

## MONTHLY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

March 22, 2021

### **Mental Health Board**

#### **Members in Attendance**

Baggett, Brandy  
Buckley, Claire  
Giffin, Marty  
Holmes, Jim  
Jullien, Joanna  
Leighton, Linda  
McLennan, Geoffrey  
Sanchez, Laura

#### **Absent Members**

Cataldo, Lisa

#### **Staff and Guests**

Abrahamson, Twylla  
Comstock, Theresa  
Ellis, Amy  
Genschmer, Scott  
Headrick, Kyleene  
Henry, Todd  
Osborne, Marie

### **Welcome and Introductions**

Geoff McLennan, Vice-Chairperson of the Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board (MHADAB), called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m. Members and guests were welcomed, and introductions were made.

#### **❖ Board Protocol (Non-Board Member Participation) - Read by Marty Giffin**

- This item is designed to clarify, for new attendees, the role of non-board members and their participation while attending the Mental Health, Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board (MHADAB) meetings.
- The MHADAB encourages public input in all of its meetings. In order to facilitate this, we allow for public input two times - once at the beginning of the agenda and once at the end. These times are for those items that do not appear on the agenda. For items that are on the agenda, the Board will allow time for input from the public at the time the item is heard by the Board. Input guidelines are as follows:
  - a. All remarks shall be addressed to the Board as a body and not to any member of the board or staff.
  - b. No person, other than a member of the Board and the person having the floor shall be permitted to enter into any discussion without the permission of the chairperson.
  - c. For items not on the agenda, each person is limited to three (3) minutes of comment during the Public Comment Period(s.)
  - d. For items on the agenda, each person is limited to five (5) minutes of comment during the agenda item, unless time is extended by the chairperson
  - e. For items on the agenda, if there is a person speaking on behalf of a group, with no other comments by another member of that group, please identify yourself as such and your time may be extended at the pleasure of the chairperson.
  - f. Total discussion time on any item may be limited by the chairperson to ensure that all of the business on the agenda is completed no later than 8:00 p.m.

### **Opening Public Comments**

- None.

- #### **❖ GUEST SPEAKER : Theresa Comstock, Executive Director, California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C)**

- Theresa Comstock introduced herself as the Executive Director for the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHB/C). Also, Ms. Comstock is the Chair of the State Rehabilitation Council. Ms. Comstock explained that she became involved because they provide employment services for people with disabilities and people with mental health issues.
- Ms. Comstock shared that CALBHB/C is here to support the board as needed by providing training and resources and ensuring that the board can function well in the community. Additionally, CALBHB/C likes to stay informed on local issues and oftentimes these issues are part of a larger statewide focus that require advocacy. Ms. Comstock was invited by a member of the board that wanted to make a difference and asked for ways to make an impact as a board member.

#### DUTIES OF BOARD MEMBERS

- Ms. Comstock shared that the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) outlines board member duties. An important tool is to bring panels together from different community issues you may be interested in. For example, one of the board members stated that they were interested in school mental health services. This could be facilitated by inviting a representative from your behavioral health division, someone that works with children in your district, and the local education agency or the county office of education. Also, the board could invite nonprofits that work with children in the community.
- This process helps identify gaps and barriers because people are more accountable. When they are there with your colleagues, instead of pointing fingers, they can all have more of a robust discussion. Also, it is easier to appoint supporting board liaisons to attend other agencies in the community and give report outs at the monthly meeting.
- Another great tool the board can use is setting up site visits at local facilities. Also, an ad hoc is a great tool as it is a short-term workgroup you identify an issue and there are some guidelines, so you do not have issues with the Brown Act.
- Another tool is viewing performance outcome data for your county on the CALBHB/C website. When you visit the site, you can click on your county and the site shows the MHSA three-year plan and updates for every county.
- Another board duty is to review any county agreement entered in into pursuant to section 56. Ms. Comstock explained that the behavioral health department must sign off on many state agreements. The board should be part of this review process, especially if these are large contracts. It is important for board members to be aware of the details. It is important to look at the type of services provided and the ability of the contractor to provide those services. Often, there are board members who have family members who have experienced treatment with a contractor, and they can provide their own experience for reference.
- Another important duty is advising the Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the Mental health Director. Mainly, it is important to share identified issues in your community. Sometimes, a board member can be focused on their own life and only advocate for their own issues; this is not the way a board member should advocate, and they should address all important community issues along with their own. Overall, as a board member, you are trying to create a system that works for everybody.
- At times, board members can become unfocused by reviewing issues that are too large to tackle such as solving homelessness. With a larger issue, as a board member, you must look at smaller pieces of it. So instead, you may say that you are interested in in making sure people had more stable housing, and you might look at getting involved with associations dedicated to addressing this issue in your community. Also, reviewing performance outcome data, conducting ad hocs, and meeting regularly with the Mental Health Director can be useful in identifying these

issues. This helps board members gain perspective on barriers and successes, they know about that they would like to see in your county.

#### PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT & RECOMMENDATIONS

- If you vote on a recommendation that is related to MHSA, the behavioral health division needs to either implement that recommendation or respond to it through an analysis, summary, and an explanation if it is not implemented. It is important to be sure that the public is involved in your meetings and as well as during the community program planning process. Part of this process is receiving a presentation during the planning process and assess how many people were contacted and the level of diversity involved.
- An important piece of this process is creating the board's Annual Report. During this process, board members can make the recommendations.
- As part of involvement, board members can make recommendations on applicants, when a behavioral health director is selected.

#### DATA NOTEBOOK

- The Data Notebook provides a helpful way to look at issues that affect the community and brings forward some performance outcome data.

#### REALIGNMENT

- Realignment is another board member duty and an area where many boards have not had a lot of participation. Much of this piece is reviewing services to prevent some of the incarceration and other factors that are happening to people when they don't have the mental health services that they need. Proposition 63 it provides funding for mental health services and this was enacted in 2004.
- This legislation brings in a lot of funding, because California has a lot of people with incomes of million dollars and more, and it provides 1% of that income if it's over a million dollars in a year, so even with COVID-19 that number went up and there are still millionaires that are doing well, financially. It was it was an active to expand and improve public mental health services, the funding was insufficient to meet the demand of half the population in need. With COVID-19, cultural, racial, and ethnic populations have been disproportionately affected and the safety net of underfunded system has become the criminal justice system courts and emergency rooms.
- Overall, the role of the board in the community planning process is important. The duties are outlined on CALBHB/C's website and will be provided at the end of the meeting.

#### TRAINING RESOURCES

- There are several resources provided by CALBHB/C as well as 25 to 30 different pages on different issues related to MHSA. Also, there are online training modules that take around 15 minutes to complete.

#### **Board Member Comments**

- Brandy Baggett noted that substance use was not identified in the data in many counties and asks if this is a requirement. Also, under the Welfare Institution Code, it does not specifically mention substance use under the performance outcome data.
- Ms. Comstock answered that this is something that CALBHB/C could review. The organization has shifted towards reviewing more substance use data. MS. Comstock also shared that she is starting to see some legislation that requires services or allows for services through MHSA; if that legislation goes through, then the State needs to start looking at those measures so that they can be standardized.
- Marty Giffin thanked Ms. Comstock for speaking this evening and expressed appreciation for the time taken to address the board. Mr. Giffin explained that the motivation for requesting Ms. Comstock's presentation was a question from Linda

Leighton as to how the board members can best perform their duties and advocate on behalf of the community to make a difference.

- Ms. Baggett shared that on November 18, 2020, 2265 was amended which allows the use of MHSA funds for substance use for co-occurring disorders. Ms. Comstock responded that CALBHB/C would be updating their own issue brief to start advocating to the state and identify data surrounding that piece of legislation.
- Mr. McLennan explained that there are many new board members and encouraged them to attend the retreat and offer their ideas, criticisms, and suggestions as they are fundamental to the process.

### **Staff Member Comments**

- Ms. Ellis explained that there are multiple ways that board members can communicate ideas on community issues. The board is currently part of the three-year planning process and given an opportunity to offer their comments through multiple channels. With this opportunity to give feedback comes the change to vote and submit formal recommendations.
- Ms. Ellis hopes that the group communicate ideas earlier than the three-year planning process so that she can be aware of the kind of priorities that members are interested, and she can work to advocate on behalf of the board on these issues. A great platform to bring forward issues is during the report out to the BOS, annually. This gives an overview of everything the board has done and gives a chance for members to make recommendations. Additionally, board members can work through their Chairperson or with Amy Ellis and Twylla Abrahamson, directly.

### **Public Comments**

- None.

- ❖ **CONSENT AGENDA ITEM(S)** All items on the Consent Agenda have been recommended for approval by the Executive Committee. Anyone may ask to address Consent items prior to the Board taking action, and the item may be moved for discussion.

- None.

### **Board Member Comments**

- None

### **Staff Member Comments**

- None.

### **Public Comments**

- None.

### ❖ **SECRETARY/TREASURER 'S REPORT**

- **Approval of Treasurer's Report - \$ 1800 - Amount budgeted for Fiscal Year 2020-21\***  
Expenditures for the months of February include: \$0.00, leaving a balance of \$1745.09.

**MOTION:** Leighton/Sanchez

**ABSTAIN:** N/A

**AYES:** Baggett, Buckley, Giffin, Holmes, Jullien, Leighton, McLennan, Sanchez

**NOES:** None

- **Approval of the February 22, 2021 Regular Board Meeting Minutes**

**MOTION:** Leighton/Sanchez

**ABSTAIN:** N/A

**AYES:** Baggett, Buckley, Giffin, Holmes, Jullien, Leighton, McLennan, Sanchez

**NOES:** None

## ❖ COMMITTEE REPORTS & PROGRAM/PROJECT UPDATES:

### **Executive Committee**

- The Executive Committee met and formed the agenda. Additionally, there was an interview with Todd Henry an interested candidate for the board. This candidate is very involved in the community and works in law enforcement. Mr. Henry has expressed interest in crisis centers and has a good handle on modern management processes in public services.

### **Children's Services Committee**

- Marty Giffin reported that the committee met this evening and reviewed the goals formed for 2021. A peer support specialist will be joining the committee at the April meeting. One item discussed at this meeting was a bill addressing hidden foster care. These are children that are not in the child welfare system and relatives become legal guardians. This would afford the same benefits, rights, and resources that current foster children receive.
- Mr. Giffin invited everyone to attend the next meeting.

### **Adult Services Committee**

- At the most recent meeting, there was good discussion about the February speaker that discussed Laura's Law.

### **Board Member Comments**

- Geoff McLennan shared that he is encouraged that the foster care bill is moving forward as it is a step in the right direction; giving grandparents quality in terms of resources they need if they do adopt these children.

### **Public Comments**

- None.

### **Staff Comments**

- None.

### **BOS REPRESENTATIVE** - Supervisor Jim Holmes

- Supervisor Holmes reported that the county has received nearly \$12 million from the US Treasury to our public housing authority, Placer County Housing Authority. As a county, about 6 million of that will be received and another 5 million goes to the City of Roseville because they have a housing authority as well. This is to help pay for rent and utilities from back rent that has been due since March of 2020. 211 has additional information on this for those interested in help. Additionally, even if they have been paying rent on their credit cards, if they are behind on their credit card payments, they can help with that. Also, the funding will go directly to landlords and to the utility companies.
- There is a larger homeless encampment at the county government center and as we start to open the county again for employees to return to work, it is a health and safety issues for those individuals. Supervisor Holmes has been working with the Homeless Team, the District Attorney, the Sheriff, Amy Ellis, Dr. Oldham, County Counsel, and the CEO Office to form a resolution at the board meeting next Tuesday. There will be an ask to expand the current homeless Liaison Team. By increasing costs to \$660,000 to expand and monitor the program.
- Additionally, at the Dewitt Campus, there is ongoing demolition of the older buildings; this should be completed soon. The CEO Office has selected the design build contractor that will be building the new Health and Human Services (HHS) building. Currently, County Counsel and Risk Management are reviewing the details to ensure everything is covered and ready to move forward with the much-anticipated HHS building.

### **Board Member Comments**

- Mr. McLennan asked if there was any news on the old Pine Cone Hotel in King's Beach. Mr. Holmes answered that it is moving forward.

### **Public Comments**

- None.

### **Staff Comments**

- None.

### **Correspondence**

- No correspondence reported.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

This report is posted online with the minutes.

### **Board Member Comments**

- Ms. Baggett shared that the sheriff's department has put information together for the public regarding fentanyl. Ms. Baggett asked what the health department is doing for the public. Ms. Baggett believes that it would be less stigmatizing to put forth information on fentanyl by non-law enforcement as it would be better received. Ms. Abrahamson answered that CSOC put out a campaign with an awareness flyer a few months ago but believes they can put it forward again. This effort was originally spearheaded by Nevada County.
- Claire Buckley shared that Lincoln is holding hip hop congress and working with a harm reduction program to address these types of issues such as fentanyl use and even a needle exchange program. Ms. Ellis explained that there has been an ongoing a prescription pill opioid epidemic and that prompted training for the next wave as well as expanding naloxone supplied to first responders.
- Ms. Buckley shared the Coalition for Auburn & Lincoln Youth (CALY) and the Auburn Hip-Hop Congress are planning a Town Hall meeting to discuss recent Fentanyl overdose issues and discussing the need for Harm Reduction programs to address these kinds of issues, including the need for a needle exchange program. Ms. Ellis explained that there has been an ongoing a prescription pill opioid epidemic and that prompted training for the next wave as well as expanding naloxone supplied to first responders.
- Ms. Buckley asked about the homeless assessment accounting for 94 people including those in cars and asked if the point in time count gives any of this information from a trending perspective.
- Ms. Ellis will share the point in time count document when it moves forward.
- Geoff McLennan brought forward law enforcement joining forces and discussing a possible sheriff's department liaison.

### **Public Comments**

- None.

### **Staff Comments**

- None.

## **❖ UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

### **Recruitment/ Visibility**

- Mr. McLennan explained that the board should still be pushing forward with recruitment efforts and outreach and to be sure to include as much diversity on the board as possible as suggested by Ms. Comstock.

