



Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory Board (Minutes of the meeting of December 6, 2023)

FINAL

<u>2022 BHAB Membership</u>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct 4	Oct 7 BHAB Retreat	Nov	Dec
Jaron Brandon - BOS	Meeting Cancelled	✓	Meeting Cancelled	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	A	✓	A	✓	✓
Anaiah Kirk – BOS Alt		E		E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E
Mary Anne Schmidt, Chairperson		✓		E	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sherry Bradley, Vice- Chairperson		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cathie Peacock		-		-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E
Elizabeth Marum		✓		✓	✓	V	E	E	E	E	✓	✓	E
Jenn Salazar		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	A	✓	✓	✓
Maureen Woods		✓		✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓
Terry Ann Garcia		-		-	-	-	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Valerie Shuemake		✓		✓	✓	E	A	E	✓	✓	E	E	E

Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E Virtual Attendance = V 9 MHAB Members, 1 BOS Alternate

<u>Tuolumne County Staff in Attendance</u>
Tami Mariscal, Director – Behavioral Health Department
Lindsey Lujan, Deputy Director – Behavioral Health Department
Pandora Armbruster, Administrative Assistant – Behavioral Health Department
<u>Others in Attendance</u>
Morgan Rain, Executive Director – LGBTQ+ Rural Resource Center
Marshall Romeo, community member and one other unidentified community member

1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Behavioral Health Advisory Board Chairperson, Mary Anne Schmidt, called the meeting to order at 4:12 pm. Five members were present and accounted for at the time of roll call, completing a quorum for the Board. Behavioral Health Advisory Board members introduced themselves as roll call was taken. Those present were Mary Anne Schmidt, Sherry Bradley, Jenn Salazar, Maureen Woods, and Terry Ann Garcia. Cathie Peacock, Elizabeth Marum, and Valerie Shuemake were excused from attending.

2. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made by Tuolumne County staff in attendance, as follows: Tami Mariscal, Behavioral Health Director; Lindsey Lujan, Behavioral Health Deputy Director, and Pandora Armbruster – Administrative Technician, Behavioral Health Department.

Others present were Morgan Rain - LGBTQ+ Rural Resource Center Executive Director, and Marshall Romeo, community member.

3. CORRESPONDENCE

Pandora Armbruster shared that an application for appointment to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board had been received by Marshall Romeo. Mary Anne Schmidt responded that she would be in contact to provide further information to Marshall.

4. AGENDA REVIEW PERIOD

No suggestions to reorder existing items on the agenda were received.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Members of the public may be heard on any item not on the Board's Agenda. A person addressing the Board will be limited to **three minutes**. Comments by members of the public on any item on the agenda will only be allowed during consideration of the item by the Board.

No comments were received.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Maureen Woods and seconded by Terry Ann Garcia to approve all items on the Consent Agenda as presented.

The motion to approve the Consent Agenda which included the draft minutes of the October 4, 2023, regular meeting, the draft minutes of the October 7, 2023, Special Meeting, and the draft minutes of the November 1, 2023, regular meeting passed.

(Ayes: 5 – Mary Anne Schmidt, Sherry Bradley, Jenn Salazar, Maureen Woods, and Terry Ann Garcia. Abstentions: 0 Nays: 0 Members Absent: 4 – Supervisor Jaron Brandon, Cathie Peacock, Elizabeth Marum, and Valerie Shuemaker)

7. UPDATE OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD BYLAWS

The group reviewed the most recent edited version of the BHAB Bylaws which were included within the agenda packet.

Jenn Salazar moved, and Maureen Woods seconded, accepting those BHAB Bylaws as presented and moving them forward to the Board of Supervisors for approval. The motion passed.

(Ayes: 4 – Sherry Bradley, Jenn Salazar, Maureen Woods, and Terry Ann Garcia. Abstentions: 0 Nays: 1 – Mary Anne Schmidt Members Absent: 4 – Supervisor Jaron Brandon, Cathie Peacock, Elizabeth Marum, and Valerie Shuemaker)

8. UPDATE ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD GOALS

After discussion, a motion was made by Maureen Woods and seconded by Sherry Bradley to accept the Behavioral Health Advisory Board Goals for 2023-2024 with suggested edits by Sherry Bradley surrounding site visits. Mary Anne will incorporate those suggested changes. The motion to approve those goals and objectives with edits provided passed.

(Ayes: 5 – Mary Anne Schmidt, Sherry Bradley, Jenn Salazar, Maureen Woods, and Terry Ann Garcia. Abstentions: 0 Nays: 0 Members Absent: 4 – Supervisor Jaron Brandon, Cathie Peacock, Elizabeth Marum, and Valerie Shuemaker)

Supervisor Jaron Brandon arrived at 4:37 pm.

9. UPDATE ON THE REVIEW PROCESS FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CONTRACTS

Sherry Bradley reported for the BH Contract Ad Hoc that she had met with Lindsey Lujan to develop a basic form/template to complete when reviewing a contract. No other Ad Hoc members were available to meet at that time.

The group discussed the template and identified other questions that may need to be incorporated. A second meeting with Lindsey is planned to gain additional information regarding the different types of contracts, i.e., professional fees, and outpatient services.

Additional protocols need to be developed to assure that the Behavioral Health Department is informed of the contract under review. This will allow the reviewer to receive important data from the department assuring a proper evaluation is made. The Ad Hoc will continue their work by developing a plan/protocol that outlines next steps in this process.

A future report will be brought before the BHAB for additional review and discussion.

10. BASKET FOR THE YES PARTNERSHIP ANNUAL LUNCHEON

Mary Anne Schmidt brought this item before the group to recommend the donation of a wellness basket to the Yes Partnership for their annual auction that is a part of their luncheon. She has purchased several items and is asking if the BHAB will support this donation to be made in their name.

Supervisor Brandon moved and Maureen Woods seconded the approval of a donation basket from the BHAB to the Yes Partnership for their upcoming luncheon. The motion passed.

(Ayes: 6 – Supervisor Jaron Brandon, Mary Anne Schmidt, Sherry Bradley, Jenn Salazar, Maureen Woods, and Terry Ann Garcia. Abstentions: 0 Nays: 0 Members Absent: 3 – Cathie Peacock, Elizabeth Marum, and Valerie Shuemake)

Mary Anne suggested that if members wished to donate items for the basket, they reach out to her directly so that she can get it built and delivered timely.

11. TUOLUMNE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORT – Jaron Brandon, District 5 Supervisor

Supervisor Brandon provided information on Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) which is making progress, and Veteran's Housing which is a longer term goal. Investments will need to be made for CARE Court. \$2M in funding was recently earmarked for this need and more grant funding is being sought.

Jaron announced that Board of Supervisors committee appointments have been proposed and it appears that he will not be sitting on the Behavioral Health Advisory Board in 2024. He believes that the Board of Supervisors representative will be Supervisor Ryan Campbell. This meeting will be his last with this group. He expressed his appreciation of the time, effort, and dedication of BHAB members to our mental health community and the importance of their work in this challenging and important field.

12. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Tami Mariscal, Behavioral Health Director

Tami Mariscal provided a summary of the County, Health & Human Services Agency and Behavioral Health Department's safety processes, policies, and training. She shared her knowledge of how staff are made aware of safety policies and their obligation to complete mandated safety trainings, especially those specific to roles, within their onboarding process. Refreshed trainings are also provided annually, as well as any time a need arises.

Pandora expanded on that information as she is currently the Co-Chair of the Tuolumne County Safety Committee. She elaborated on the process of how safety concerns are shared by staff, and when a need is identified, addressed through the development of procedures or policies that are available to all county employees.

Tuolumne County overall has worked diligently to create a more robust safety program, assuring safety is talked about and discussed at every level so that feedback and knowledge flows both ways, from staff and back.

13. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH STAFF REPORTS:

Behavioral Health Director Tami Mariscal informed the group that the Board of Supervisors recently approved the Behavioral Health Department's deferment of Senate Bill 43 (SB 43) until January 2026. This bill expands the Lanterman-Petris-Short (LPS) Act to include eligibility for those suffering from severe substance use disorders. More information will be shared with the group as the department moves forward with their plans to implement this by the beginning of 2026.

14. BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS' REPORTS & COMMUNITY MEETING REPORTS:

Jenn Salazar reported again that surveys are continuing to be presented to unhoused community members. Over 80 Adventist Health surveys have been received so far. Data continues to be compiled. Early results indicate that several common beliefs are simply not true. Most survey participants are locals, not here in the county from some other location. Many participants do not suffer from mental health issues but are impacted by the lack of affordable housing. Financial impacts and health concerns continue to impact the unhoused who come from many varied occupations and backgrounds.

Jenn also shared her appreciation of participating in the Homeless Outreach and Support Team (HOST). She believes that this group continues to positively impact the unhoused population.

Jenn Salazar spoke of the possibility of providing a new depression group at the Enrichment Center (EC) that is focused on successes with an educational aspect. The group would be called Hope for the Houseless. Director Mariscal relayed that the EC has increased their hours and are ramping up efforts in offering more groups.

The group discussed the benefits of this important work and shared their appreciation of Jenn Salazar speaking out in support of the mental health and unhoused population.

Mary Anne Schmidt recently attended the second "Not My Kid" event at Sierra Bible Church. A third event is already in the planning stages. A big shout out to Sonora

Area Foundation and Behavioral Health for their support of this incredibly successful event.

Mary Anne attended a recent Tuolumne County Social Services Consortia (TSSC) meeting. Cathie Peacock participates in this group. They are planning an upcoming Narcan training for January 18, 2024, at St. Matthews from 9 am to 11 am. She also attended the YES Partnership meeting. Terri Alford, Mental Health Coordinator for the Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools Accessing Wellness and Resilience in Education (AWARE) program was the guest speaker. Mary Anne noted that Terri had shared during her presentation that they now had over 400 referrals for assistance.

Mary Anne informed the group that a Health Equity Coalition Meeting is scheduled for December 18, 2023, at the Public Health Conference Room from 3:30 pm to 5 pm. Several Mental Health First Aid classes are coming up, as well as several Mental Health Services (MHSA) Stakeholder Meetings in January 2024. She encouraged members to attend these offerings whenever possible.

15. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Supervisor Brandon suggested that an item be added regarding the exploration of available state and regional funding for residential and placement facilities for those with mental health and substance use disorders.

16. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Anne Schmidt announced her resignation from the Behavioral Health Advisory Board effective at the end of this meeting. She has accepted a position as a part of the leadership team for the Tuolumne, Amador, and Calaveras American Red Cross. Her written resignation will be submitted to Pandora for forwarding to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance.

The group wished her well and thanked her for her hard work and dedication to the important work of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The December 6, 2023, Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting was adjourned at 6:13 pm.

The next regular Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for January 3, 2024, at 4:00 pm at the Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Enrichment Center, 101 Hospital Road, Sonora, CA 95370. Detailed meeting information will be provided on the January 2024 Agenda.