**Mendocino County Behavioral Health Advisory Board**

**Regular Meeting**

**Minutes**

January 15, 2020

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Behavioral Health and Recovery Services
Conference Room 1
1120 South Dora St., Ukiah

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<tr>
<th>1st District:</th>
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<th>3rd District:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Denise Gornv</td>
<td>Dina Ortiz</td>
<td>Meeka Ferretta</td>
<td>Emily Strachan</td>
<td>Patrick Pekin</td>
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<td>Lois Lockart</td>
<td>Michelle Rich</td>
<td>Amy Buckingham</td>
<td>Lynn Finley</td>
<td>Martin Martinez</td>
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<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Sergio Fuentes</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Vacant</td>
<td>Flinda Behringer</td>
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**Our Mission:** “To be committed to consumers, their families, and the delivery of quality care with the goals of recovery, human dignity, and the opportunity for individuals to meet their full potential.”

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<tr>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Agenda Item / Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Call to Order, Roll Call &amp; Quorum Notice, Approve Agenda:</td>
<td>Board Action: Motion made by Member Strachan, seconded by Member Gornv, to approve the agenda. Motion passed unanimously.</td>
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<td>• Meeting called to order by Chair Rich at 10:10 AM</td>
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<td>• Quorum met.</td>
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<td>• Members present: Ferretta, Gornv, Lockart, Martinez, Ortiz, Strachan, and Supervisor Haschack.</td>
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<td>• Lunch hour was moved from 12:30 to 11:30 AM so the BHBAB Measure B representative (which will be appointed by the board during today’s meeting) can fill out the application to be on the Measure B Committee by 12:00 PM today, in order for it to go to the BOS this week.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Minutes of the December 18, 2019 BHBAB Regular Meeting: Review and possible board action</td>
<td>Board Action: Motion made by Member Gornv, seconded by Member Strachan, to approve the December 18, 2019 minutes with the noted corrections. Motion passed.</td>
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<td>• Page 2 item 3.C: remove part of paragraph.</td>
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<td>• Page 5 item 5. VII: “respond quickly” rather than “act fast”</td>
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<td>• Minutes approved with the noted corrections.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Public Comments: Members of the public wishing to make comments to the BHBAB will be recognized at this time.</td>
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<td>A. Josephine Silva commented she would like the board to write a letter to the Social Security Administration by January 31st and make a recommendation to the BOS to do</td>
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the same, in regards to the SSI legislative movement. She commented on the effects this legislation would bring to people with disabilities. Letters are due to the Social Security Administration by January 31st 2020.

B. Member Gorny shared a flyer on the new California landlord laws and new housing rules. The Housing Choice Voucher waitlist is opening from Wednesday January 22, through Thursday, January 30, 2020.

I. CSOC received $862,000 for homeless housing assistance. Member Gorny has a simple survey that she hopes people will fill out about the 3 top most important things that clients/families need.

C. Member Gorny announced the yearly benefit dinner and auction for the Alex Rorabaugh Recreation Center taking place on January 25, 2020 to support kids and families in our communities. Flyers were provided.

4. Reports: Discussion and possible board action.
   A. Chair: Michelle Rich
      I. Chair Rich shared she is excited to be the new Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) Chair. She appreciates the support, patience, and guidance she has received as this transition is made.
      
      II. Chair Rich informed there are Grievance, and Issue Resolution forms available for everyone in attendance. She wants to make sure these forms are completed as is needed.
      
      III. Discussion on Josephine’s comment about the board writing a letter to the Social Security Administration in regards to the SSI movement.
          i. BHRS Director Miller explained that it is a legislative movement to make changes to the disability classifications. It would change how people fall into those classifications and the renewal requirements for classifications.
          ii. Chair Rich encouraged members to become more knowledgeable on this subject to be able to determine whether it is something the board wants to support and ask for the BOS to support as well.
          iii. Josephine asked if it is possible for the BOS to weigh in on this matter by the end of this month. Supervisor Haschak mentioned that to get it on the agenda for 1/21 they would have to have the item in by noon today.
          iv. Member Ortiz suggested the board appoint a sub group to write a letter by the end of this month stating they are opposed to this movement.
          v. Discussion on the issue that would arise, as it would be a letter sent not approved by the entire board.
          vi. The board will follow up on this matter at next month’s meeting.