### **Campaign for Community Wellness (CCW)**

- Claire Buckley third Thursday of the month to improve participation. As a result, a whole new group attended. At the meeting, there was a lived experience speaker. Also, Ms. Compton recently put forward a survey to gauge the type of meeting attendees at CCW and shared the results of the survey the meeting.
- Additionally, an emergency rental assistance program was discussed as well as MHSA Innovation

planning.

- Also, there was an update on the Workforce, Education, and Training program was covered at the meeting.
- Ms. Buckley shared that there are initiatives happening such as putting together a series of workshops with conversations around LGBTQ and mental health issues. There is an introductory meeting with a panel discussion hosting various members of the community youth as they are the most interested at this time. Then, there will be a follow up with a series of more deep dive discussions on various aspects of issues in the LGBTQ community. For example, there will be a discussion about incarcerated LGBTQ individuals.
- Ms. Buckley explained that there was a discussion regarding the cultural and linguistic competence in the community. Also, there have been some healthy discussions around diversity in the community.
- Ms. Buckley shared that she applied and was elected to a statewide committee on cultural diversity and at the first meeting, they argued processes and procedures as well as health equity. Additionally, there was a focus on the statewide committee which is focused on African Americans, Latinos, and Native Americans. Also, LGBTQ and Pacific Islanders are part of underserved populations. Ms. Buckley will bring back statewide discussions back to Placer County.

### **Board Member Comments**

- Ms. Leighton asked when the next meeting will be held as she would like to attend. Ms. Buckley answered that it is April 23, 2021 at 10:00am.

### **Public Comments**

- None.

### **Staff Comments**

- None.

### **Guest Speaker s**

- Mr. McLennan shared that there is a good selection of speakers to build upon, but board members are always welcome to submit those suggestions to Kyleene and the Executive Committee and hopefully, they can be added.

### **Board Goals**

- Mr. McLennan explained that these goals were adopted last year and include improving outreach and communication, and attendance at committee meetings. Mr. McLennan believes that the board is moving forward on the goal of researching town halls; however, COVID-19 prevented the board from holding one. Also, regarding collaboration and outreach to community providers, Mr. McLennan believes that the board is doing an excellent job in this aspect.

### **Test Calls**

- Marie Osborne reported that test calls are going well for the month. The schedule is current, and the link is available on the agenda. Ms. Osborne shared that test calls help make some system changes and improvements and these efforts are valuable to the organization. Please continue to conduct these calls and the next quarterly report from the state will be brought back to the group.
- Additionally, Ms. Osborne shared that there is an upcoming external quality review.
- The goal of these test calls is to make some good system changes so our clients can access services.'
- Mr. McLennan encouraged everyone to use the link shared in the agenda to sign up for at least one month during the year. Joanna Jullien is the currently signed up for test calls this month.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### **Urgent Care Center**

- Mr. McLennan believes this was covered during the Director's Report.

### **CALBHB/C**

- Marty Giffin gave a reminder that if board members want more information about mental health board training, including duties of the board, there is a training schedule that will be distributed to the board from CALBHB/C.
- **Appointment to the Mental Health Alcohol and Drug Advisory Board: Todd Henry, Public Interest**  
**MOTION:** Sanchez/Giffin  
**ABSTAIN:** N/A  
**AYES:** Baggett, Buckley, Giffin, Holmes, Jullien, Leighton, McLennan, Sanchez  
**NOES:** None

### **Board Member Comments**

- None.

### **Staff Member Comments**

- None.

### **Public Input**

- Todd Henry thanked everyone and is excited to start with the board. Looking forward to being able to contribute and adding value to the board.

## **❖ CLOSING**

### **Board Member Comments**

- Ms. Buckley asking about separation of church regarding separation of religious beliefs from mental health services. Ms. Ellis explained that if there is a issue in a Placer County service, it is important to reach out to her or Twylla Abrahamson if is regarding children's services. Ms. Ellis shared that there is a parameter of care outlined as charitable choice where the system can put dollars into faith-based organizations, but only if there are options for those individuals. For the most part, the system likes to work with these organizations, but have to offer a choice for all people and include a non-faith-based option for those individuals.
  - Ms. Buckley will follow up with Amy Ellis to set a meeting.
- Ms. Baggett asked about the schedule posted on the website for the Alcohol and Other Drugs Committee and asked that it be noted correctly on the website. Additionally, there was confusion surrounding this change to the committees.
  - Kyleene Headrick and Linda Leighton will connect offline to define the agendas and schedule for the upcoming meetings.

### **Staff Member Comments**

- None.

### **Public Input**

- None.

### **Adjournment**

- The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.
- Tuesday, April 13, 2021, at 4:30 p.m. is the next Executive Committee Meeting (ASOC).
- Monday, April 26, 2021, at 6:15pm is the next Board meeting taking place via Teleconference (details will be posted online).

