

CALBHB/C Governing Board Minutes
February 19, 2021, 1:30 pm
Zoom Teleconference

Governing Board Attendance: President Harriette Stevens, Ed.D. (San Francisco), VP Benny Benavidez, Secty/Treas. Kristine Haataja (Napa), Shera Banbury (Nevada); Bill Stewart (San Diego), Jerry Harris (Ventura), Stacy Dalgleish (Los Angeles)

Absent: Jessica Bennett (Alpine), Supervisor Stacy Corless (Mono), Patrick Ogawa (Los Angeles), Lynda Kaufmann Rodriguez (Santa Cruz)

Staff: Theresa Comstock, Executive Director

Open Comment: GB Members spoke regarding:

Jerry and Shera brought up items related to LPS Act reform – discussed later on the agenda.

Jerry mentioned that his county counsel told him that the BHAB had no authority to make recommendations for legislation to the BOS, but he believes that it's part of MHB responsibility to advise the BOS. WIC doesn't speak to restrictions on this issue. Stacy D. believes that we need to first look at County legislation advocacy. Jerry believes that duty 8 allows supervisors boards to assign any additional responsibilities...he has asked his BOS to assign that duty.

Minutes: Jerry Harris made a motion to approve the January 29th Minutes; Bill Stewart seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Financial Reports:

1. Financial Position: Total assets reported as of February 12, 2021 were over \$160,000.
2. Budget vs Actuals: Have gross revenue over \$71,000 for fiscal year, higher than budgeted. Appears that counties have paid more quickly than previously. We currently don't have MHSOAC funding. Expenditures over \$51,000, so again lower than budget.
3. Accounts Receivable: County dues payments have been coming in more strongly; only 11 Counties haven't paid dues. Stacy mentioned that CALBHBC is providing more services than previously and trainings have good value. She believes Counties are recognizing the value that they are receiving. Training is doing a good job of providing guidance for expectations from local Board/Commission leaders.
4. MHSOAC Contract (\$55,500 One-Year Contract): Theresa had anticipated a higher contract amount, but they are providing the same as last year. The contract administrator was supporting almost doubling the contract amount due to performance of the organization. However, budget shortfalls led to same amount as previously. She expects a March to February annual final contract very soon.

Motion: Benny made a motion to approve the financials as presented. Stacy seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Lanterman Petris Short (LPS) Act Reform Issue Brief:

Issue brief largely based on Steinberg Institute communications, focusing on two areas :

1. Engagement: Adjust the wording to the act so that it will be easier to get people into the care they need.
2. Resources: There are bottlenecks. People are not always at the appropriate level of care because of gaps in the continuum of care.

Discussion:

- Recommendations address:
 - 1) Redefining the term “Grave Disability”;
 - 2) Managing Physical Health;
 - 3) Opening up Conservatorship Hearings, addressing
 - a) Testimony
 - b) Virtual Attendance
- Requisite Resources mentioned
 - 1) Engagement Tools
 - 2) Comprehensive Community Services
 - 3) Inter-Agency Collaboration
- Issue brief includes:
 - SAMHSA Policy Guidelines for Involuntary Commitment
 - “Mandatory Civil Process to Initiate LPS Conservatorships” listing, including 5150, 5250, 5270, 5352.1 and 5008 (from San Francisco 2019 LPS Report)
- Theresa noted a letter from Mental Health America of CA, opposing LPS Act amendments, focusing only on increasing community resources.
- Jerry mentioned that the conservatorship process is really difficult for many families.
- Theresa believes that our action of supporting the [\\$750 Million Behavioral Health Budget item \(coalition letter\)](#) and [\\$250 Million for “Board & Care” facilities](#) will increase the availability of requisite resources to reduce and minimize involuntary treatment.
- We are seeing a humanistic crisis. Some think people have the right to decompensate and die in our streets, forests and river banks. But, unserved and underserved individuals with severe mental illness are unable to care for themselves. They need to be engaged in behavioral health services, and provided a continuum of care where health and social supports are wanted and sustained.
- Implementing Assisted Outpatient Therapy /Laura’s Law is mentioned as one of the requisite engagement tools. Related to this, Kristine will forward the [Nevada County Laura’s Law presentation](#) given in Napa County.
- It would be good to identify the cost of NOT treating people...repeated incarcerations, increasing ER visits, hospitalization, probation. Theresa will revise the issue brief, adding cost-justification related to the need for LPS Act reform as info becomes available.
- Summary: The document is good at laying out the issues.

