

MEETING MINUTES

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Date: February 14, 2024

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Bishop COB Room 103 and via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Anna Scott called the meeting to order at 2:30 PM. All attendees introduced themselves.

MEMBERSHIP IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Lynn Martin, Jason Forehand, Supervisor Trina Orrill

Virtual: None

COMMUNITY & STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Jody Veenker, Noni Raley, Anna Scott, Araceli Morales, Vanessa Ruggio, Gina McKinzey, Brandon DeHaven, Katrina Delgado, Vivian De La Riva, Shirley Ramirez PHD, Gina Ellis, Cathy Rigney, Lucy Vincent

Virtual: Rose Colon, Shelley Scott

Anna Scott added Item **1a**: Applicant for Behavioral Health (BH) Deputy Director to be remotely interviewed tomorrow. Anna Scott asked Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) to discuss & recommend interview questions. Discussion included the following: Look at BH or County BH leadership experiences; Care Court experience; Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act or justice-related experience; Law enforcement and hospital experience.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Lynn Martin reminded participants that books may be donated to jail. They must be paperback, and they can be given to Tim Toppass or brought to the reception desk at the Bishop Consolidated Office Building (COB). Ms. Martin also mentioned Proposition 1 that must be paid through bonds and reminded attendees of the March 5 election.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes from June 14, 2023 meeting were approved as follows: Supervisor Orrill moved to approve, Jason Forehand seconded the motion. Motion carried: Supervisor Orrill – Aye, Mr. Forehand – Aye, Ms. Martin – Aye

4. BHAB MEMBER ELECTIONS (ACTION ITEM)

Supervisor Orrill facilitated BHAB Member Elections:

Ms. Martin moved to nominate Michelle Saenz for Board Chairperson, Supervisor Orrill seconded, and the motion passed: Supervisor Orrill – Aye, Ms. Martin – Aye, Mr. Forehand – Aye

Supervisor Orrill moved to nominate Pete Peters for Vice Chairperson, Mr. Forehand seconded, and the motion passed: Supervisor Orrill – Aye, Ms. Martin – Aye, Mr. Forehand - Aye

5. STAFF REPORTS (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

- 1) Behavioral Health Updates – Anna Scott
 - a) GHC (Generations Health Care) of Upland and GHC of Anberry contracts to be presented to Board of Supervisors (BOS) on 2/20/2024. The contract is for placement and treatment of individuals with severe mental illness.
- 2) Family Strengthening Team Updates – Jody Veenker
 - a) Currently working with 4 families
 - b) Received 5 referrals over the past 3 months/ 3 are in the orientation process.
 - c) Will do presentations to the preschool and early childhood providers of Northern Inyo.
 - d) Attending the February Student Attendance Review Board Meeting to outreach to 6 families with school attendance concerns.
 - e) Plan to train in Positive Parenting Program certifications in March to enable us to train parents to support their children in overcoming anxiety in workshops across Inyo County.
- 3) SUD Updates – Cathy Rigney & Gina Ellis
 - a) Staff turnover, exploring new ideas. Newest counselor is bilingual which facilitates services to underserved population in SUD (Bishop and Lone Pine (LP) locations) and with Inmates of Inyo County Jail. Has extensive knowledge gained in her work in LA County, including in detention facilities and prisons.
 - b) Procedures are being streamlined.
 - c) The difference between Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Drinking under the influence (DUI) programs was explained.
- 4) Wellness Center Updates – Vanessa Ruggio
 - a) LP visits: 75, BH visits: 337, Bishop Groups
 - b) Washer & Dryer purchased for LP location.
 - c) New Wellness Center sign is in process.
 - d) New case manager will begin soon. The new employee will help to facilitate services in LP days to 3 days per week and offer groups.
 - e) Wellness Center Staff is being presented with "Most Improved Safety Award" by the Inyo County Risk Manager at the Board of Supervisors meeting on March 5, 2024.
- 5) Progress House Updates – Gina McKinzey on behalf of Kelly Nugent
 - a) Rooms are available for new residents and/or short-term respites.
 - b) Kitchen remodel is in progress. Larger size will facilitate working with clients in the kitchen.
 - c) Residents enjoy attending Art & Mindful Wellness Groups at Wellness Center.
 - d) State licensing was just renewed. Facility is licensed for ages 18 to 59.

6. AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Ms. Martin asked when Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Plan is due. Anna Scott explained that ICBH will be into a new 3 year plan. This will be brought before BHAB prior to July 1st.

Next meeting to be held on March 13, 2024, at 2:30pm at the Bishop COB Room 103 and via Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 PM