



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES (BHRS)  
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD (BHB)  
January 27, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting convened via remote participation at 5:01 p.m. and called to order by Chair, Kathy Rupe.

Chair, Kathy Rupe conducted member roll call and led the board members and the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Madalynn Baker, Megan Belair, Peter Dean, Shehu Hassan, Annie Henrich, Frank Ploof, Jerold Rosenthal, Kathy Rupe, Jack Waldorf, Keryn Whitlow.

**MEMBERS ABSENT**

Frank Martinez, Charmaine Monte, Terry Withrow, Thomas Olsen.

**STAFF PRESENT**

Veronica Torres, Ruben Imperial, Kara Anguiano, Mayra Mendoza, Kevin Panyanouvong, Carlos Cervantes, Janelle Villalba, Melissa Farris, Lezzette Ervin, Michele Benedix, Tina Jamison.

**GUESTS PRESENT**

Margie Johnson, Shantell Johnson, Kelly Covello.

**AB 361 TELECONFERENCING BY BROWN ACT LEGISLATIVE BODIES**

Action: In order to better ensure the health and safety of the public, the Stanislaus County Behavioral Health Board (SCBHB) will continue to meet remotely in compliance with AB 361.

Passed and adopted: Yes: 3 No: 7.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

Veronica Torres reported two BHB candidates have been interviewed and will be recommended for appointment to the Board of Supervisors. Additionally, four applications have been received and the candidates will be interviewed in February and March.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Action: Peter Dean made a motion to approve the Behavioral Health Board minutes of November 18, 2021. Shehu Hassan seconded the motion.

## **BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (BOS) REPORT**

None reported.

## **PRESENTATION: MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA) PLAN UPDATE FUNDING FOR INNOVATIONS COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS AND STAKEHOLDER INPUT**

Kara Anguiano, BHRS Chief Fiscal and Administrative Officer, provided a PowerPoint presentation with a brief overview of the MHSA Innovation Plan Update Funding for Innovations Community Planning Process and Stakeholder Input. Kara reported there are additional innovation funds that would provide the opportunity to invest in a community planning process that focuses on promising innovation opportunities while ensuring active engagement across diverse stakeholders. Kara presented the following highlights:

- BHRS will be requesting approval to spend the funds from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) and the Board of Supervisors (BOS).
- Innovation Planning funds will support the design, development and implementation of new innovation ideas brought forth through the community planning process.
- Under MHSA regulations, counties may use up to 5% of their total MHSA allocation to fund community program planning and designate positions for oversight and support.
- 5% of the innovation allocations over the next 5 years would be approximately \$425,000 to bolster the support of existing staff in the development and/or bring on a dedicated consultant to lead the effort.

## **PUBLIC HEARING - MHSA INNOVATION PLAN**

Kathy Rupe called the public hearing to order regarding the MHSA Innovation Plan Update Funding for Innovations Community Planning Process and Stakeholder Input. Kathy opened the floor to those present who wished to comment. There being no further comments, the hearing on the MHSA Plan Update Funding for Innovations Community Planning Process and Stakeholder Input closed.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS: GENERAL, CONSUMER, FAMILY**

None.

## **BHB COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS AND AGENDA UPDATE**

Ruben Imperial, BHRS Director, shared an update on the BHB committee structures. There are two new committees, the Mental Health Committee and Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Committee that will provide oversight and meet with each program over the next 18 months. Ruben will be presenting the committee structure before the BHB Executive Committee to elect or appoint a chair for these committees.

It is also recommended that the committees have an agenda that would provide them with the opportunity to visit a different program each month, meet with its consumers, and receive a presentation on the program's data.

## **APPROVE THE CONVENING OF AN INITIATIVES COMMITTEE, APPOINT CHAIRPERSON AND ALLOCATE A TIME FRAME FOR COMMITTEE TO CONVENE**

Ruben Imperial shared that on November 16, 2021, the Board of Supervisors approved changes to the Behavioral Health Board's committee structure to align with the BHRS Strategic Plan. The committees are now as follows:

- Executive Committee
- Administrative and Fiscal Committee.
- Mental Health Committee
- Substance Use Disorder Committee
- Inpatient Committee
- Initiatives Committee

The Initiatives Committee allows the SCBHB to be responsive to emerging community behavioral health issues that warrant the Board's consideration. The SCBHB approves the agenda topics, appoints a Chairperson, and allocates a specified amount of time for the committee to convene. The Executive Committee recommended the housing issue for BHRS clients experiencing homelessness be considered as the first topic of the Initiatives Committee.

Action: BHB members unanimously approved the convening of an Initiatives Committee to address the housing issue for BHRS clients for a 90-day period. Members appointed Frank Ploof as Committee Chair and Megan Belair as Co-Chair.

## **DEPARTMENT REPORT**

Ruben Imperial reported the following highlights:

- On January 25, 2022, the Board of Supervisors approved a housing project in partnership with Stanislaus County Affordable Housing Corporation (STANCO) that will construct seven permanent supportive housing units at 35 California Avenue, Modesto. These housing units will be for BHRS clients receiving treatment and experiencing homelessness.
- In addition, the Board of Supervisors approved the Turning Point Community Program (TPCP) Street Outreach and Engagement program. This program is a comprehensive whole-person approach to assist individuals with accessing shelter throughout Stanislaus County, in collaboration with the County's Access Center and Emergency Shelter (ACES) and other community homeless outreach partners.
- Ruben has been working with other county directors to expand the number of students accepted to Stanislaus State's Social Work Program and Mental Health Counseling Program. Additionally, Ruben has been meeting with Modesto Junior College (MJC) to continue work with the California Association of Social Rehabilitation Agencies (CASRA) and their programs around substance use disorder counseling.
- BHRS continues to provide in-person services to clients while also providing staff with options to work from home.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

None reported.

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:39 p.m. The next meeting will be February 24, 2022, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Respectfully Submitted by Mayra Mendoza, Confidential Assistant III