

MEETING MINUTES

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Date: October 8, 2025

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Bishop COB Room 142, Lone Pine Wellness Center (satellite/virtual) and via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Chairperson, Michelle Saenz called the meeting to order at 2:35 pm. All attendees introduced themselves.

MEMBERSHIP IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Supervisor Trina Orrill, Michelle Saenz, Claude Peters
Virtual: none

COMMUNITY & STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Brandon DeHaven, Lucy Vincent, Melissa Best-Baker, Lori Bengochia, Liliana Fregoso, Vivian De La Riva
Virtual: none

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

none

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes from July 9, 2025 meeting.

Supervisor Orrill moved to approve minutes as written, Mr. Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried: Ms. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Peters – Aye, Supervisor Orrill - Aye. None opposed.

4. 2025 DATA NOTEBOOK FOR INYOCOUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD (ACTION ITEM)

Melissa Best-Baker shared the Data Notebook Survey (attached) with recommended answers, asking for BHAB Member input and/or approval.

Mr. Peters moved to approve Data Notebook Survey to be submitted as completed; Supervisor seconded the motion. Motion carried: Ms. Saenz – Aye, Mr. Peters – Aye, Supervisor Orrill – Aye. None opposed.

5. MEMBERSHIP UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

Mrs. Best-Baker informed BHAB Members and meeting attendees that two BHAB Members are needed: 1 family member and 1 client. She shared membership criteria with the group.

6. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH PROGRAM UPDATE (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

Mrs. Best-Baker reported the following:

1. Inyo County Behavioral Health will be interviewing two addiction supervisor candidates next week
2. An Apar Peer Support position will be flown again
3. Wellness Center is in the process of hiring one Apar person
4. A Residential Caregiver is leaving her position at Progress House because she was accepted to the police academy – a goal realized.
5. The remote supervisor's hours have increased to 20 hours. ICBH leadership is receiving good feedback from clinical and case-management staff members.

7. DATA REPORTS (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

Mrs. Best-Baker shared the Data Report Power Point (attached). BHAB Members were pleased with the new format. The group discussed what data points they would like to see in the future. Some ideas included: the addition of an acronym list, new descriptive headings. Supervisor Orrill asked about funding for Family Strengthening Team. Mrs. Best-Baker explained it is fully braided (split between a variety of funding sources). It was noted that the team is seeing more referrals and that they serve the whole family. Supervisor Orrill recommended more breakdown by subgroups (low income, veterans – MST, elderly, etc.). She also recommended presenting Bishop & Lone Pine Wellness Center statistics in identical order to help determine investment in the right resources. Mrs. Saenz recommended the addition of Full-Service Partners (FSP) data points.

8. FY 25/26 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE (ACTION ITEM)

Mrs. Best-Baker informed the group that the state has requested changes pertaining to cost per person in a couple of categories. She also shared how Wellness Center Staff has greatly increased documentation in our Electronic Health Record (EHR) and other systems. Supervisor Orrill commented that this data helps her and other supervisors address community concerns. It helps them show the community what we are doing.

Mrs. Best-Baker asked if BHAB members had questions about the state's requested changes. Please refer to the Inyo County website to view the MHSA Plan Update.
(<https://www.inyocounty.us/sites/default/files/2025-05/INYO%20MHSA%20FY25-26%20v.3.pdf>)

Supervisor Orrill moved to approve the FY 25/26 MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) ANNUAL PLAN UPDATE. Mr. Peters seconded the motion. The motion passed with all in favor: Supervisor Orrill – Aye, Claude Peters – Aye, Michelle Saenz – Aye.

9. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (BHSA), (STANDING INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

Lori Bengochia presented the following: BHSA is still moving forward. Tim Whitney, Innovation and Grant Manager, is working on the BHSA Plan. A lot of training is taking place. Still working on community planning process. The state is continuing to release regulations. Still waiting for some answers from the state. We will discuss more data at upcoming meeting. 3-year Plan Draft is due March 31, 2026 to DHCS. Final is due June 30, 2026.

Mrs. Bengochia stated that CalMHSA has done an excellent job on dashboards. The data they are reporting shows that we are doing well, and that we can use this data as baseline in writing our plan. The state is looking for improvement on the services we are providing. Mrs. Bengochia said we are interested in what BHAB members and community members want to work on. We want to comply with state requirements, provide good services to our community, and maximize the funds we receive.

10. OLD BUSINESS (INFORMATIONAL OR DISCUSSION ITEM)

11. AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

- Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) (standing informational item)
- Review on access to services

Meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm.