

**INYO COUNTY HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
WEDNESDAY, March 9, 2022
2:30 pm**

**Offered In Person at 1360 North Main Street, Suite 103
and Virtually via Zoom**

Minutes

Call To Order/Welcome

The Meeting was called to order at 2:39 pm

Attendance:

In Person: Michelle Saenz

Virtual: Lynn Martin Supervisor Dan Totheroh Jason Forehand

Community & Staff Present

In Person: Douglas Cooper Kimball Pier Bill SmithWaters
Frank SmithWaters Darcia Blackdeer-Lent

Virtual: Marilyn Mann Jennifer Ray Lisa Trunnell
Lucy Vincent Shelley Scott Yasmin Aref
Genoa Meneses Jean Bigham Laura Childers
Jody Veenker

PUBLIC COMMENT

This item is set-aside at each meeting to allow the public to address issues not on the agenda. No action can be taken, but items can be placed on future agendas.

Supervisor Totheroh informed the group that a Celtic Treo concert, will be held on April 10, 2022 at 3 pm at Bishop High School.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Request Board approve minutes from February 18, 2022 meeting. Ms. Martin asked for a vote to approve minutes. Minutes unanimously approved by vote:
Ms. Martin – Aye; Supervisor Totheroh – Aye; Ms. Saenz – Aye; Mr. Forehand - Aye

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INFORMATIONAL AND ACTION ITEMS

1. IMACA Status Report. Ms. Mann shared an update. IMACA is working with community members to transition some of their programs to other Agencies in Inyo Mono and Alpine Counties. They are also working with the State. Last week, the Continuum of Care Board voted to allow expenditures for the purpose of continuing support of certain homeless programs for 3-6 weeks to allow IMACA to provide fiscal reporting and transition clients to other services.
2. The SmithWaters Group – Patient Rights Advocates – Frank and Bill SmithWaters introduced themselves and gave BHAB members an overview of the services they provide as Patient Rights Advocates for Inyo County. They act as the voice of clients who are unable to represent themselves. (See brochure).
3. Payment of invoice to Pacific Grove Hospital – was sent to Board of Supervisors for approval to pay.
4. Director Update – Dr. Pier shared that she has been working with the Inyo County Behavioral Health Team to ensure documentation is done correctly in our electronic health record. Mr. Cataldo, one of the analysts on our Quality Improvement Team, assisted staff in trouble-shooting errors last Friday afternoon.
5. Program Reports
 - a. QI Committee – Dr. Pier read the PIQA Report on behalf of Stephanie Tanksley, who was not able to attend today’s meeting due to a mandatory training she needed to attend. *Quality Improvement:* The PIQA team is deep into the new Behavioral Health Orientation process which gets clients into services. The process will be reviewed and fine-tuned since the Area Resource Center has been opened. *Monitoring Reviews:* Drug Medi-Cal and Substance Abuse Block Grant review from the State were completed on Tuesday. Upcoming: External Quality Review (EQRO) will be conducted by Behavioral Health Concepts on May 5, 2022.
 - b. Youth/Adult Services – Dr. Pier shared areas of focus while she and the team are working on efficiency and effectiveness of service delivery: 1. Decreasing stress of responding to crisis on-call. She told the group that she has met with community partners to develop community-wide collaboration and support.
 - c. Progress House – Ms. McKinzey was not able to attend due to participation in a mandatory training today.
 - d. SUD – Ms. Veenker shared some information about activities provided by Prevention and Early Intervention staff. She shared about training leadership that included staff from Probation.
 - e. Wellness Centers – Ms. Ray reported wellness center activities and how staff are collaborating with community partners to meet the needs of our community. A breakfast social is held Thursday mornings from 8:30 to 11 at the Bishop Wellness Center. Lone Pine Wellness Center is seeing more clients drop in on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9 am to 2 pm.
6. Mental Health Awareness Month – the group discussed mental health awareness month. Ms. Martin moved to form a committee to create, with input from HHS staff, 13 articles for MH Awareness Month for the Inyo Register issues during the month of May, for the local radio stations. The results of the committee’s work to be presented at the April BHAB meeting. Supervisor Totheroh seconded the motion. He reminded the members of the restrictions of the Brown Act, requiring

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that the board be less than a quorum from this board. Motion passed with 3 ayes: Ms. Martin – aye, Supervisor Totheroh – aye, Mr. Forehand – aye. Mr. Forehand volunteered to be on the committee.

Mr. Cooper posed that a client creates the flag and the group agreed. Mr. Cooper offered his services and presented two designs to the group; incorporating the moto in English and Spanish. Supervisor Totheroh stated which design he preferred, and Mr. Forehand agreed that the first flag design should be utilized and that we should ask Ms. Mann to move forward with it. Ms. Martin made a motion to choose the first flag design be approved and made. Mr. Forehand seconded it. Motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Cooper suggested using the vendor who made our Mental Health Awareness T-Shirts last year. He suggested that a second flag be flown at the Wellness Center on a smaller flagpole. Dr. Pier suggested that clients also contribute to the articles published in the Inyo Register, and artwork to be hung on the walls. Ms. Trunnell agrees and suggested a third flag be flown at the Lone Pine Wellness Center. Supervisor Totheroh volunteered piping, rope and pulleys for the flag poles. He needs help digging the hole and pouring concrete to do this at each suggested location. Supervisor Totheroh offered to work with Mr. Cooper to get this done. Mr. Forehand offered his assistance.

Note: Mr. Cooper and Supervisor Totheroh will explore banners in addition to flags so that they are more visible when the wind is high.

The group discussed ideas about getting the word out to generate articles for the 13 issues to be published during the month of May. Mr. Cooper will submit poems to Dr. Pier.

AGENDA ITEMS FOR FUTURE MEETINGS

- 1) “Kids that slip through the cracks” – with a focus on the Latinx population
- 2) MH Awareness – Ms. Trunnell mentioned the NAMI Organization and Family Support Group

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, April 13, 2022, at 2:30 pm.

Transcribed by: