



Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory Board (Minutes of the meeting of October 6, 2021) **FINAL**

<u>2021 MHAB Membership</u>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Jaron Brandon - BOS	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓		
Anaiah Kirk – BOS Alt	A	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E	E		
Cynthia Halman	N	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Mary Anne Schmidt	C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Valerie Shuemake	E	E	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	E	E	E		
Chris Daly	L	✓	E	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Emily Valentine	L			✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓		
Heather Farris	E								E	✓		
Jenn Salazar	D	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	E	E		
Jennifer Pastorini				✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Elizabeth Marum					✓	A	E	✓	✓	E		
Maureen Woods					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Penny Ablin				✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Sherry Bradley			✓	✓	✓	E	✓	✓	✓	✓		
Susie DeMassey					✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓		

Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E

14 MHAB Members, 1 BOS Alternate

<u>Tuolumne County Staff in Attendance</u>
Rebecca Espino, Director – Health & Human Services Agency
Michael Wilson, Director – Behavioral Health
Tami Mariscal, Deputy Director – Behavioral Health
Brock Kolby, Deputy Director – Behavioral Health
Lindsey Lujan, Agency Manager – Behavioral Health
Pandora Armbruster, Administrative Assistant - BH
<u>Others in Attendance</u>
Constance Bone, Community Member, and applicant for membership
Marjorie Langdon, Community Member, and applicant for membership
Christina Welch, Chairperson - Tuolumne County Commission on Homelessness

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Advisory Board Chair, Cynthia Halman, announced to attendees that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of assuring accurate meeting minutes.

The meeting was called to order at 4:05 pm. Eleven of fourteen members were present and accounted for through roll call to complete a quorum for the Board. Those present were Jaron Brandon, Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Chris Daly, Emily Valentine, Heather Farris, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, Sherry

Bradley, and Susie DeMassey. Elizabeth Marum, Jenn Salazar, and Valerie Shuemaker all notified the board that they would not be attending this month's meeting.

- Pandora Armbruster, Quality Improvement Administrative Assistant, read an explanation of Assembly Bill 361 (AB 361) and the associated Findings into the record and requested that Advisory Board members make Findings based on AB 361 allowing for virtual participation of this meeting. Additionally, the Advisory Board is required to decide on offering in-person or virtual attendance for the November 3, 2021 Meeting per instruction through the County Administrator's Office due to the impact on county staff and resources. A motion was made by Mary Anne Schmidt to allow this meeting to be available virtually and in-person and the November meeting available virtually only per AB 361 and through #2 of the Findings and the County Administrator's instruction to eliminate a hybrid meeting options. Sherry Bradley seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by all members present. (Ayes: 11 - Jaron Brandon, Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Chris Daly, Emily Valentine, Heather Farris, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey Nays: 0 Members Absent: 3 - Elizabeth Marum, Jenn Salazar, and Valerie Shuemaker)

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made by Tuolumne County staff: Rebecca Espino, Director-Health and Human Services Agency, Michael Wilson-Behavioral Health Director, Tami Mariscal-Behavioral Health Deputy Director, Brock Kolby-Behavioral Health Deputy Director, Lindsey Lujan-Quality Improvement Agency Manager, and Pandora Armbruster-Quality Improvement Administrative Assistant. Other attendees introduced: Constance Bone-Community Member, Marjorie Langdon-Community Member, and Christina Welch, Chairperson-Tuolumne County Commission on Homelessness.

III. AGENDA REVIEW

After review of the agenda, no changes in order of items were noted.

- Implementation of time limits for individual agenda items – Sherry Bradley
Sherry suggests that time limits for agenda items be implemented to assure most scheduled business is completed each meeting. After discussion, the group decided to implement this change starting with the November 2021 agenda.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

None to report.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Mary Anne noted an addition to the minutes on Page 5, under IX. Business, Item #1-Report on AB 988, last sentence, to identify the Ad-Hoc Committee that Cynthia referred to as the "Call to Action" Ad-hoc Committee. The group discussed the focus of the "Call to Action" Ad-Hoc Committee and the consensus is that this Ad-Hoc was created in reference to pending mental health legislation. A separate Ad-Hoc may need to be created to focus on potential speakers for Advisory Board Meetings.

A motion was made by Jennifer Pastorini and seconded by Penny Ablin to approve the September 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes with the noted addition identified above. The motion passed. (Ayes: 9 – Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Chris Daly, Emily Valentine, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey) (Nays: 0) (Abstentions: 2 - Jaron Brandon and Heather Farris) (Members Absent: 3 – Valerie Shuemaker, Elizabeth Marum and Jenn Salazar)

VI. SUPERVISOR'S REPORT: Board of Supervisors Representative – Jaron Brandon

Supervisor Brandon updated the group on proposed revisions to the Tuolumne County Ordinance Code, Title 17-Building, Planning and Land Use section. The Public Comment Period is closing and will be coming back to the Board of Supervisors within the next month or two.