Board Action:

BHRS Director Miller will email legislative information to members so they can better understand the SSI legislative movement.

Follow up on changes to Social Security Disability.
B. Secretary: (Member Ortiz)
   I. Letter to College Follow Up
      i. Letter was completed.
   II. Discussion on the Partnership Prop 56 Value Grant for Behavioral Health integration.
      i. BHRS Director Miller explained that CalAIM changed their name too Healthier California For All. It is the biggest transformation in the State of California in the last few decades. It is not known yet how it will ultimately impact behavioral health, nor the community as a whole. There could be some major changes, as they are also looking to change how things are funded and service provisions; BHRS Director Miller explained it is very important for the Board to be aware of what is happening, since it is looking at changing how Specialty Mental Health is funded.
      ii. The County is applying for the Prop 56 grant; the hope is that this will allow the County to still provide those enhanced services that WPC is providing right now.
      iii. BHRS director Miller also stated the importance of Prop 63, which is the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). This is the act that the Governor is looking to divert dollars from to solve part of the homeless issue in the state of California. However, the County could lose 5 million dollars in the mental health system if those dollars are diverted. There is a proposal to work to change how MHSA dollars are spent, and could be on the November ballot for the public to vote on the proposed new changes. This could severely impact the County’s adult mental health services.
      iv. Discussion on the difference between Whole Person Care and Full Person Care and how medical insurance works and is billed.
      v. Member Rich commented it would be a good idea to follow up on this subject at next month’s meeting and also have written materials.
      vi. Manzanita Director Wynd Novotny commented on her experience in being involved with Whole Person Care and Full Service Partnership. She shared the difference these programs have made in clients’ lives, mentioned it has been amazing to participate in.

C. Treasurer: (Vacant)
   I. Nomination
      i. Member Behringer submitted the Treasurer report for 2019; all attendees received a copy.
      ii. Member Behringer stepped down as Treasurer, the position needs to be appointed.
      iii. Discussion on how the board wants to reappoint this position.

Follow-up on Prop 56 value grant.

The board will nominate and appoint the Treasurer position at next month’s meeting.
II. Member Strachan commented she reviewed the Fort Bragg Flow Chart, and realized it is wrong. MCHC does not accept private insurance for behavioral health like previously assumed.
   i. Member Strachan needs to be the one notified of any changes to the flow charts, and she will forward the information to Dustin Thompson.

5. Membership: Discussion and possible action
   A. Update
      I. Discussion on the current vacancies, and the applications the board has received.
         i. Discussion on Jim Shaw’s application to be a part of the BHAB.
         ii. Mr. Shaw informed Member Strachan he also applied to be a part of the HHSA Board, and was told they were going to take his application to the BOS.
         iii. BHRS Director Miller stated Mr. Shaw can be part of both boards if he is willing to do so.
         iv. Members agreed for Member Strachan to follow up with Mr. Shaw to see if he is interested in being part of both boards before continuing with the process of appointing him.
      II. Discussion on what members are part of the Membership Committee.
         i. Members currently a part of the Membership Committee: Strachan, Ortiz, Ferretta, and Pekin.
         ii. Chair Rich suggested the Membership Committee stay the same until Member Pekin resigns from his position.
      III. Chair Rich explained that Member Towle resigned his Third District position, and will now be in the First District.
      IV. There is a current vacancy in the Third District, no applications have been received. This position needs to be recruited, and it needs to be a consumer seat.
         i. Supervisor Haschak commented he has been working on recruiting someone but is open to suggestions from the members.
      V. Discussion on the vacancy for the position Tammy Lowe held in the 4th District.
         i. The BHAB did not receive a resignation from Tammy Lowe, so the seat is considered vacant. This position also needs to be recruited, and it is a consumer seat.
      VI. Discussion on whether the board has the ability to appoint someone who is not a consumer to a consumer seat.
         i. BHRS Director Miller explained that 20 percent of the board members have to be consumers, and that ratio has to be met in order to appoint a non-

Member Strachan will follow up with Mr. Shaw to see if he would like to be a part of both the HHSA Board and BHAB.

