



**KERN COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, March 27, 2023

5:30 p.m.

In Person: 2001 28<sup>th</sup> Street, 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Training Room

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Sonia Silva (Dist. 1) – Chair

Stephanie Hermeston (Dist. 1) – 1st Vice Chair: *Excused*

David Kessler (Dist. 3) – Parliamentarian: *Absent*

Michael Herrera – Board of Supervisors Appointee

Deborah Fabos (Dist. 2)

Bryson Gholston (Dist. 3): *Absent*

Nancy Solis (Dist. 5): *Absent*

Dian Schneider (Dist. 2) - 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair: *Excused*

Michael Bryant (Dist. 3)

Flossie White (Dist. 4)

Jeff Burdick (Dist. 1)

Lashawna Lee (Dist. 3)

Tracy Lynch – BHB Coordinator

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Marisa Trebizo

Theresa Marinas

**KERNBHRS STAFF:**

Jessica Armstrong

Alison Burrowes

Lynn Corse

Jennie Sill

Tonya Mann

- 1. Welcome and Introductions:** Sonia Silva, welcomed everyone; each board member introduced themselves.
- 2. Establish Quorum:** 7 present, 2 excused, 3 Absent. Quorum established.
- 3. Approval of Regular Meeting Minutes (Draft) for January 23, 2023 & February 27, 2023:** MOTION by Michael Herrera to approve minutes and seconded by Jeff Burdick. ALL AYES: Motion passed.
- 4. KernBHRS Children's System of Care – Pathways to Well-Being Presentation– Jennie Sill:** Shared a presentation on 2022 Youth and Foster Youth Served, KernBHRS Children's System of Care, Foundational Legislation, Vision of the Continuum of Care Reform (AB 403), Facts about Congregate Care, Transitioned Group Homes to Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Programs, How Kern Shares Responsibility, How Kern Supports Families: Teaming, Continuum of Care Reform, Therapeutic Foster Care How Kern Supports Family Settings, Intensive Services Foster Care (ISFC) & Therapeutic Foster Care (TFC), Kern County Treatment Foster Care Oregon, and Next Steps. Time allowed for: *Questions and Answers*.
- 5. Public Comment:** None
- 6. Unfinished Business:** None
- 7. New Business:**
  - A. 2022 BHB Annual Report Draft:** Was emailed to BHB Members and will be voted on at the April 24, 2023 Meeting.



- B. Adult Treatment & Recovery Services Co-Chair:** Searching for BHB Member to Co-Chair. Meetings are held the second Wednesday of each month with exception of July & December. Ability to attend in-person or via Teams, please contact Tracy, Stacy, or Sonia if interested.

**8. Chair Report – Sonia Silva:** None.

**9. Clinical Services Report – Jessica Armstrong, Deputy Director**

- **Kern Linkage (KLD):** Third No Place like Home site open and tenants are moving in, fourth site coming soon. KernBHRS provides assessments for qualifications and supportive services to residents. Residents do not have to participate in services. Working on Bridge Housing grant, to work with potential care core clients in future, to allow for housing that is not congregate care. CONREC expansion, legislative changes will come into effect July, and will change how we provide treatment to our incompetent to stand trial individuals. Will bring back to board for updates as received.
- **Substance Use Disorder (SUD):** State Audit coming, documents submitted to state for review.
- **Contingency Management:** Work continues.
- **Partnering with Health Management Associates.** Conducting events to discuss overdosing and increase prevention efforts in Kern County, specifically related to fentanyl.
- **Adult System of Care Administrator:** Transition to new Administrator, Emily Lyles has been completed. Staff are implementing attendance reward for clients. Staff have come up with raffle basket idea with quarterly drawings for winner. If successful, will see how to implement at other sites. Looking to refresh some of our sites.

**10. Specialty Clinical Services – Tonya Mann for Robin Taylor, Deputy Director**

- **Introducing new System of Care Administrator:** Liz Bailey is the new Administrator of the Department Supports Division.
- **Department Supports:**
  - African American Listening Session for Healthcare Providers. Being held at the Larry E Reider Education Center on Wednesday, April 12, 2023.
  - Be Sensitive, Be Brave training for staff to strengthen knowledge for who is at risk for suicide.
  - Cultural Formulation Interview training for staff to enhance how we view and engage with cultural clients.
  - Prevention team will be joining the Department Supports Division in April.
- **Pilot Program:** Working with CDPH and PH on pilot program called Youth Suicide Prevention Crisis Response Pilot Program. Aiming for rapid reporting of youth suicide and crisis response team for youth suicide. Currently meeting and planning with CDPH to get program up and running.
- **Clinical Plan Services Division:** New Division coming to KernBHRS. Led by Heather Hornibrook, previous Adult Systems of Care Administrator. The teams under this division will be: The Three East Bakersfield Children's Outpatient teams, Mental Health Outpatient Adult and Children contracts: College Community Services (CCS), Child Guidance Clinic (CGC), & Clincia Sierra Vista (CSV), Prop 47, Recovery Station, and FLOOD.

**11. Administrative Services – Alison Burrowes, Deputy Director**

- **EHR Transition:** Moving forward with transition. Launching July 1, 2023. Planning for internal and outside provider training plans to start May and June.
- **Budget:** County budget kick-off is this month. Our budget is due to County Administrative Office (CAO) in April. Working on finishing up getting everything ready for submission.

- **Contracts:** Deadlines for contracts is June. Contracts Division is working to renew contracts.
- **Medical Services:**
  - For first time in years, we are not experiencing shortage of Nurses. Looking at some competitive pay and future initiatives to retain Nurses.
  - Specialty Services Team: Fidelity review of program found up to fidelity standards.

**12. Department Report – Alison Burrowes for Stacy Kuwahara, Director:**

- African American Listening Session for Healthcare Providers, please review flyer. If interested please attend session on April 12, 2023.
- Apologies for absence – Attending Oildale Community Partnership: Tiny Oaks project. Speaking to community on what the program is going to be, how the department is going to support the community, and answering questions from community.
- Legislative Updates:
  - SB43: Proposed changes to MHSA. Early phase of legislative process will be proposed in 2024 budget.
  - Provide in depth review of proposed legislation and the impacts. Will be added to BHB calendar.

**13. Board Member Item:** None.

**14. Committee Reports:** None.

**15. Public Announcements:** None.

**16. Adjourn:** MOTION by Jeff Burdick to adjourn to the next regular meeting In Person on April 24, 2023, and seconded by Michael Herrera. ALL AYES. Motion passed. Adjourned at 6:13 p.m.

**Items Distributed via Meeting Invite**

BHB Agenda for March 27, 2023

Meeting Minutes (Draft) from January 23, 2023

Meeting Minutes (Draft) from February 27, 2023

BHB 2023 Schedule

<https://www.kernbhhs.org/behavioral-health-board>