



**KERN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, April 24, 2023

5:30 p.m.

In Person: 2001 28th Street, 1st Floor Training Room

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

Sonia Silva (Dist. 1) – Chair

Stephanie Hermeston (Dist. 1) – 1st Vice Chair: *Excused*

David Kessler (Dist. 3) – Parliamentarian

Michael Herrera – Board of Supervisors Appointee

Deborah Fabos (Dist. 2) - *Excused*

Bryson Gholston (Dist. 3)

Destiny Adams – *Excused*

BreAnne Patterson (Dist. 5)

Nancy Solis (Dist. 5): *Excused*

Dian Schneider (Dist. 2) - 2nd Vice Chair: *Excused*

Michael Bryant (Dist. 3)

Flossie White (Dist. 4) - *Excused*

Jeff Burdick (Dist. 1)

LaShawna Lee (Dist. 3)

Lucille Holt (Dist. 2)

Tracy Lynch – BHB Coordinator

OTHERS PRESENT:

Marisa Trebizo

Chris Reilly

Theresa Marinas

KERNBHRS STAFF:

Jessica Armstrong

Robin Taylor

Lynn Corse

Liz Bailey

Christina Rajlal

Michelle Culy

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Sonia Silva, Chair, welcomed everyone; each board member introduced themselves. New members, BreAnne Patterson and Lucille Holt were introduced.
- 2. Establish Quorum:** 9 present, 6 excused. Quorum was established.
- 3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for March 27, 2023, Regular Meeting:** MOTION by Jeff Burdick to approve minutes and seconded by Michael Bryant. Lucille Holt and BreAnne Patterson ABSTAINED; Motion Passed.
- 4. Presentation(s):**
 - o **“May is Mental Health Month” – Dr. Christina Rajlal:** Shared a presentation on May Events and Calendar May is Mental Health Awareness Month, Calendar, Additional Activities, Flyers for our Events, Cross Posting of Partner Events with Education, Cross Posting of Partner Events with Providers, Cross Posting of Community Partner Events, Cross Posting of NAMI Events, Cross Posting of Culturally Focused Community Events. Time allowed for *Questions and Answers*.



- **“Fiscal Overview and MHSA Reform” – Stacy Kuwahara:** Shared a presentation on Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Fiscal Overview & Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Reform Proposal, Fiscal Premises, Revenues, KernBHRS Budgeted Revenue FY 23-24, KernBHRS Budgeted Expenses FY 23-24, MHSA Distribution by FY, MHSA Overview, MHSA Rules for Funding, MHSA and the Recovery Vision, MHSA Reform Proposal. Time Allowed for *Questions and Answers*.
5. **Public Comment:** Chris Riley, Behavioral Health Director for Good Samaritan Hospital: Information regarding detox services offered at the hospital. Offering Alcohol and Opioid Withdrawal Management and Recuperative care after detox stay. They accept HealthNet and Kern Family Healthcare along with private insurances.
What are the age restrictions? For inpatient services, the patient must be a minimum of 18 years. However, outpatient suboxone inductions and alcohol use withdrawal services are offered to adolescents with stable homes/ families. (Foster children are included with approval from FFA). Coaching families how to walk patients through withdrawal and how to administer medications.
6. **Unfinished Business:** None
7. **New Business:**
- A. **Motion to Approve 2022 BHB Annual Report:** MOTION by David Kessler to approve 2022 BHB Annual Report and seconded by Bryson Gholston ALL AYES; Motion passed.
 - B. **Adult Treatment & Recovery Services Co-Chair:** Currently accepting names. Looking at combining Adult & Children’s. If interested, please contact Tracy Lynch.
 - C. **Strategic Planning:** Requesting in July, have a casual luncheon, and strategic conversation. Taking suggestions, will send out survey to Board members and discuss at next BHB meeting.
8. **Chair Report – Sonia Silva:** Speaking to the Listening Session, it was very informative. Surprised by some of the discussions regarding not seeking or receiving services due to skin color, how is this still an issue. Overall, very informative and good talk.
9. **KernBHRS Clinical Services Report – Jessica Armstrong, Deputy Director:**
- **Kern Linkage Division** – Supportive Housing Team has a new Supervisor, Lourdes Torres. Brundage Lane Navigation Center has 20 medical beds that Kern Medial ED is not able to discharge too. Legislation for emergency rooms that they are not allowed to discharge patients from emergency room into homelessness. Allows HAT Team ability to engage with patients.
 - **Substance Use Disorder** – Audit is coming up in 2 weeks. Contingency Management Plan has been approved to start May 1, 2023.
 - **Adult System of Care** – NE RAWC is planning to participate in the Latin Listening Session coming up. WISE Staff is participating in “Pearls” practice for individuals to work on skills to work with older adults. Also planning on working with Aging and Adult at their Health Fair and connecting with clients. ACT and AOT program, lots of staff, small case loads working with acute clients, work with MHRC engagement preparing people to lower level of housing.

