

CALBHB/C Governing Board Minutes
August 11, 2023, 12:30 am
Zoom Teleconference

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

Absent: Benny Benavidez (Imperial), Annie Thu Henrich (Stanislaus County),

Staff: Theresa Comstock, Executive Director

Meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by President Bill Stewart.

1. Open Comment:

- Kristine attended one of the CBHPC forums on the Governor's Proposed Behavioral Health Services Act. There were many concerns raised regarding reduced services to youth and underserved populations.
- Jonathan talked about how those who are incompetent to stand trial (IST) are supposed to go State Hospitals, but the State Hospitals have been so full that people were not being moved from the County Jails to the State Hospitals. The Counties sued and now there are a number of plans to address this. The Legislature passed a bill that gives every County a quota of how many people can be eligible for a State Hospital. For every person over the quota, Counties will now be penalized. The Legislature recently changed the way they analyzed the growth cap, and Counties thought that process would increase County quotas. However, for many Counties, it reduced the baseline. Now every IST over the lower baseline results in a penalty. Michael clarified that many individuals who are IST don't necessarily to go to State Hospital, but they are still counted in the baseline and Counties still need to pay the penalty.
- Bill was in Sacramento for the Care Act Work Group. There are 3 Ad Hoc committee subgroups; any other stakeholders can attend and comment at the meetings. A contact link is on the Care Act [website](#).

2. Minutes from July 14, 2023:

Motion: Michael made a motion to approve the July 14 Governing Board Minutes; Stacy seconded the motion. The motion passed with one abstention.

3. Financial Reports:

- a. Financial Position: Total assets as of August 5, 2023, are \$105,184.64.
- b. Budget vs Actuals: Theresa discussed how the organization is running on a monthly deficit. Part of the deficit is due to a delay in the MHSOAC, so there were 6 months without that revenue. Theresa has billed MHSOAC and will be sending invoices to the Counties for their dues.

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

c. Potential Staffing Increase – Request for Funding:

- a. Theresa would like to create a new position that would be in lieu of hiring interns and would be for a longer term basis than interns. This person might be a previous intern or another person who has been involved with the organization. Her intent is to develop people into subject matter experts to handle specific areas of responsibility to assist Theresa. She is considering title “Fellow” which is considered a notch above “Intern.”
- b. Funding would be about \$50,000 annually. This funding would be sourced from the budget surplus.

Motion: Stacy made a motion to support the request for funding up to \$50,000 and to begin a search, and Harriet seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

4. **Behavioral Health Services Act Legislation** - Update & Discussion:

There has been a lot of concern about a reduction in services resulting from the Governor’s proposed Behavioral Health Services Act.

The Legislative Analyst’s Office report reflects on how this Act will affect children, youth, and TAY. The Assembly Health Committee has been meeting with all of those who have submitted requests for revisions, including meeting with CALBHB/C.

The Senate Committee will be holding a hearing soon (not open for public comment), and after that we’ll see what changes are made. There is a call for delay as well as concerns about reductions in mental health services. There has been a shift in public opinion about integrating MH and SUD.

Theresa is expecting the analysis of the Assembly Health Committee by August 18/19. She is planning to track the analysis and suggested that we may wish to discuss prior to the Senate’s meeting on August 22.

Part of the bill can go into effect through Legislative action, but parts are subject to a ballot measure. Some Boards & Commissions have reached out to Theresa, and she has shared CALBHBC’s advocacy recommendations. Boards should consult with their BH Director to understand how the bill would affect local programs and how they can advocate to their BOS as appropriate.

5. **Executive Director’s Report**

- a. The Summer 2023 Newsletter was sent out early last week.
- b. ARF/RCFE ("Board & Care") Updates:
 - Theresa discussed this topic with an aide of CA Senator Cortese. The Aide will be working with Theresa to conduct research with legislative research staff, state agencies and possibly federal agencies. Research will include possible 1915C waiver

advocacy (to create tiered funding structure), facilitating braided funding for ARFs and RCFEs as is in place for [individuals with Intellectual and developmental disabilities](#))

c. Training:

- Dr. McKindley-Alvarez has conducted seven (7) training sessions for various Los Angeles Committees (Underserved Cultural Committees, Service Area Leadership Teams, and others)
 - The goal is to get all committees on a common ground, so that they can advise the Behavioral Health Commission.
 - Trainings included: Community Engagement & Unconscious Bias Training
 - Stacy noted that these Committees had not received any previous training, and this training helped to activate the committees.

d. Presentations:

- Presented in person to Santa Clara BHB: Topics: Advocacy, Site Visits and Community Engagement
- Presented to the MHSA Community Forum regarding CALBHB/C recommendations related to SB 326: The Behavioral Health Services Act
- Solano County MHB: Topic: Combining MHB with Alcohol & Drug Board; Theresa is assisting them as they work on revisions to the Bylaws in order to integrate MH and SUD Boards.

6. Upcoming Meetings/Trainings:

Governing Board Meetings (Zoom Teleconference)

- September 22, 2023, Friday, 11:30 am (Michael will take meeting minutes while Kristine is on vacation.)
- November 17, 2013, Friday, 11:30 am
- December 15, 2023, Friday, 11:30 am

Quarterly/Regional Meeting/Training

- Superior Region, Chico & Zoom: September 16
- Bay Area Region, San Francisco & Zoom: October 20-21, 2023
- Southern/LA Region, San Diego & Zoom: January 19-20, 2024
- Central Region, Sacramento & Zoom: April 19-20, 2024

The meeting was adjourned at 12:29 pm.