

CALBHB/C Governing Board Minutes
March 10, 2023, 11:30 am
Zoom Teleconference

Governing Board Attendance: President Benny Benavidez (Imperial), Secty/Treas. Kristine Haataja (Napa), Stacy Dagleish (Los Angeles), Manuel Fletes Medina (Glenn County), Harriette Stevens, Ed.D. (San Francisco), Michael Rodriguez (Ventura), Jonathan Raven (Yolo)

Absent: VP Bill Stewart (San Diego), Shera Banbury (Nevada),

Staff: Theresa Comstock, Executive Director

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

1. Open Comment:

- Stacy commented that LA is trying to spend down MHSA funding prior to the end of the fiscal year. However, it's not easy to spend unspent funds, because of the time it takes to start a program. In a separate note.
- Stacy noted that CALBHBC dues come out of her commission's budget and asked how other Boards/Commissions budget work. Theresa said that some Boards/Commissions have a budget (maybe 30%). She sends invoices to Mental/Behavioral Health Director and indicates that it can be paid out of MHSA funds. According to Stacy, LA's Commission budget provides \$25 for stakeholders to attend meetings.
- Kristine requested a rebilling of dues for Napa County.
- Stacy shared her recent experience with LA County mental health for a family emergency which included many difficulties in accessing crisis services and appropriate care, and Jonathan shared a similar experience.
- Theresa introduced Michael to Stacy and Kristine since they did not attend the February meeting.

2. Minutes from February 10, 2023:

Motion: Harriette made a motion to approve the February 10 Governing Board Minutes; Jonathan seconded the motion. The motion passed with Stacy and Kristine abstaining since they were not at the meeting.

3. Financial Reports:

- a. Financial Position: Total assets are \$151,793.73
- b. Budget vs Actuals: Benny noted that the budget looks in line with expectations. Benny and Theresa both mentioned that the budget is our best estimate, and sometimes it changes because of unpredicted circumstances. In the presented budget, new expenses, such as increased insurance, are incorporated.
- c. Accounts Receivable: Total Accounts Receivable as of February 3rd equal \$32,678. Dues payments are still coming in; 46 are paid, 13 are still outstanding for a total of \$13,000 outstanding). Also outstanding is \$19,678 from the MHSOAC.

Motion: Stacy made a motion to accept the financials, including the revised budget, as presented, and Harriette seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

4. Legislation:

A. [SB 551](#) (Portantino) - Increases local mental health board membership requirements, including:

- 20% of board/commission must be employed by a Local Education Agency
- 20% of board/commission must be 25 years of age or younger
- The Governing Board understands that there is currently a lot of focus on youth mental health, as there should be. However, adding these membership restrictions are not the best way to address these concerns. Discussion focused on how difficult these groups are to recruit and maintain. We decided to support the bill with a revision to require only one person in each of these target groups. This support letter should be addressed to all of the co-sponsors of the bill. If possible, Theresa will schedule a meeting to discuss this with the sponsor(s).

B. [AB 1437](#) (Irwin & Quirk-Silva) Medication Prior Authorization Requirements: Under this bill, a treatment authorization request would not be required for the provision of a prescription drug prescribed to prevent, assess, or treat a serious mental illness, as defined. Under the bill, a prescription for a drug for serious mental illness would automatically be approved if the department verifies a record of a paid claim that documents a diagnosis of a serious mental illness within 365 days before the date of that prescription.

- The Governing Board agreed to support this bill.

C. [AB-1001](#) (Haney) Health facilities: behavioral health emergency services This bill would require a general acute care hospital to adopt policies to respond to a patient requiring behavioral health emergency services, as defined. The bill would require that these protocols meet standards established by the department and consist of various parameters such as minimum staffing requirements for behavioral health emergency services, procedures for response by behavioral health emergency services personnel in a timely manner, and annual training, as specified.

