

CALBHB/C Governing Board Minutes
August 20 , 2021, 11:30 am
Zoom Teleconference

Governing Board Attendance: President Benny Benavidez (Imperial), VP Bill Stewart (San Diego), Secty/Treas. Kristine Haataja (Napa), Shera Banbury (Nevada), Stacy Dalgleish (Los Angeles), Kylene Hashimoto (Fresno), Patrick Ogawa (Los Angeles), Harriette Stevens, Ed.D. (San Francisco)

Absent: Supervisor Stacy Corless (Mono)

Staff: Theresa Comstock, Executive Director

Meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by President Benny Benavidez.

1. **Open Comment:** No comments
2. **Minutes:** Patrick made a motion to approve the June 18th Governing Board Minutes; Kylene seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.
3. **Financial Reports:**
 - Financial Position: Current assets are approximately \$149,500.
 - Statement of Activity: There was no revenue for the first half of July 2021. Expenditures are \$4,369.34 and are primarily payroll expenses. Total assets over \$142,000
 - Budget vs actuals show little activity. Dues invoices will be sent out to County Boards soon
 - Accounts receivable: The MHSOAC has been invoiced for \$6,424

Motion: Harriette made a motion to accept the financials, and Bill seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Governing Board Appointment

New applicant for Governing Board is Michael A. Rodríguez, who Theresa and Benny interviewed. Benny reviewed his credentials and considered him an outstanding candidate. Theresa shared that he is active on both the local and state level in areas important to our goals. Stacy D knows him from Ventura County meetings and highly recommends Michael.

Motion: Bill made a motion to accept Benny's appointment of Michael to the Governing Board, and Patrick seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

5. AB988 – 988 Mental Health Emergency Number

This bill will be supported by a phone bill fee. This fee covers facilitation of the 988 system, but legislatures are not including mental health services with the fee. The creation of this new line is required by Federal law.

Originally, CALBHBC Governing Board supported this bill, while the CBHDA (County Behavioral Health Director's Association) took a position of "support if amended". More recently, the CBHDA was concerned that the most recent version of the bill required amendments. Theresa reviewed desired amendments with them, and notified Kennedy Forum that we would put our advocacy on hold, knowing that CBHDA had significant concerns that needed to be addressed. Along with Kennedy Forum, Theresa had conversations with the other bill sponsors, Steinberg Institute and LA County. We anticipate a revision with most of CBHDA recommended amendments. Theresa recommends that we not take a position until the amendments are posted. She will keep Benny informed. If the bill maintains the original intent, she and Benny will provide an updated letter of

support, or if needed, they will provide the bill to the Governing Board again for consideration of support.

6. Executive Director's Report

- **LGBTQ+ Issue Brief:** Theresa noted that the links to MHSOAC website didn't work, so she will send a revised version. The key finding of the brief is that there is a huge need for mental health services for individuals identifying as LGBTQ+. The Transgender community is especially vulnerable to suicide. LGBTQ+ individuals often experience a high level of trauma, resulting in a need for programs and services. Key components of mental health offerings include:
 - being culturally relevant,
 - forms that are appropriate for varieties of gender identification,
 - data reporting,
 - policies and procedures to address needs,
 - training for organizations, schools,
 - suicide prevention

Shera suggested that the need for housing be included. Kylene suggested including the Trevor Project as a resource.

- **Vocational / Behavioral Health Teleconference ([Link to Recording](#)):**
 - Recording for last teleconference is on the website; it was an interesting and insightful meeting that we would like more people to view.
- **County Trainings/Presentations:**
 - Theresa is providing individual trainings for some boards and commissions:
 - Santa Clara (8/18) (Effective Advisory Board - Duties & Tools)
 - Tuolumne (9/1) (Effective Advisory Board - Duties & Tools)
 - Los Angeles Region (9/17) (MHSA CPP w/Dr. McKindley-Alvarez)
 - Board Retreats - Theresa noted that Board retreats need to comply with the Brown Act. If a retreat is a special meeting, it must be publicized.
- **Internal Audit (Pending)**
 - Theresa still working on materials for the internal audit, including the state and federal filings. She hopes to provide internal audit to Kristine and Patrick within the next week.
- **Interns:**
 - Both interns are concluding their work, and Theresa has conducted exit interviews. They provided her with great reports about Board meetings that they attended.
 - In the next couple of months, she will begin searching for new interns.

Upcoming Meetings & Training Schedule

1. **Governing Board Teleconference:** August 20, 11:30 am
2. **Statewide Teleconference, November 5:** Theresa has been thinking about Adult Residential Facilities as a topic for the next teleconference. Patrick mentioned the importance of understanding the continuum of care, and Shera would also like to discuss State Hospitals and their role, specifically whether this is the best place for those in crisis. Theresa may be able to incorporate all of these items into a panel and corresponding issue brief.

3. Regional & Statewide CALBHB/C Meetings: The State is still finalizing requirements and recommendations for in-person meetings.
- a. The CA Behavioral Health Planning Council is still planning for in-person meetings in January.
 - b. Executive Committee has discussed whether to meet in person. Several members expressed concerns and think that we should reassess at the start of the year. Stacy D suggested that we query the membership about meeting in person in January to determine our next steps.

October, 2021	Regional CALBHB/C Meeting	Teleconference
October, 2021	Regional CALBHB/C Meeting	Teleconference
November 5, 2021	Topic TBA	Teleconference
January, 2022	Regional CALBHB/C Meeting	Hybrid? – TBA
January, 2022	Regional CALBHB/C Training	Hybrid? - TBA

Meeting adjourned at 12:35.