Jaron complimented the Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools and Behavioral Health on their recent partnership in securing grant funds for youth mental health.

The Board of Supervisors recently approved in the budget a significant restructuring of the Health and Human Services Agency. Negotiations continue with county labor organizations representing all county staff, as well as Behavioral Health service providers.

Jaron shared that the Board of Supervisors recently participated in two conferences, one with the State County Association and one with the Rural County Association. These conferences provide opportunities for County Supervisors to build relationships within other county governments. These associations are important as they provide resources, guides, and information on topics of interest specific to County government.

Supervisor Brandon thanked Christina Welch, Chairperson of the Tuolumne County Commission on Homelessness (TCCoH) for her attendance at this meeting. TCCoH is currently focused on providing emergency and long-term solutions for the homeless population.

The County Administrators Office is discussing the possibility of establishing a site specifically for County Board, Committee and Commission use at the old Recreation Building in downtown Sonora. This venue would be set up with audio-visual components and supported by a dedicated staff member.

The Board of Supervisors recently adopted a resolution recognizing tribal governments as equal partners, acknowledging the native population's importance, values, culture, and amazing history here in Tuolumne County.

There are a lot of ongoing projects the Board is working on, like the Climate Action Plan, Code compliance, enforcement for dumping issues and important discussions continue about Visionary Homes 72-unit potential affordable housing development off Greenley and Cabezut.

VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Michael Wilson, LMFT - BH Director

Director Wilson mentioned the Mental Health Student Services Act grant award which was approved at the Board of Supervisors yesterday. He signed off on it today and forwarded it to the State of CA. It is a \$2.5 M grant that Tuolumne County Superintendent of Schools received to provide mental health services in every school of the county.

Michael shared his hope that the next Director of Behavioral Health will continue to support Community Forums for Mental Health and use that opportunity to really talk about the implementation of California Advancing and Innovating Medi-Cal (Cal AIM). This is such a huge issue which will impact managed care plans, public health, and behavioral health. This important topic is under serious discussion by other counties and directors and suggested that the next forum invite participants from the Managed Care Plans, Public Health, California Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA), and even someone from the Department of Healthcare Services (DHCS) to answer questions regarding the impacts of implementation.

Tami Mariscal, Behavioral Health Deputy Director, shared that the fiscal reform piece of Cal AIM may be very impactful for Behavioral Health, but possibly in a positive way. A lot of the historical, cost reporting, staff-expense driven fiscal formulas have tied community Behavioral Health hands. We face a lot of audits due to documentation standards resulting in cost report settlements. They are proposing a more state of the art fiscal process that is fee-for-service based and moving away from some of the cost settlements that we have endured that are sometimes 7-10 years behind the service delivery time frame. This change may be the biggest lift for county Behavioral Health programs.

Brock Kolby, Behavioral Health Deputy Director, relayed that Cal AIM will be requiring Managed Care Plans to provide in-lieu of services and enhanced care management. Behavioral Health will also be required to do more whole person care by partnering with medical providers and coordinating care with Public Health in a more integrated fashion.

Cynthia Halman suggested that this item be added to the next month's agenda for further discussion.

Mary Anne Schmidt asked Michael how much money Behavioral Health receives annually from the Tuolumne County General Fund. Michael shared that the department receives the minimum amount, which is around or less than \$20,000 funding match.

Sherry Bradley inquired whether there were any updates on the status of the DHCS Crisis Mobile Unit grant. Michael responded that no notification had yet been received.

Cynthia expressed her appreciation and delight in working with Michael over the last few years and feels his presence will be missed by the entire board.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Members of the Advisory Board may share announcements and/or comment on matters not on the agenda. Advisory Board Members' comments/announcements will be limited to five minutes.

- Cynthia Halman reported that the Lantern of Light was recently awarded an Innovative Challenge grant. Their proposal was specific to suicide prevention and they will be offering a virtual Clinician Bereavement training facilitated by Dr. John Jordan. Community Education and School Project Education will also be a focus of grant funds. More details to come next meeting.
- Penny Ablin expressed concern regarding the loss of clinical staff at Behavioral Health and would like to determine a way that the Advisory Board can assist with this issue. She would like to see this item added to next month's agenda for further discussion. Mary Anne shared in Penny's concerns. She feels that this topic is in line with the Advisory Board's role and should be the focus of future meetings. Michael recommended that the Advisory Board membership use the Public Comment period at the Board of Supervisors meeting to express their concerns over the disparity in wages across counties which has impacted Tuolumne in retaining licensed staff.

VIII. PUBLIC COMMENT (5 MINUTES PER PERSON): 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 five 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.