Peer Support Specialist \$4.7 Million Budget Item:

The Peer Support Specialist bill passed last year, but without funding. We were asked to support this budget item that would provide the funding for training and certification. Certification needs to be organized state-wide rather than at a County level to provide consistency.

Stacy D. made a motion to support the [Coalition letter](#) for funding, and Jerry seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

Executive Director's Report:

- A. Advocacy Update:
 - a. Website has a page on [Legislative Advocacy](#). After writing letters to legislators regarding the advocacy areas we voted on in January, similar sample letters are now posted, providing templates for individuals who wish to write letters of support.
 - b. Benny suggested that we keep an eye out for proposed legislation that would provide names of people with mental health conditions to the local police. The goal would be to provide police a cross reference, so they could know if people have mental health issues before going out on call. Theresa has not yet heard about this. Some expressed concerns about patient privacy.
 - c. GB Supported Legislation & Budget Items are on our [Legislative Advocacy](#) web page.
- B. Communications Update:
 - a. The February E-update went out this week. It was sent to over 400 individuals.
 - b. [CALBHB/C E-Update](#)
- C. Resource Update:
 - a. January teleconference recordings are on our website.
 - i. The [training page](#) now includes the following recorded trainings:
 - Chair Training
 - Mental Health Board Training
 - MHSA Community Program Planning
 - Unconscious Bias
 - ii. The cultural, ethnic and racial community-defined evidence practice presentations are now on video online as well as one-pagers. They are available on our [Cultural Issues Web Page](#)
- D. Internship Update:

Theresa just started publicizing the opportunity for internships but hasn't received any applications yet. Jerry asked whether we should state that number of positions in the advertisement. Harriette recommended that we clarify that there are 2 internships and that they are paid positions should be in the ad's headline
- E. CA's Autonomous Vehicle Strategic Framework (AVSF) - 2 Volunteers Requested - Intro Meeting March 1, 1:00 - 1:45 pm
 - a. We received a request from the Department of Transportation asking for 2 volunteers to participate in discussion about autonomous vehicles. Theresa commented that local mental health board members throughout California have identified transportation to be an issue that is intertwined with behavioral health.
 - b. GB members commented that some counties currently use Lyft and Uber for mental health clients. Transportation is an issue in rural counties.
 - c. Bill and Shera volunteered to participate.
- F. Governing Board Meetings will return to 11:30 on Fridays, except for June.
 - a. Should we have a live meeting in June? There is strong support for this.
 - b. Jerry suggests that we should continue to monitor the COVID situation as we consider the feasibility of meeting in person.
 - c. It is predicted that everyone should have the vaccine by June, so June seems feasible.

- d. The October meeting will be in Sacramento to coincide with the Planning Council. We recommend that our June meeting be in Southern California.

Proposed schedule and Agenda Topics are listed below.

Governing Board Meetings

February 19 at 11:30 (Teleconference)
 March 19 at 11:30 (Teleconference)
 April 16 at 11:30 (Teleconference)
 May 21 at 11:30 (Teleconference)
 June 25* - Changed, Location TBA

Regional & Statewide CALBHB/C Meetings - Proposed Schedule:

Date	Topic	Format
March 5, 2021	LPS Act Reform?	Teleconference
March 26, 2021	Mental Health Board Training	Teleconference
March 26, 2021	Chair Training	Teleconference
April 9, 2021	Community Program Planning Training	Teleconference
April 23, 2021	Statewide Meeting (Speakers to include: MHSOAC, CA BH Planning Council and others.	Teleconference
May 14, 2021	Children & Youth – Integrated School-Based Mental Health?	Teleconference
June 25, 2021	Regional CALBHB/C Meeting	In-Person - TBA
June 26, 2021	Regional CALBHB/C Training	In-Person - TBA
July 30, 2021	Employment - Integrated Vocational/Mental Health Services?	Teleconference
October 23, 2021	Regional CALBHB/C Meeting	In-Person – Sacramento
October 24, 2021	Regional CALBHB/C Meeting	In-Person – Sacramento
November 5, 2021	Topic TBA	Teleconference
January 21, 2022	Regional CALBHB/C Meeting	In-Person – TBA
January 22, 2022	Regional CALBHB/C Training	In-Person - TBA

Other potential subjects of interest: MHSA Budgets, Telehealth, Marginalization; how loss and grief of employees are affecting Counties and MH providers.
 Theresa will explore how these topics might be addressed.

Stacy D. suggested that the GB meet to discuss Theresa’s performance immediately prior to next the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 12:53