

# MEETING MINUTES

## BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

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Date: August 14, 2024

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Bishop COB Room 109, Lone Pine Wellness Center (satellite/virtual) and via Zoom

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Michelle Saenz called the meeting to order at 2:45 PM. All attendees introduced themselves.

### MEMBERSHIP IN ATTENDANCE

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

Virtual: None

### COMMUNITY & STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Vanessa Ruggio, Araceli Morales, Gina Ellis, Brandon DeHaven, Shyann T. Harvey, Tammy Red Owl, Vivian De La Riva, Cathy Rigney, Melissa Best Baker

Virtual: Lucy Vincent, Shelley Scott, Manuel Fletes Medina (CALBHB/C Staff)

### 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

### 3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes from June 12, 2024 meeting were approved as follows: Mr. Forehand moved to approve, Supervisor Orrill seconded the motion. Motion carried: Supervisor Orrill– Aye, Mrs. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Forehand – Aye, Ms. Martin abstained.

### 4. PUBLIC HEARING ON THE ANNUAL UPDATE OF THE FY 2024-25 MHSA ANNUAL UPDATE (STAFF WILL DOCUMENT COMMENTS.)

## **PUBLIC HEARING OPENED AT 2:57 PM FOR COMMENTS.**

Ms. Martin recommended a glossary and index be added to the document to facilitate navigation. A copy will be given to Mrs. Vincent this week.

Mrs. Best Baker shared the edits and corrections she has made thus far. Mrs. Ellis thanked Mrs. Best Baker for all the work she did on the FY 2024-25 MHSA Annual Update. Mrs. Best Baker commended Vanessa Ruggio for clearly and completely explaining what Wellness Center Staff does.

Mrs. Ellis stated, regarding P. 13 in the second section, pertaining to jail MDT: bi-weekly meeting needs to be changed to weekly. She asked that EPI-CAL (Early Psychosis Intervention of California) Meeting be added.

Other grammatical edits were recommended, and Mrs. Best Baker made note of these changes.

## **PUBLIC HEARING CLOSED AT 3:14 PM FOR COMMENTS.**

### **5. ADVISORY COUNCIL SUPPORT TO RECOMMEND TO THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS APPROVAL OF THE 3-YEAR AREA PLAN (ACTION ITEM)**

Mrs. Saenz requested a motion to approve the MHSA Plan Update as reviewed and sign the transmittal letter. Mr. Forehand moved to approve; Ms. Martin seconded the motion. Motion carried: Supervisor Orrill- Aye, Mrs. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Forehand – Aye, Ms. Martin - Aye.

### **6. CARE ACT (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)**

Mrs. Ellis explained that Care Court must be implemented by December 2024. Inyo County's Administration Team has been meeting with the state for Training and Technical Assistance (TTA). Since we are in Cohort 2, we can learn from other counties who have already implemented Care Court. This has been very helpful.

This will really impact Behavioral Health. The court will work with Behavioral Health to get individuals who need mental health treatment into a system of care instead of incarcerating them. We are looking at staffing needs in the LPS Conservatorship Team. Case Management services will increase as we support individuals who have difficulty accessing care. BHAB Members and attendees engaged in a lively discussion about Care Court.

### **7. STAFF REPORTS (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)**

- a. Behavioral Health Updates – Gina Ellis
  - i. Multiple contracts pertaining to required residential placements have been approved by the Inyo County Board of Supervisors
  - ii. EPI-Cal Training held on 7/28/24: All who attended the training found it to be very valuable. Mrs. Ellis invited BHAB Members to attend the upcoming training about cannabis.
  - iii. Substance Use Disorder Summit – Cultivating a Community of Healing – will be taking place on Aug. 26 & 27. The meeting is free of charge. Mrs. Ellis will send the flier which contains the QR code so those interested in attending can register.

- iv. Department of Health Care Services – Behavioral Health Audit in progress: Staff has been working hard to pull the required documents. One of two candidates interviewed has been offered the position of HHS Deputy Director – Behavioral Health.
- b. Family Strengthening Team Updates – Jody Veenker was unable to attend so this update has been tabled.
- c. SUD Updates – Cathy Rigney reported 9 active SUD clients in the month of July, and one participating in Drug Court. The Team is involved in community outreach to offer help to community members who need it. DUI: There has been a large increase in DUI clients at the beginning of the year. There were 34 enrollments in three months. (Currently: 1 Wet & Reckless, 4 three-month, 1 nine-month, and 1 completion.) Mrs. Ellis added: Staff worked hard to address 19 items in the Corrective Action Plan (CAP), and it was accepted. She also shared that the SUD Team has new group ideas, highlighting a group for newly released previously incarcerated persons, and groups in the schools.
- d. Wellness Center Updates – Vanessa Ruggio reported: Lone Wellness Center is running well. Bishop Wellness Center: WC Staff is working in crisis response and prevention. They have been writing many safety plans, whenever possible, and 5150 holds when safety planning is not feasible. CCMU work - a collaborative effort between WC staff and law enforcement - has resulted in less hospitalizations.
- e. Progress House Updates – Mrs. Ruggio reported on behalf of Kelly Nugent: 3 respite stays took place in July. There are 6 full-time residents. Residents are doing outings and attending groups at Wellness Center.

## **8. AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS**

- Bring back MHSA data to upcoming meetings

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday September 11, 2024, at 2:30pm at the Bishop COB Room 103, at Lone Pine Wellness Center (in-person, virtually) and via Zoom.

Meeting adjourned at 4:17 PM