

RIVERSIDE COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION

MEETING MINUTES FOR March 6, 2024 • 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL AND INTRODUCTIONS –

Madam Chair, Tori St. Johns called the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) meeting to order at 12:03 pm and led the committee into the pledge of allegiance. Commissioner attendance was taken by roll call and followed by introductions. During the introductions Launa Wilson, newly appointed commissioner to district 1 gave a brief introduction of herself.

CHAIRPERSON'S REMARKS –

Madame Chair, Tori St. Johns shared she was invited to tour the Coachella Valley Behavioral Health facility, which is an 80-bed facility and 20 beds are designated to the adolescent section. The facility offers yoga and Uber Health which is a confidential service that will take the consumer to their destination with safety measures in place. Madam Chair, concluded by sharing the facility will have a soft opening of 20 beds and the adolescent unit should be running by the fall of this year.

COMMISSION MEMBER REMARKS –

Rick Gentillalli shared a flyer for the Veterans Committee created by Dakota Brown and stated it would require some minor changes and approval from both the Veteran's committee and the department. Mr. Gentillalli spoke on behalf of Daryl Terrell, who was in a training and not present, Mr. Terrell has great concern regarding the Moreno Valley Unified School District which is experiencing a budget deficit and employee layoffs that include therapists and ask if there was anything anyone in the department could do to assist the MVUSD.

April Smith gave a brief update regarding the bylaw ad hoc committee sharing that the committee is still undergoing review of the bylaws and scheduling a final meeting to finalize the bylaws to have them approved.

PUBLIC REMARKS –

Shannon McCleery-Hooper announced save the dates for the May Is Mental Health Month events, "The Art of Wellness", the first event will take place on 5/2/24 at the Coachella History Museum, and on 5/9/24 the second event will take place at the Valley Wide Recreation and Park, and the last event will take place on 5/23/24 at Fairmount Park. All events will be from 11:30am to 4:30pm.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING –

Minutes from January 3, 2024 and February 7, 2024 were reviewed, Greg Damewood made a motion to approve both months minutes as written and Richard Divine seconded the motion. Minutes were approved as written.

Beatriz Gonzalez abstained from February's meeting minutes.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT –

Dr. Chang reported the department is prepared to work through whatever the outcome may be regarding Proposition 1 and he shared the Wellness Village is proceeding at pace. Dr. Chang concluded by announcing the Eating Disorder Proposal was approved.

CELEBRATE RECOVERY-

LaGwenda Hill, Senior Parent Partner of SAPT, introduced Ashlee Barcellos. Ms. Barcellos expressed her gratitude of the department, its programs and the hard work of the staff. She shared she was initially skeptical and had low expectations but through the Triple P program and the Nurturing Care program she was able to apply what she learned to better parent her children. She was also able to extend what she learned to her spouse to help him with parenting, and they learned to work together and communicate with their children and each other. Ms. Barcellos expressed her conflict resolution with her children has become easier because she has learned to apply the skills she learned and practice them while staying consistent. She also shared that she has changed her expectations with her children so that she does not set high standards and more appropriate age goals for them. Ms. Barcellos concluded by thanking the programs and the parent partners that have supported her through her journey.

NEW BUSINESS-

1. WET Employee Appreciation Winner (Marybel Buchler)

Marybel Buchler, Senior Clinical Therapist with Workforce Education and Training announced Yvonne Basterrechea, BHS III, as the employee who was recognized and nominated as this quarter's Employee Appreciation Winner. A video was shared, Ms. Basterrechea was presented with a plaque, and her supervisor Rebecca Orta-Ramirez with Robert Presley Detention gave praise and recognition to Ms. Basterrechea. Ms. Basterrechea also spoke and gave thanks to her supervisor and co-workers for the recognition.

OLD BUSINESS-

1. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Update - (David Schoelen)

David Schoelen, Mental Health Service Act Administrator, presented the Mental Health Services Act Annual Update for Fiscal Year 24/25. Mr. Schoelen explained what the MHSA Act is and that in 2004 CA voters approved ballot proposition 63 which dedicates \$1 million dollars to the public mental health service system. The MHSA update includes community participation and planning and accepts feedback year around. The feedback assists with the report that goes to the state that authorizes MHSA expenditures, the report also demonstrates compliance with MHSA regulations, progress, and outcomes on existing funded programs. He explained there are two types of plans, a 3-year plan and an annual update. Mr. Schoelen explained there are 5 components that make up the MHSA frame which are Community Services and Supports, Prevention and Early Intervention, Innovation, Workforce Education and Training and Capital Facilities and Technology and provided updates and highlights of each of those programs.

Mr. Schoelen then explained there would be a 30-day posting period in April to allow the public to review and comment on the draft and there would also be Public Hearings to provide feedback on the plan. The Public Hearings will also be provided with a virtual option, the public can view videos and provide feedback or attend in person and give feedback. The feedback is then reviewed and responded to by the Board of Supervisors appointed BHC that becomes a chapter in the final plan and submitted to the state and posted on the RUHS website.

Mr. Schoelen then gave a brief update on the Behavioral Health Service Act (BHSA), which is what MHSA would then become should Proposition 1 pass and would go into effect in January of 2025. This proposition would change the 5 components of the plan to 3, and those would be Housing, Full Service Partnership and Behavioral Health Services that would include Substance Use Disorder services. The focus would be on the unhoused and youth. The new structure for planning, data reporting and accountability would be across all Behavioral Health funding streams and a greater state oversight and approval. The plan would then consist of a new 3-year plan format, no stakeholder process for annual updates and a new accounting report.

2. Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Program (SAPT) Update – (April Frey)

April Frey, Administrator of Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Programs announced the Provider meeting will take place on 4/4/24 at Rustin. Ms. Frey also announced the Friday Night Live (FNL) youth leadership program would be having several upcoming events. The Active Youth Conference is taking place over the next two weekends for elementary, middle school and high schools. In April the FNL Fun Day at Castle Park will be held, and in May the FNL Awards Ceremony will take place. She also shared the Poisoning and Overdose 5K Awareness Walk is taking place on 3/27/24. She concluded by sharing the May Is Mental Health Month events are soon approaching and on May 20, 2024 there will be a hiring fair in Riverside.

3. Care Court Update – (Marcus Cannon)

Marcus Cannon, Deputy Director of Forensics, provided a brief update explaining Riverside's CARE Act services launched on 10/2/23 and the remaining counties, not part of the initial cohort, will go live December of 2024. This service is for people with Schizophrenia and other psychotic disorders, 18 years of age and older who are languishing or not effectively linked to care. The CARE Act Data reflects to date there have been 37 civil court petitions, 12 criminal court referrals, 16 referrals for investigation, 5 active cases ordered into the program and 61 CARES Line Integrated referrals. Mr. Cannon concluded by sharing the link for more information about the CARE Court services which can be found at <https://www.ruhealth.org/behavioral-health/care-act>.

COMMITTEE UPDATES –

Desert Regional Board- Tori St. Johns reported David Schoelen provided a presentation on the MHSA Annual Update.

Western Regional Board- Greg Damewood reported the committee would be meeting today at 3pm and all are encouraged to attend.

Mid County Regional Board- Brenda Scott reported the committee met at the Hemet Clinic and there was a presentation from Enhanced Care Management and Mature Adults.

Children's Committee- Victoria St. Johns reported the committee had a presentation from Henry Friedman.

Criminal Justice Committee- Greg Damewood reported committee will meet on March 13, 2024 at 12pm and all are encouraged to attend.

Legislative Committee- April Smith reported committee met this morning and will continue to meet monthly, all are welcome to attend. She continued to share that the committee discussed Prop 1 and reviewed mission and goal statements and there would be revisions to that.

Older Adult System of Care Committee- Brenda Scott reported that the committee met at the Mature Adult clinic in Desert Hot Springs and 35 people attended with 15 of those attendees being consumers.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATIONS-

Richard Divine suggested an update regarding detention services.

Brenda Scott suggested an update for the eating disorder that was approved and an update for the BH Enhanced Care Management.

April Smith suggested the Bylaw review and approval.

Launa Wilson suggested an update regarding Prop 1, if it should pass how will it affect state funding.

Tori St. Johns also suggested an update regarding Prop 1 and how would it affect the bylaws.

Rhyan Miller suggested a Crisis update and report.

ADJOURN – The Behavioral Health Commission meeting adjourned at 1:49 pm.

Sylvia Bishop

Rick Gentillalli, BHC Secretary

Sylvia Bishop, Recording Secretary

FY 2022/23 BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION ATTENDANCE ROSTER

MEMBERS	JUL	SEP	OCT	NOV	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN
April Smith, District 3	A	A	P	P	A	P	P			
Beatriz Gonzalez, District 4	P	P	A	P	P	A	P			
Brenda Scott, District 3	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Carole Schaudt, District 4	ML	A	A	P	ML	P	P			
Daryl Terrell, District 5	P	P	P	P	P	P	A			
Debbie Rose, BOS Rep. Dist. 2	P	A	P	P	A	P	A			
Greg Damewood, District 5	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Launa Wilson, District 1	-	-	-	-	-	-	P			
Richard Divine, District 2	P	P	P	P	ML	P	P			
Rick Gentillalli, District 3	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Victoria St. Johns, District 4	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			
Dr. Walter Haessler, Dist. 1	P	P	P	P	P	P	P			

Present = P • Absent = A • Medical Leave = ML

Minutes and agendas of meetings are available upon request and online at www.rcdmh.org. To request copies, please contact the BHC Liaison at 951-955-7141 or email SBishop@ruhealth.org

PRESENT		
Bill Brenneman	Lisa Erazo	Cindy Sanchez
Lucy Lopez	Sujei Larkin	Sarah Abdelmishah
Selenne Contreras	Sean Rayu	Glenis Ulloa
Sylvia Bishop	Elisabeth Rios	Anniemarie Morales
Deborah Johnson	Misty Martin	Ernie
Dr. Chang	Miriam Resendiz	Maria Martha Moreno
Diana Gutierrez	Dakota Brown	Sandy Awad
Maureen Dopson	Yvonne Basterrechea	Israel Torres
Francisco Huerta	Melissa Vasquez	Carolina Ayala
David Schoelen	Laurence Gonzaga	Sheila Mallett-Smith
Marcus Cannon	Carina Gustafsson	Nisha Elliott
April Frey	Rebecca Orta-Ramirez	La-Thea Davis
Jaqueline Markussen	Dorothy Cockrell	Myeshia Bobo
Tony Ortego	Jannel Rand	Rudy Diaz
Chris Benitez	LaGwenda Hill	Erika Solis
Kristin Miller	Marybel Buchler	
Kristen Duffy	Ashlee Barcellos	
Shannon McCleery-Hooper	Alea Jackson	
Janine Moore	Michelle Downs	

OTHERS PRESENT VIRTUALLY		
Jane Beamer	Melissa Dalke	
Jonathan Kaatz	Lydia Mekonnen	
Akram Razzouk	Lydia Session	
Julie Egle	Miranda DeShields	
Elisabeth Jones	Robin Smith	
Andrea Putnam	Luis Lamadrid	
Eva Guenther-James	Janine Moore	
Ahley Housley	Carolina Otter	
Nancy Stevens		
Dolores DeMartino		
Leah Newell		
Dinah Navarro		
Cheryl Coson		
Steve McNally		