



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES (BHRS) BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD (BHB) May 22, 2025

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. and was called to order by Kathy Rupe, Chair. Larry Bolton led the board members and the audience in the pledge of allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kym Barber, Larry Bolton, Christopher Costin, Peter Dean, Olivia Esquiviz Gonzalez, Jack Griffith, Annie Henrich, Margie Johnson, Loren Mannard, Kathy Rupe, Keryn Whitlow

STAFF PRESENT

Cynthia Bocage, Keri Magee, Sam Groves, Ruben Imperial, Maribel McCarroll, Leonor Sierra, Olivia Jimenez

GUESTS PRESENT

Brian MacLaren, Pathana Luangath, Lisa Jackson, Jelaine Esguerra, Roman Scanlon, Lucy Escobar, Stacy Call, Dar Thomas

CORRESPONDENCE

None reported.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action: Keryn Whitlow made a motion to approve the Behavioral Health Board minutes of April 24, 2025, Larry Bolton seconded the motion.

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS (BOS) REPORT

None Reported.

PUBLIC COMMENTS CONSUMER, GENERAL, FAMILY

None Reported.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

Kathy Rupe reported the committee finalized the agenda for the May 22, 2025, board meeting. Committee briefly discussed inviting the Suicide Prevention Coalition to an upcoming board meeting. Ruben Imperial addressed the potential impacts and challenges of Prop. 1. Additionally, it was mentioned that the Board of Supervisors has allocated opioid settlement funds to BHRS.

Administrative Fiscal Management Committee

None Reported.

Inpatient Committee

None reported.

Mental Health Committee

None reported.

Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Committee

Margie Johnson reported that Cory Taylor, BHRS Coordinator gave a presentation on the Care Coordination Team (CCT). Cory provided an overview of the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS), including the various programs that follow under DMC-ODS. It was noted that there is a need for additional staff to increase assessments. Additionally, it was mentioned that some programs rely on borrowing vehicles from other programs to transport members to their appointments.

Ad Hoc Committee

Loren Mannard reported the committee continued to discuss different subcommittees and restructuring of the committees.

DEPARTMENT REPORT:

Ruben Imperial, BHRS Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation on Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA). California's Proposition 1 passed in March 2024. BHSA updates the 2004 Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and introduces the Behavioral Health Infrastructure Bond Act. A copy of the PowerPoint presentation was distributed to the board members.

- Reforms behavioral health care funding to provide services to individuals with serious mental illness and treat substance use disorder.
- Expands the behavioral health workforce to reflect and connect with California's diverse population.
- Focuses on outcomes, accountability, and equity.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Update and Expenditure Plan Fiscal Year 2025 – 2026

Kathy Rupe called the public hearing to order for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Update and Expenditure Plan Fiscal Year 2025-2026. Kathy opened the floor to those present who wished to comment. All comments have been taken, the hearing on Annual Update and Expenditure Plan Fiscal Year 2025-2026 closed.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Annie Henrich, Stanislaus Asian American Community Resource (SAACR) member, distributed a flyer announcing an Asian Families Wellness Picnic on May 31, 2025, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at Ustach Neighborhood Park, located at 2700 Hillglen Ave. Modesto.

Ruben Imperial shared that BHRS is working closely with local law enforcement agencies including Modesto Police Department (MPD) and the Sheriff's Office to implement new policies regarding the response to 911 calls involving mental health crises. Additionally, Ruben stated that the Police Chief has committed to assigning a MPD officer to serve on the Behavioral Health Board.

Kathy Rupe announced that Cynthia Bocage will be sending out an email asking Board members to select either June 28, 2025, or July 12, 2025, for the upcoming training presented by Susan Wilson from the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CalBHB/C).

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m. The next meeting will be June 26, 2025, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., at the Stanislaus Veterans Center, 3500 Coffee Rd. Ste.15, Modesto.

Respectfully Submitted by O. Jimenez, Confidential Assistant III