



Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory Board **(Minutes of the meeting of November 3, 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	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	✓	✓	✓	✓	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, Interim BH Director
Tami Mariscal, Deputy Director – Behavioral Health
Brock Kolby, Deputy Director – Behavioral Health
Lindsey Lujan, Agency Manager – Behavioral Health
Amanda Lawrance, Staff Analyst – Behavioral Health
Pandora Armbruster, Administrative Assistant - BH
<u>Others in Attendance</u>
Constance Bone, Community Member, and applicant for membership
Kim Garro, Lantern of Light
Bryanna Carter, Mathiesen Memorial Red Feather MAT Center
Terri Alford, Community Member

I. CALL TO ORDER – 5 minutes

- 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 4:01 pm. Eleven of fourteen members were present and accounted for at the time of roll call to complete a quorum for the Board. Those present were Jaron Brandon, Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Emily Valentine,

Heather Farris, Jenn Salazar, Jennifer Pastorini, Elizabeth Marum, Maureen Woods, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey. Penny Ablin notified Mary Anne Schmidt that she would not be in attendance. Valerie Shuemaker and Chris Daly had not yet arrived when the meeting was called to order.

- Pandora Armbruster, Quality Improvement Administrative Assistant, read the October 6, 2021 Findings Resolution for AB 361 into the meeting record (attached).
- A motion was made by Elizabeth Marum and seconded by Jaron Brandon to make the December 1, 2021 Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) meeting available for virtual attendance per AB 361 and through #2 of the associated Findings. The motion passed unanimously by all members present. (Ayes: 11 - Jaron Brandon, Cynthia Halman, MaryAnne Schmidt, Elizabeth Marum, Emily Valentine, Heather Farris, Jenn Salazar, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey Nays: 0 Members Absent: 3 – Chris Daly, Penny Ablin, and Valerie Shuemaker)

As a result of this determination, the December Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting will only be available for virtual attendance per the County Administrator's recommendation to only allow in-person or virtual meetings, not through a combination of both.

II. INTRODUCTIONS – 2 minutes

Introductions were made by all Behavioral Health Advisory Board members present. Introductions were made by Tuolumne County staff as follows: Rebecca Espino, Director – Health and Human Services Agency and Interim Behavioral Health Director, Tami Mariscal - Behavioral Health Deputy Director, Brock Kolby - Behavioral Health Deputy Director, Lindsey Lujan - Quality Improvement Agency Manager, Amanda Lawrance - Quality Improvement Staff Analyst, and Pandora Armbruster – Quality Improvement Administrative Assistant. Other attendees introduced were Bryanna Carter - Mathiesen Memorial Red Feather Clinic; Constance Bone - Community Member; Kim Garro - Lantern of Light; and Terri Alford - Family Visiting & Outreach Manager for ATCAA HeadStart & Promotores de Salud Program Manager.

Valerie Shuemaker, Behavioral Health Advisory Board Secretary, arrived and introduced herself to attendees.

III. AGENDA REVIEW – 2 minutes

After review of the agenda, no changes in order of items were noted. Time limits have been estimated for each item per last month's discussion.

Mary Anne Schmidt shared her concern surrounding the packed agenda for this month's meeting and the potential limitation of time available to review ad-hoc committee work/progress reports.

Emily Valentine suggested that the "Taking the Call" Reports could be shared via email vs. discussion at this meeting. Mary Anne Schmidt has been collecting members notes from the conference and feels that this item could be removed from the agenda until she has time to compile all members notes for review.

Mary Anne volunteered to track time limits for each agenda item covered this month.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE – 2 minutes

CA Association of Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C) Dues Letter and annual Invoice.

The email notification and annual membership invoice was reviewed. Sherry Bradley inquired whether this expenditure is something that the board is required to approve. She relayed that the money used to cover this expense typically comes out of Mental Health Services Act funding.

Pandora Armbruster explained that this expense is paid annually and has not been reviewed by the BHAB in the past. CALBHB/C provides important trainings, supports, and information to Advisory Boards and Commissions throughout the State of California, so traditionally the department has facilitated payment of these membership fees. Additionally, as the Advisory Board meets monthly, potential issues surrounding timely payment can result. Consequently, the invoice has already been submitted to Rebecca Espino for approval of payment.

Mary Anne Schmidt asked why this item was placed on the agenda and Cynthia Halman informed her that this communication was considered correspondence.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 5 minutes: October 6, 2021 Meeting Minutes

Chris Daly, Behavioral Health Advisory Board member, arrived in the meeting.

Mary Anne Schmidt relayed several meeting minute edits shared with her from Penny Ablin. Sherry Bradley also relayed additional corrections needed. Pandora agreed that these edits would be incorporated into the minutes.

