SELECTION OF CHAIR and VICE-CHAIR – ACTION ITEM**

Accept nominations for Chair and Vice Chair and Vote – **Action Item**

Lynn Martin nominated Jane Gillam as BHAB Chair. Supervisor Totheroh seconded the nomination. Marilyn conducted a roll-call vote. Each of the three members voted in favor. Jane Gillam took over as chair.

Ms. Gillam nominated Lynn Martin as Vice Chair, Supervisor Totheroh seconded the nomination with each of the three members voting in favor of the nomination.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Ms. Mann shared the rules governing public meetings around the Public Comment section. She explained that it is a forum for the public to bring up items that are not on the agenda. Although no action can be taken, items can be added to future agendas as action items so action can be taken.*

Ms. Gillam wanted to comment as a member of the public, that she is pleased that our Board of Supervisors approved the search for a replacement for Dr. Zwier. She also reminded the group that the purpose of this forum is to focus on the Mental Health needs of our community; to identify needs and creatively think about how those needs can be met. She said that the people who attend the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) meetings, members of the BHAB board, Inyo County Behavioral Health staff and community partners and residents, are the collaborative resources we have to maintain this focus.

Ms. Mann concurred; adding that it is also our charge to expand attendance and participation of this critical meeting. She informed the group that we would be working to set up satellite sites to allow people to attend virtually in Tecopa and Lone Pine, if the Governor's executive order allowing the Board and the public to attend virtually is not renewed. Ms. Gillam expressed gratitude for these efforts to expand participation.

Ms. Gillam inquired about the JEDI (Justice Equity Diversity and Inclusion) group. Ms. Mann explained that the JEDI group is an HHS agency-wide committee that has representation from 3 HHS Divisions. The committee is working on how our agency can broaden and ensure equity, inclusion and diversity on service delivery and the work we do.

## **REPORTS AND INFORMATION**

### ***QI Committee Meeting Report by Stephanie Tanksley:***

- ❖ No JEDI report today. Mrs. Tanksley informed the group that other PIQA (Program Improvement Quality Assurance) team members will report quarterly on community-wide learning sessions they attend. BHAB can attend these sessions. They've got great momentum!
- ❖ Submissions of documents for the Medi-Cal Triennial Review wraps up tomorrow. Findings review will be published on our website. We will have 2 years to work toward a corrective action plan (CAP).
- ❖ QII is a meeting being used for quality improvement. We are currently working on Intakes – it will be a personalized orientation, explaining terms like eligibility, medical necessity, and other important terms. A warm handoff will be made to the therapist who will do the client's assessment. Once the pilot is ready, we can bring the orientation to a BHAB meeting.

### ***Prevention Report – by April Eagan:***

- ❖ Outdoor Program: Day Camp August 2-4 with 9 participants, successful event with guest speakers from the community, including dietitians from the hospital, Orion from Behavioral Health
- ❖ Middle School: Pilot program - Jorge planning a voluntary club for prevention using the Cannabis Prevention Toolkit, will do sessions at lunch with the students every other week in collaboration with Officer Peake at Home Street - Jorge got 21 signups for the club during school registration
- ❖ Mentor Program: Tim checking in with the school, counselors, and mentors to get the program back up and running this school year. Lunch pals are starting to meet again.

### ***Youth Services Report – by Chrystina Pope, LMFT:***

- ❖ Child and Family Services: The Child and Family actively seeing youth in the school setting. Adjusting schedules. Attending MDT with probation and school staff to coordinate services. Focusing on intensive therapy and making necessary referrals.
- ❖ We have a vacancy at the moment. Our clinicians are impacted by this. Need support in recruiting therapist to the area. (We are educating our referral sources as to what we do; working with severe mental illness and severe emotional disturbance. We have vacancy on our C&F therapy team.)

### ***Adult Therapeutic Services***

- ❖ The adult team continues to provide individual therapy in the field, telehealth and in office. Clinicians are settling into the new office. Needing to make the new office more comfortable for staff and clients. Working on transportation to get people to the new building.
- ❖ Dr. Winsten continues to provide services via tele-med. We meet with him weekly.
- ❖ Sue Park was just hired as another BH nurse. She will work as a registered nurse, but will be working as a psychiatric nurse practitioner by the end of the year.

## ***Substance Use Disorder Services***

- ❖ Collaborating well with Jail/ re-entry, Opening SUD groups in Lone Pine @ the wellness center.

## ***FIRST***

- ❖ Intakes are picking up and collaborating well with the Child and Family team
- ❖ \*New intake process to assist in access and ease for clients and staff. Reducing paperwork etc. as mentioned by Mrs. Tanksley earlier in this meeting.

## ***Progress House by Gina McKinzey***

- ❖ We have 6 residents and have had a couple of respites
- ❖ Had a State inspection that went well – with zero findings
- ❖ Still going on outings on weekends and holding groups
- ❖ Have a new stove and dishwasher
- ❖ Visitors must visit outdoors only; only residents are inside

## ***Wellness Centers by Vanessa Ruggio***

- ❖ We are still continuing with case management
- ❖ 2 case managers participated in a harm-reduction project in collaboration with Rural Health

## **OLD BUSINESS- ACTION ITEMS NOTED WHEN APPLICABLE**

- 1) MHSA Plan – Status and Next Steps – agendaize for October
- 2) Status of Board Member Recruitment provided

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- 1) Status of Deputy Director Recruitment –Ms. Mann informed the group that tomorrow an item goes before our Board of Supervisors authorizing a contract with CPS-HR to conduct an executive recruitment. We will bring candidates before the BHAB for recommendations.
- 2) Suicide Prevention and Recovery Month
- 3) Review approved by-laws, including roles and responsibilities of BHAB, including training and filing of 700 Conflict of Interest
- 4) Restructuring Reports to Quarterly Rather than Monthly– **Action Item:** to allow for more in depth discussion and MHSA Process. We're able to do Zoom and attend from wherever we are at, by Governor's executive order. Ms. McKinzey, Ms. Eagan and Ms. Ruggio were asked whether they feel their data would be more meaningful if presented on a quarterly, rather than a monthly basis. After some discussion about how this would better enable the group discussion, Ms. Gillam called for a motion. Supervisor Tothoroh moved to change report

frequency from monthly to quarterly. Lynn Martin seconded this motion; all three members voted Aye.

**AGENDA ITEMS FOR NEXT MEETING**

- 1) MHSA Plan – Status and Next Steps

The meeting adjourned at 11:03 am.

Next meeting: Monday, October 11, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. – Status of Virtual Access  
Pending – Meeting will be held in-person with virtual access if Governor's Executive  
Order is extended

Transcribed by:

*Lucy Vincent*