Cynthia Halman invited members of the public to comment on any items not already on the agenda. No public attendees wished to comment.

IX. BUSINESS

New Business:

1. New Member Application Review – Cynthia Halman

- Marjorie Langdon – Marjorie shared a summary of her extensive professional experience and history related to mental health programs and services.
- Constance Bone - Constance relayed her history as a previous client of Behavioral Health who is currently pursuing a PsyD education. She wishes to take this opportunity to give back to the community.

The group asked several questions of each candidate. Sherry Bradley suggested that the board consider appropriate community representation as there is currently one open seat left on the board. Mary Anne determined that the board currently meets the composition requirements of the Welfare and Institutions Code. The board chatted about their previous agreement to solicit a youth participant for the last seat. Mary Anne Schmidt moved to postpone this item for a future decision or until such time that a targeted youth recruitment can be attempted. Heather Farris seconded the motion. Motion passed. (Ayes: 11 – Jaron Brandon, Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Chris Daly, Emily Valentine, Heather Farris, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey) (Nays: 0) (Abstentions: 0) (Members Absent: 3 – Valerie Shuemaker, Elizabeth Marum and Jenn Salazar)

2. Tuolumne County 2021 Data Notebook: Discussion and Review – Cynthia Halman

Penny Ablin made a motion to request any available data for the 2021 Data Notebook from Behavioral Health for review at the next month's meeting. Emily Valentine seconded. Motion passed. (Ayes: 10 – Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Chris Daly, Emily Valentine, Heather Farris, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey) (Nays: 0) (Abstentions: 0) (Members Absent: 4 – Jaron Brandon, Valerie Shuemaker, Elizabeth Marum and Jenn Salazar)

3. Seeking three Advisory Board Representatives for Behavioral Health Director Interviews: Discussion & Action - Cynthia Halman

Cynthia Halman solicited volunteers to serve on the Advisory Board's Behavioral Health Director Interview Panel. Sherry Bradley, Heather Farris, and Mary Anne Schmidt, all volunteered to represent the Advisory Board in this process. Emily Valentine agreed to serve as an alternate.

Continued Items:

4. Potential Topics for Future Mental Health Community Forums: Discussion and Possible Action – Sherry Bradley

Sherry Bradley would like to see this item tabled for a future meeting as a previous suggestion was made to pursue Cal AIM as a potential topic.

5. "Taking the Call" National Conference: Discussion and possible Action regarding member participation – Mary Anne Schmidt

Mary Anne requested that members sign up for this informative conference and coordinate their participation to cover as many topics as possible. Information will be shared with Pandora for distribution to all members.

Ad-Hoc Committees' Progress Reports:

6. "Call to Action" Ad-Hoc Committee Update – Cynthia Halman

- AB 988 Mental Health Crisis Hotline: Further discussion of pros and cons, amended bill, etc.

Cynthia requested that this item be tabled based on previous information shared from CALBHB/C and their reluctance to support this bill until an amendment has been submitted. Mary Anne Schmidt requested that Michael share information regarding the cons to AB 988 with the Advisory Board.

- Review, Follow-up, and possible Action regarding list of potential speakers and topics for future advisory board meeting presentations.

The group agreed to revisit this topic next month so that members can take some time to review their choices.

7. Bylaws Review Ad-hoc Committee – Mary Anne Schmidt

- Review, Discussion, and possible Action regarding the "Executive Committee" language used in the current and draft bylaws.

The group discussed the need for a language change in the draft Bylaws to eliminate the potential creation of a standing committee. The language will be edited to eliminate the creation of the "Executive Committee" and instead, refer to them as the officers of the Advisory Board. This edit will be submitted to County Counsel to be included in their review.

- Review & Approve County Council Edits, if completed, and Possible Action to move forward to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance.

This item will also be held until the previous change is included and County Counsel's review is complete.

8. Social Media, Communication & Calendar Ad-Hoc Committee – Mary Anne Schmidt

- Update & Possible Action on Facebook Build Out/Suggested Links for FB page

Mary Anne explained that the Ad-Hoc decided that the most safe and credible way to run the Advisory Board's Facebook page would be to provide mental health information from credible sources. They are requesting that staff and members review the suggested sources shared for approval in linking to the Board's Facebook page. Lindsey Lujan agreed to review the links and provide feedback to the Ad-Hoc Committee for the next meeting.

9. Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors Ad-hoc Workgroup Committee – Cynthia Halman

- Review & Comment

Cynthia requests that this item be tabled for the next month as time was running late.

Item Tabled for Future Meeting:

10. Social Get-Together Discussion – Cynthia Halman

- Proposed Date, Place and Associated Costs – Cynthia Halman

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Cynthia Halman at 6:04 pm. The next Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2021, at 4:00 pm via videoconference through Zoom and teleconference only. Meeting information will be posted on the November 2021 Agenda.