Sherry Bradley moved to approve the October 6, 2021, Meeting Minutes with the noted corrections. Jaron Brandon seconded the motion. Motion passed. (Ayes: 11 - Jaron Brandon, Cynthia Halman, MaryAnne Schmidt, Valerie Shuemaker, Chris Daly, Emily Valentine, Heather Farris, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey Nays: 0 Abstentions: 2 – Jenn Salazar, Elizabeth Marum Members Absent: 1 – Penny Ablin)

VI. SUPERVISOR’S REPORT – 5 minutes: Board of Supervisors Representative – Jaron Brandon

Supervisor Brandon shared his appreciation of the Behavioral Health “Inflatable Stampede” that recently occurred in Sonora. Several colorfully dressed staff members paraded through County offices and downtown Sonora spreading joy and mental health awareness. He expressed his gratitude of Pandora Armbruster for her administrative support to the TC Commission on Homelessness and Rebecca Espino, Director of the Health & Human Services Agency for stepping up as Interim Director of Behavioral Health. Jaron thanked Sherry Bradley for her comprehensive reports to the Behavioral Health Advisory Board on her recent attendance at several committee meetings and conferences. He feels that these reports are helpful in keeping the board informed of important topics related to local programs and mental health issues.

Jaron updated the BHAB on the Board of Supervisors current work on identifying priorities for 2022. These priorities provide direction for county administrative staff to work towards the Board’s identified goals. One of the priorities for the past year was community health, specifically related to homelessness and Covid-19. Supervisor Brandon would like to use the opportunity of the appointment of a new behavioral health director to determine ways that the Advisory Board can work with the Board of Supervisors and county staff to address new priorities.

Due to administrative direction, any changes to Boards, Committees and Commissions have been temporarily halted until a workshop discussion can be held at the Board of

Supervisors level to determine their focus and how these boards and commissions will interact.

Much of the bargaining sessions related to labor negotiations are finishing up. An agreement has been reached with the Deputy Sheriffs Association. The proposed agreement for the Health Care Unit is coming up for approval soon.

Supervisor Brandon shared information regarding the “Cahoots” program being used in Eugene, Oregon. This program is a mobile response unit working in conjunction with law enforcement which is focused on those experiencing a mental health crisis. Jaron will share his notes from this presentation with the Advisory Board.

Blue Zones meetings are being held and Jaron is pleased with the progression of this important program. He suggested that the Behavioral Health Department and the Advisory Board work together to write a letter sharing ideas on how Blue Zones could assist with mental health needs locally.

VII. DIRECTOR’S REPORT – 5 minutes: Rebecca Espino, Interim BH Director

Rebecca Espino, Interim Behavioral Health Director, spoke about the upcoming Behavioral Health Director recruitment. Recruitment will run for 4 weeks and should be out this week. Job requirements have been amended to allow those without clinical experience or licensure to apply. The ideal candidate will have exceptional leadership and administrative skills. If they have clinical experience as well, that would be a plus, but would not be required to qualify for the position. We are hoping this change will widen the pool of eligible candidates.

Lindsey Lujan, Quality Improvement Agency Manager, informed the Advisory Board that the Draft Mental Health Services Act 3-Year Plan Public Comment Hearing will be held at the Advisory Board’s December meeting. The draft MHSA 3-Year Plan is currently posted on the Behavioral Health website and published in the local papers. Lindsey encouraged Board members to review it and bring their comments and feedback to the next meeting or provide them through the Behavioral Health email address identified within the plan.

Brock Kolby, Deputy Director, relayed information on the mental health diversion programs. There are currently two programs in place, one is for clients who are in our local jurisdiction and have been involved in misdemeanors and other crimes and the other program is a grant-funded program through the state hospital system. We are in the process of getting trained for the state hospital diversion program with our law enforcement, probation, and public defenders’ office, etc. We are working on developing both programs. There is a lot of work still to be done to determine how to implement these exciting programs. More information will be forthcoming.

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 **three minutes**.

- Sherry Bradley shared her appreciation of the recent Behavioral Health Inflatable parade and the light-hearted, joyful feelings it invoked within the community.
Sherry also shared concerns with the links provided for the draft MHSA 3-Year Plan. When following those links, they took her to the website but not directly to the plan. The second link did take her to the Network of Care where the Plan was

available. She expressed concern that the plan was not located on the county Behavioral Health webpage.

Sherry spoke about the recent written reports she shared with the Advisory Board about her attendance at several meetings – CALBHB/C Quarterly Meeting, the TC Commission on Homelessness Meeting, and the Quality Improvement Council Meeting.

- Cynthia Halman reported that she and Kim Garro with the Lantern of Light were scheduled to provide a SafeTalk presentation last week, but she was unable to participate so Kim pulled it off by herself. Sixteen people were in attendance and several signed up for an additional ASIST Class in January.