Motion made by Member Ortiz, seconded by Member Ferretta to have the Membership Committee add to their duties to work with the BOS and potential
Meetings to Attend:
A. Member Rich explained she and Jan McGourty met in December to go over the meetings Jan attended. She shared it is a good moment to assess which meetings are critical and whether or not the Chair needs to be the one that represents the board in all of the meetings. She would like for members that have expertise and interest in some of these meetings, be the ones who attend on the Board’s behalf.

I. Measure B
   I. Statute states that the seat on the Measure B Committee is a member of the BHAB, but it does not have to be the Chair. Chair Rich is willing to do it, but thinks there should be diversity of leadership representing the BHAB.
   II. Discussion on appointing Member Ferretta to be the board representative on the Measure B Committee.
      i. Member Ferretta expressed her interest in being the Measure B representative. She shared she is very knowledgeable with Measure B and keeps up to date with what is going on.
      ii. Supervisor Haschak shared he supports the motion, and stated it is a crucial role since whatever happens on this board needs to be transmitted at Measure B.
   III. Member Martinez commented he would like for members who attend meetings to bring back written reports on any updates, what is going on, etc.
   IV. BHRS Director Miller shared she is hopeful that the BHAB member that represents the Board on Measure B will also agree to sit on the Ad Hoc committee for the Behavioral Health training center. There are currently only two members, her and Tom Allman. BHRS Director Miller will be visting the training facility this afternoon with Measure B Project Manager Isabel Gonzalez.
      i. Josephine commented she is concerned about this Board providing input on what they want to happen at the training center, i.e. educational programs, alternative care, etc. She thinks it should not only be focused on crisis training, but also on prevention. She would like the Ad Hoc Committee to help the Measure B Representative bring this forward.

V. Member Gorny expressed her concern with Adventist Health moving forward with running a PHF and asked BHRS Director Miller if she supports this matter.
   
   Motion made by Member Lockart, seconded by Member Strachan to appoint Member Ferretta as the BHAB Measure B representative.
   
   Motion passed.
i. BHRS Director Miller explained that it is only a proposal as of right now, it is an option that has been proposed and the County wants to look at it as an option and determine if it is in the best interest of the County. What is most important to her is that regardless of what provider the County goes with, that our clients have the first rights to those beds. There is a lack of Medi-Cal beds in California, so in many facilities they choose what clients they want. She stated Mendocino County needs a facility that will take all clients regardless of what issues they have. Supervisor Haschak commented that the County is still a long way from making any type of decision on this matter.

ii. Chair Rich suggested this topic gets scheduled to be discussed at next month’s meeting.

2. MHSA
   I. MHSA forums are public forums held every other month. This meeting also coincides with the Quality Improvement Committee.
      i. These forums are held at various locations throughout the county and the time varies for each meeting. The next forum will be held at Manzanita Services on Wednesday, February 12 from 5-7 PM.
      ii. Meetings are teleconferenced to either Ukiah or Fort Bragg from meeting location.
      iii. Richard Towle expressed his interest in attending these meetings when he is reappointed.
      iv. Members will follow up on this at next month’s meeting.

3. Stepping Up
   I. Stepping Up meetings focus on a movement to work with the criminal justice system to divert clients from going to jail. The goal is to have diversion programs and opportunities for clients to receive treatment instead of going to jail.
      i. Stepping Up meetings are held the Fourth Monday of every month from 12-1:30 PM at 1120 South Dora St., Conference Room 1. The next meeting is scheduled for January 27th.
   II. Member Gorny volunteered to be the BHAB representative at the Stepping Up meetings.

4. HHSA Advisory Board
   I. Historically the board has not had a representative on this board, but rather a liaison. The board will decide and discuss on appointing a member to represent this board at a later time.

Motion made by Member Gorny, seconded by Supervisor Haschak to encourage Measure B representative to be a part of the Ad Hoc committee for the Behavioral Health training facility. Motion passed.

Member Ortiz will attend the Ukiah meeting next month and submit a report.

Motion made by Chair Rich, seconded by Member Strachan to appoint Member Gorny as the BHAB representative for the Stepping Up meetings.

Future discussion on possible BHAB Member to attend HHSA Advisory Board meetings.