- **Children's System of Care** – Working with SUD, recognizing huge increase in youth activity. Working on training staff for Early Childhood and Age-Appropriate Intervention. We have four more resource parents trained and on board to assist with acute youth.
What hinders us from having more MHRC Contracts?
Costs are paid solely by Realignment funding. It is a very expensive resource.

10. KernBHRS Specialty Clinical Services Report – Robin Taylor, Deputy Director:

- **MHSA** 3-year plan is on our website. It is currently available for public comment for 30 days, final approval will come in May.
- **Disaster Response** - Currently operating in two locations, Lake Isabella, and McFarland. Staff are working at both sites, supporting response centers. Completed Critical Incident Stress Management training.
- **Crisis Services**- Telecare was awarded RFP and will continue to operate Ridgecrest CSU. Continuing work on 988 implementation the text/chat will be starting in July. Mobile crisis benefit planning working on new change where Mobile Evaluation Teams are operating. New billing will cause adjustments with our operations. Working with law enforcement to prepare a plan that will be submitted to the State. Two new psychiatric health facilities are under construction, expected to be operational in Winter of 2023. Working on improvements to our Mary K. Shell facility which may cause temporary relocation of PEC CSU.
- **Department Supports** – Training coming up regarding infusion cultural competence into services in our system that provide suicide prevention or assessment.

11. KernBHRS Administrative Services Report – Alison Burrowes, Deputy Director: Not in attendance, no report provided.

Stacy – Congratulations Alison for achieving the Rising Runner Award from CSUB!

12. KernBHRS Department Report – Stacy Kuwahara, Director: Completed 1st Listening Panel, we are in discussions of what else can we do to enhance and meet the community. Plans were made to host listening sessions focusing on specific community groups including the: African American community, Latin community, and the Rural Asian community. Our first session was with a panel that represents the African American community, and the audience was primarily healthcare providers. The feedback we received was very informative. Hoping that our healthcare providers can use the information to make positive changes in practice.

13. Board Member Item: None

14. Committee Reports:

- A. Adult Treatment & Recovery Services** (monthly): No Report
- B. Children's Treatment & Recovery Services** (quarterly): Dian Schneider and Jeff Burdick: Met on 4/13/23. Program looking for health advocates for kids.
- C. System Quality Improvement Committee** (monthly): David Kessler: Met today with presentations on: Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), Peer Support, Zero Suicide, Consumer and Family Satisfaction (CPS), and Treatment Perception Satisfaction (TPS).

15. Announcements to the Public: None

16. Adjourn: MOTION by David Kessler to adjourn to the next regular meeting In Person on May 22, 2023, and seconded by Michael Bryant, ALL AYES; Motion passed. Adjourned at 6:37 p.m.

Items Distributed via Meeting Invite

BHB Agenda for April 24, 2023

BHB Meeting Minutes Draft for March 27, 2023

<https://www.kernbhrs.org/behavioral-health-board>