IX. 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 **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.

- Bryanna Carter, Mathiesen Memorial Red Feather Clinic, introduced herself and spoke about the Medication Assisted Treatment available for substance use disorders. She shared that her outreach and resource position is new. She works with clients to secure insurance and assist in getting them set up for treatment. Bryanna refers clients to Behavioral Health and looks forward to working with community partners. Bryanna will share information and brochures with Pandora for distribution to the Advisory Board.

X. BUSINESS

New Business:

1. Lantern of Light Grant (5 minutes) - Cynthia Halman
 - PowerPoint Presentation & Discussion on the Wheel of Suicide Prevention – Prevention, Intervention and Postvention

Cynthia Halman and Kim Garro shared their notes and presentation with the Advisory Board (attached). Elizabeth Marum asked for statistics related to suicides in Tuolumne County. Cynthia shared that for 2019 the number of suicides were 11 and the number of people receiving suicide intervention is not officially tracked. Cynthia relayed that in 2019, suicides in Tuolumne County did go down and she will share that information with Elizabeth after the meeting.
2. CalAIMs (10 minutes) – Tami Mariscal, BH Deputy Director
 - Tami Mariscal, Deputy Director, provided a PowerPoint presentation on CalAim (attached) and detailed the specific changes that will be implemented in Behavioral Health because of this new proposal.
3. Board Membership: Recruiting Youth (5 minutes) – Heather
 - Heather Farris informed the Board that she reached out to Center for a Non-Violent Community to solicit interest for a youth Advisory Board participant. They suggested that the Board place an advertisement in their newsletter

about this opportunity. She will put something more concrete together for that solicitation and bring it back to the Board for approval.

The group discussed the length of time it could take to find a youth participant and the possibility of moving forward reviewing the two current pending applications. It was noted that there is only seat available at this time.

Mary Anne suggested that the Advisory Board vote next month on the two current applicants and push forward with youth recruitment process for when a future position becomes available. Emily shared her concern that current applicants may lose interest in serving on the Advisory Board if there is a delay in a decision. The group continued to discuss whether this item needs to be brought forward at the next meeting or delayed further for more targeted recruitment efforts. It was decided to add this topic, with the possibility of action in approving a new member or delaying the applicants review on next month's agenda.

Continued Items:

4. Tuolumne County Data Notebook (20 minutes): Discussion, Review and Possible Action to Approve – Cynthia Halman to pursue Cal AIM as a potential topic.
 - Lindsey Lujan informed the Advisory Board that the data required has been solicited from another department and should be ready for review and approval at next month's meeting.
5. Potential Topics for Future Mental Health Community Forums (10 minutes): Discussion and Possible Action – Sherry Bradley
 - Sherry Bradley believed that this item was withdrawn last month, so would like to officially withdraw this item now as things have changed since this item was first proposed.
6. "Taking the Call" National Conference (5 minutes per person): Reports from Attendees – Mary Anne Schmidt
 - Cynthia informed the group that this item has been withdrawn and attendees' reports will be shared with members via email.

Ad-Hoc Committees' Progress Reports:

7. Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors Ad-hoc Workgroup Committee – Cynthia Halman
 - Review & Comment
Cynthia solicited feedback from members on the Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors. The group reviewed the slides and discussed several changes. Sherry Bradley will share her suggestions with Pandora to be forwarded to Cynthia for inclusion in the report. Cynthia will clarify the data discussed and will make necessary edits for next month.
8. 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.
Mary Anne Schmidt informed the group that she had called County Counsel regarding their review of the bylaws and was informed that they are currently

working on several items of importance and have not yet had time to review the proposed changes. Cynthia stated that this item will be postponed until County Counsel has an opportunity to complete their review.

9. “Speakers for the Advisory Board” Ad-Hoc Committee (10 minutes) – Cynthia Halman
 - Mary Anne suggests reducing the frequency of the Director’s report and the Board of Supervisor’s Report, as well as community partner presentations in order to conclude important business every month. Supervisor Brandon suggested that the meetings be extended in length beyond 2 hours or changing the frequency of the meetings to twice monthly.

Cynthia requests that the “Speakers for the Advisory Board” item be continued to a future meeting.
10. “Call to Action” Ad-Hoc Committee Update – Cynthia Halman
 - Due to limitations in time, this item will be moved to a future meeting.
11. Social Media Ad-Hoc Committee – Mary Anne Schmidt
 - Update & Possible Action on Facebook Build Out/Suggested Links for FB page

Mary Anne requested that this item be moved to the next or a future meeting as the limited time remaining would not allow for discussion.

Item Tabled for Future Meeting:

12. Social Get-Together Discussion – Cynthia Halman
 - Proposed Date, Place and Associated Costs – Cynthia Halman
13. New Member Application Review (Continued) – Cynthia Halman
 - Marjorie Langdon
 - Constance Bone

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Cynthia Halman at 5:57 pm. The next Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for December 1, 2021, at 4:00 pm via videoconference through Zoom and teleconference only. Meeting information will be posted on the December 2021 Agenda.