Adjourned for lunch: 11:28 AM
Reconvened: 12:05 PM
| 7. 15 minutes | **BHAB Annual Report**  
A. Member Rich made some corrections and additions to the annual report.  
B. Discussion on the due date for the BHAB annual report.  
   I. BHRS Director Miller stated it ideally should go to the BOS by March or April of this year. Clarified it is a calendar year report.  
   II. Members will continue to review the annual report and follow up on it at next month’s meeting.  
| Board Action:  
BHAB Annual Report to be added to next month’s meeting agenda to further review.  
Motion made by Member Strachan, seconded by Member Ferretta, to review, make corrections, and submit the annual report next month to the BOS. Motion passed. |
| 8. 60 minutes | **Duties & Responsibilities**  
A. Board members reviewed and discussed the duties and responsibilities of the BHAB as stated in the BHAB bylaws to determine how they are currently being met. Board members also discussed some of the areas the Board needs to work on in order to be meeting goals/expectations.  
   I. Some of the topics discussed included:  
      - Revision of County contracts/agreements  
      - Data Dashboard – positive problem solving  
      - BHAB Measure B Committee representation  
      - Site visits  
      - CRT/Stepping Up trainings  
      - Consumer engagement, public input/comments – how to engage more consumers and increase client voice, how to best follow up on public comments  
      - Member and staff appreciation  
      - Member notification of BOS meeting agenda items  
      - Presentation of BHAB annual report to the BOS  
      - Legislation involvement  
      - More training to understand mental health system and how to navigate it  
      - Health and safety of clients  
| The board will identify 2020 goals at next month’s meeting. |
| 9. 10 minutes | **Mendocino County Report:** Jenine Miller, BHRS Director  
A. Director Report  
   I. BHRS applied for the No Place Like Home competitive grant to be a part of the Orr Creek Commons Phase 2 which will allow for 19 additional apartments for those with specialty mental health needs.  
B. Karla Van Hagen, Senior Deputy Clerk of the Board and Lindsey Dunham, Deputy Clerk of the Board were invited to today’s meeting to give the members information on the appointment, reappointment, and vacancy process according to government code. |
I. A copy of the most current BHAB roster was provided to members for review.

II. Discussion on the current vacancies: including 1st, 3rd, and 4th Districts.
   i. Member Ortiz notified the clerks she would like to be reappointed to her term.

III. When a term expires or a seat is resigned, whether the member is going to be reappointed or not, government code states that the seat has to be noticed for 20 business days. Even if the clerk knows who the board wants to reappoint for the position, they still have to wait till the noticing requirement has expired before they can place someone on that seat. Then, it will go to the next available BOS agenda.
   i. Government code states that the Clerk of the Board can notice no more than 20 days before and no later than 20 days after a vacancy.

IV. The Clerk of the Board tries to contact people when a vacancy is coming up so that they are aware and can let the clerk know if they want to be reappointed or not.
   i. Every time the clerk does a vacancy notice they copy Dustin Thompson, so that BHRS is also aware.

V. Discussion on staggering terms so that all terms do not expire at the same time.
   i. BHRS will further review the terms and let the Clerk of the Board know later this week if the board wants the two most recent appointments (Ferretta and Martinez) to be one or three year terms.
   ii. The Bylaw states that 1/3 of member terms need to expire every year, which is currently not happening, hence why these two new terms need to be accommodated.
   iii. As terms expire, the Clerk of the Board will confirm if other staggering terms need to take place to be where we need to be.

VI. Discussion on the flow of transition.
   i. Ms. Dunham explained the process that follows once the Clerk of the Board receives an application from anybody in the public.
   ii. When the application is received, residency and voter registration within the county is checked, the District Supervisor for that seat is then contacted to make sure they endorse the applicant for the seat, then it is forwarded to Dustin Thompson for BHRS to bring to the BHAB for consideration, and if the BHAB endorses the applicant, the appointment formally goes before the BOS.
   iii. The clerk cannot act on a reappointment till 20 days before the term is due to be vacant. Members can certainly contact the Clerk of the Board a few months before they are up for reappointment, and they will

Ms. Van Hagen will send the government codes to Dustin Thompson so he can forward to all members.
make a note of it, but they will not be able to act on it until 20 days before.

