

**CALBHB/C Governing Board Minutes**  
**December 16, 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 Dagleish (Los Angeles), Kylene Hashimoto (Fresno), Patrick Ogawa (Los Angeles), Harriette Stevens, Ed.D. (San Francisco), Michael Rodriguez (Ventura)

**Absent:** Supervisor Stacy Corless (Mono)

**Staff:** Theresa Comstock, Executive Director

Meeting was called to order at 11:31 a.m. by President Benny Benavidez.

**1. Open Comment:**

- a. Governing Board members have been encouraging local boards to attend the quarterly meeting in San Diego.
- b. Some of us will be attending in person, though not all.
- c. Members reported the status of completion of their 2021 Data Notebook which we considered very detailed. Benny reiterated concerns mentioned in the November meeting. Theresa will mention our concerns at a performance outcomes meeting next week.

**2. Minutes from October:**

Motion: Patrick made a motion to approve the October 15 Governing Board Minutes; Stacy D. seconded the motion. The motion passed with two abstentions (Michael, Kylene).

**3. Financial Reports:**

- a. Financial Position: Total assets are \$161,193
- b. Budget vs actuals: Counties have been paying dues, currently \$26,700 still due.

Motion: Stacy D. made a motion to accept the financials as presented, and Bill seconded it. The motion passed unanimously.

**4. Annual Goals Discussion:**

- Our mission tends to stay the same year to year. Advocacy issues may change each year. The issues help us determine which pieces of advocacy we support.
- Shera suggested that we add criminal justice to areas of advocacy. How do we develop better CIT and provide appropriate services to those with mental illness?
- Stacy added concerns regarding services for BIPOC and parity of access to care. In some counties the MHD is not responsible for mental health care in the jails. Funding of mental health in jails is also an issue.
- Michael noted that there is a lack of step-down facilities for those coming out of psychiatric facilities and jails that can provide adequate care. Similarly, there is a lack of resources for children and transition age youth who need continuing services.
- Shera voiced concerns regarding outside contractors and accountability to the community.
- Bill is interested in better stakeholder engagement, where MHB/C have funds to explore stakeholder engagement separate from the MHD. MHD primarily focuses on issues identified by MH Community Partners and not as much to consumers and family members. Patrick notes that MHD are responsible for obtaining feedback from a broad range of individuals but don't always do enough locally.
- Theresa noted that local input is one of our guiding principles for advocacy.
- Shera believes that we need additional focus on substance use which seems to be treated on the sidelines of mental health and dealing with consumer needs for dual diagnosis.

- Patrick suggested that we include some of these topics under current goal of ‘access.’
- Stacy spoke about concerns for the API community and the trauma that they are experiencing with current political environment. So again, we need to address service access based on racial identity.
- Theresa will review notes and incorporate ideas for review in January.

## 5. Legislation - Consideration of "Support"

- a. [SB 316 - Access](#): This bill would authorize Medi-Cal reimbursement for 2 visits taking place on the same day (such as mental health and primary care).
- b. [AB 686 - Behavioral Health Outcomes & Accountability](#): The Governing Board previously took a "Support if Amended" position on this bill (sponsored by CBHDA) regarding performance outcome data standardization, reporting, analysis, and communication.
- c. We will continue to support the ‘two-year’ bills that we approved last year.

### Motion:

Shera moved that we support bill SB316, and Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Shera made a motion that we support AB686, and Patrick seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## 6. Executive Director’s Report

- a. Office: The landlord wishes to raise our rent to \$280.50 monthly begin in January (a 10% increase). The current space is adequate for our needs at this time. Shera asked whether we should have a longer lease, and we discussed current and future needs. GB concluded that we should continue the lease.
- b. Statewide Collaboration:
  - Theresa has participated in meetings/calls with the executive directors of CA Alcohol & Drug Program Executives, the MHSOAC, the HHS Deputy Secretary over Behavioral Health, Department of Rehabilitation Director, Deputy Directors and Assistant Deputy Director.
  - Spoke with Toby Ewing by phone and he indicated that he would provide a formal reply to our issues regarding funding. She met this week with HHS Deputy Secretary Stephanie Welch and discussed our concerns and difficulties in getting additional funding to sustain our work. She understood funding needs and believes that DHCS should be providing funding. CBHPC was also discussed as an appropriate funding source, since boards/commissions provide the Data Notebook each year. She instructed Theresa to write to DHCS regarding funding.
  - Stacy mentioned that county dues have not increased during her tenure and that we should consider increasing county dues. Rates were increased slightly about 3 years ago. Theresa agreed that we could consider increasing dues for the next budget. Shera suggested that we touch base with the county boards/commissions before making changes.
- c. Interns - New interns to begin attending local board/commission meetings in January. One intern is from Sacramento State and one from UC Davis. Their majors are related to political science, psychology and public policy.

## 7. Meeting/ Training Schedule

Registration is currently low. Based on likely number of attendees, Theresa has not yet signed a contract for a conference room. She may contract for a smaller room given the number of attendees. Benny suggested that GB members send invitations to those in Southern California and encourage attendance. Shera believes that attending in person meetings work to inspire others to service. Benny requested that we go ahead with our meeting plan and reserve a room.

- a. Southern/LA Region Meeting/Training (Open Statewide): Tuesday, January 18, 9 am - 1:30 pm (Coffee & Pastries available at 8:30 am) Locations: San Diego Holiday Inn Bayside & Zoom (Hybrid)
- b. Governing Board: February 18, 11:30 am (Zoom)

**CA Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC)**

January Meetings are at San Diego Holiday Inn Bayside & Virtual

- a. Performance Outcomes Committee: January 18, 2 pm - 5 pm
- b. Executive Committee: January 19, 8:30 am to 10:15 am
- c. Patients' Rights Committee: January 19, 10:30 am to 12:30 pm
- d. Reducing Disparities Workgroup: January 19, 10:30 am to 12 pm
- e. Children & Youth Committee: January 19, 10:30 am to 12
- f. Workforce and Education Committee: January 19, 1:30 pm to 5 pm
- g. Legislation Committee: January 20, 1:30 pm to 5 pm
- h. Housing and Homelessness Committee: January 20, , 8:30 am to 12 pm
- i. Systems and Medicaid Committee: January 20, 8:30 am to 12:00 pm

**General Session: January 20, 21**

Meeting was adjourned at 12:51 pm.