- The Governing Board supports this bill in principle. However, Stacy expressed concern about the bill, because all mental health organizations are having difficulty filling openings...there are just not enough qualified people available. Theresa thought that a hospital department could incorporate caveats that address staffing shortages.

- The Governing Board decided to support the bill.

D. [AB 236](#) (Holden) Provider Directory Requirements: This bill would require a plan or insurer to annually audit and delete inaccurate listings from its provider directories, and would require a provider directory to be 60% accurate on January 1, 2024, with increasing required percentage accuracy benchmarks to be met each year until the directories are 95% accurate on or before January 1, 2027. The bill would require a plan or insurer to provide information about in-network providers to enrollees and insureds upon request and would limit the cost-sharing amounts an enrollee or insured is required to pay for services from those providers under specified circumstances.

- Providing and changing a printed paper directory is very costly, but updating a virtual directory should be easier to do. Manuel noted that if a virtual directory is available, it could easily be printed by anyone who needs it. The Board decided to support this bill.

E. [SB-509](#) (Portantino) School employee and pupil training: This bill would require a school district, county office of education, state special school, or charter school to ensure that all pupils in grades 1 to 12, inclusive, receive evidence-based, age-appropriate mental health education from instructors trained in the appropriate courses at least once in elementary school, at least once in junior high school or middle school, as applicable, and at least once in high school.

- Kristine noted that this is a follow-up for SB224 that passed in 2022. The bill that passed was revised to require a mental health class only in high schools that currently have a health class in their curriculum. This new bill expands mental health care instruction for all grades and requires teacher training. Stacy and Benny expressed concern that this will be opposed by teachers' unions. After discussion, we agreed to support this bill, but we have concerns about how it will be funded/implemented.

F. [AB-839](#) (Addis) Residential care facilities for the elderly: financing:

Existing law, the California Health Facility Construction Loan Insurance Law, establishes, without cost to the state, an insurance program for health facility construction, improvement, and expansion loans in order to stimulate the flow of private capital into health facilities construction, improvement, and expansion and in order to rationally meet the need for new, expanded, and modernized public and nonprofit health facilities necessary to protect the health of all the people of this state. Existing law establishes the Health Facility Construction Loan Insurance Fund, to be continuously appropriated to carry out the provisions and administrative costs of the insurance program.

This bill would expand the above-described loan and insurance programs to include RCFEs by adding an RCFE to the definition of "health facility" under those programs.

- This bill speaks only to residential care for the elderly. We support the bill but would like an amendment stating that ARFs be treated in the same way.

G. [SB 282](#) (Eggman) Same-Day Access - Currently a spot bill (Watching)

- We have supported this bill before, but it wasn't passed. The Board votes to support this bill.

Motion: Stacy made a motion approve the above bills, with amendments as noted, and Harriette seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

5. Executive Director's Report

- A. Theresa met with MHSAOC staff, and they are working on a new contract.
- B. In-person training/presentations in upcoming months in San Bernardino County and Los Angeles County.
- C. [March Newsletter](#) was released

6. Upcoming Meetings

a. Governing Board Meetings

May 12, 11:30 am

June 16, 12:30 pm (Hybrid: Zoom & Santa Ana)

July 14, 11:30 am

b. CALBHB/C Quarterly/Regional Meetings/Trainings – Dates:

April 21/22 - Hybrid: Sacramento & Zoom - [Please Register](#)

June 16/17 - Hybrid: Santa Ana & Zoom

August 26 - Hybrid: Superior Region (Redding or Chico)

October 20/21 - Hybrid: San Francisco & Zoom

Planning Council Meetings: CALBHB/C Quarterly Meetings usually follow the CA Behavioral Health Planning Council Meetings - GB Members are encouraged to attend the CA BH Planning Council Committee Meetings and General Sessions:

April 18-21, 2023: Sacramento - [Full Schedule](#)

June 13-16, 2023: Southern California

October 17-20, 2023: San Francisco

Meeting was adjourned at 1:03 pm.