VII. The Clerk of the Board tries to maintain a one point contact with each board to prevent miscommunication.
   i. If the BHAB has any questions on any of these matters they need to contact Dustin Thompson and he will contact the clerk of the board.
   ii. Ms. Van Hagen stated that every time members are appointed to a new term they have to take an Oath of Office.
   iii. The official clerk of the BHAB is eligible to do the Oath of Office.

### 10. 10 minutes

**RQMC Report:**
A. Data Dashboard  
   I. Camille Schraeder reviewed data dashboard numbers.
   II. Camille mentioned upcoming funding opportunities.
      i. Currently they are working on a school based mental health grant with Karen Lovato, Acting Deputy Director, who is the lead for the County. They hope this will allow for providers to serve care into schools a little more.
   III. RQMC is also working with HHSA Director Tammy Moss Chandler, and BHRS Director Miller on Prop 56.
   IV. RQMC is involved in a learning community for Healthy California For All (previously CalAIM) which is going to have significant changes happening in January 2021.
      i. Further discussion on the proposed changes to Healthy California For All. BHRS Director Miller stated the importance of advocating for where we think it should be going and giving feedback.
      ii. Members agreed to have further discussion on this topic at next month’s meeting.

### 11. 10 minutes

**2020 BHAB Calendar Meeting Schedule:**
A. A draft copy of the 2020 BHAB meeting calendar was provided.
B. Discussion on the CIT training conflicting with next month’s meeting.
   I. BHRS Director Miller and a couple of the other board members will be attending the first day of the CIT training on February 19, and will leave in time to make it to the scheduled BHAB meeting set to happen in Fort Bragg.

### 12. 30 minutes

**Guest Speaker: Patrice Mascolo**
A. Patrice Mascolo, Program Manager for Healthy Mendocino gave a presentation on Mendocino County’s data for mental health numbers.
   I. Healthy Mendocino leads the collaborative effort for the community health needs assessment. They recently finished the 2019 community health needs assessment report. This report is also available on the Healthy
Mendocino website.

II. Some of the data on the presentation comes from the CHNA. The CHNA collects data in a few different ways so the data depends on the demographic they got from this survey. Ms. Mascolo mentioned that although they got the survey out to everyone it was hard to get certain demographics to take the survey.

III. Ms. Mascolo mentioned Healthy Mendocino also did informative stakeholder interviews throughout the county. This gives a different perspective and what they see is working on the county.

IV. Healthy Mendocino also does a community health status assessment which is secondary data that is compiled from other sources.

V. Some of the notable data from the presentation included:
   i. Mendocino County residents believe the top three most important health problems in the County are mental health issues, alcohol and drug abuse, and homelessness. The most significant barriers to addressing these issues: lack of funding and affordable housing, need for mental health services exceeds the capacity, among other things.
   ii. The total number of assessments and hospitalizations has risen from 2016/2017 to 2018/2019.
   iii. 54.1% of Mendocino County adult residents need or receive behavioral health care services with the 65+ age population being at the top.
   iv. The suicide rate in Mendocino County is slightly higher than in other Counties, but a lot of the suicides are not from County residents.

VI. All board members and members of the public were provided with a copy of the PowerPoint presentation Ms. Mascolo presented.

13. **Adjournment:** 2:14 PM

   **Next meeting:** February 19, 2020 – Seaside Room, 778 S. Franklin St., Fort Bragg

Motion made by Chair Rich, seconded by Member Martinez to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.

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**AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT (ADA) COMPLIANCE**

The Mendocino County Behavioral Health Advisory Board complies with ADA requirements and upon request will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting material available in appropriate alternative formats (pursuant to Government Code Section 54953.2). Anyone requiring reasonable accommodations to participate in the meeting should contact the Mendocino County Behavioral Health Administrative Office by calling (707) 472-2355 at least five days prior to the meeting.

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**BHAB CONTACT INFORMATION:** PHONE: (707) 472-2355  FAX: (707) 472-2788

**EMAIL THE BOARD:** mhbboard@mendocinocounty.org  **WEBSITE:** www.mendocinocounty.org/bhab

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