



**Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory Board
(Minutes of the meeting of January 5, 2022)**

FINAL

<u>2022 BHAB Membership</u>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
Jaron Brandon - BOS	✓											
Anaiah Kirk – BOS Alt	E											
Cynthia Halman	✓											
Mary Anne Schmidt	✓											
Valerie Shuemake	E											
Constance Bone	A											
Emily Valentine	E											
Heather Farris	✓											
Jenn Salazar	✓											
Jennifer Pastorini	✓											
Elizabeth Marum	✓											
Marjorie Langdon	A											
Maureen Woods	✓											
Penny Ablin	✓											
Sherry Bradley	✓											
Susie DeMassey	✓											

Present = ✓ Absent = A Excused = E

15 MHAB Members, 1 BOS Alternate

<u>Tuolumne County Staff in Attendance</u>
Rebecca Espino, Director – Health & human Services Agency
Tami Mariscal, Director – Behavioral Health
Lindsey Lujan, Agency Manager – Behavioral Health
Amanda Lawrance, Staff Analyst – Behavioral Health
Joe Shaw, Staff Analyst – Behavioral Health
Pandora Armbruster, Administrative Assistant – Behavioral Health
<u>Others in Attendance</u>

I. CALL TO ORDER

- Advisory Board Chair, Cynthia Halman, announced to attendees that the meeting was being recorded for the purpose of assuring accurate meeting minutes.
The meeting was called to order at 4:02 pm. Nine of the fifteen members were present and accounted for at the time of roll call to complete a quorum for the Board. Those present were Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Elizabeth Marum, Heather Farris, Jenn Salazar, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey. Jaron Brandon, Valerie Shuemake, Constance Bone, Emily

Valentine, and Marjorie Langdon were not in attendance when the meeting was called to order.

- Pandora Armbruster, Quality Improvement Administrative Assistant, read the December 1, 2021 Findings Resolution for AB 361 into the meeting record (attached).
- A motion was made by Penny Ablin and seconded by Elizabeth Marum to make the February 2, 2022 Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) meeting available for virtual attendance per AB 361 and through #2 of the associated Findings. The motion passed unanimously by all members present. (Ayes: 10 - Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Elizabeth Marum, Heather Farris, Jenn Salazar, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, Sherry Bradley, and Susie DeMassey. Nays: 0 Members Absent: 5 – Jaron Brandon, Valerie Shuemake, Constance Bone, Emily Valentine, and Marjorie Langdon)

As a result of this determination, the February 2, 2022 Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting will be available through virtual attendance only per the County Administrator’s recommendation to only allow in-person or virtual meetings, not through a combination of both.

- Jaron Brandon arrived at 4:14 pm.

II. INTRODUCTIONS

Introductions were made by all Behavioral Health Advisory Board members present. Introductions were made by Tuolumne County staff as follows: Rebecca Espino - Director Health and Human Services Agency, Tami Mariscal - Behavioral Health Director, Lindsey Lujan - Quality Improvement Agency Manager, Amanda Lawrance – Quality Improvement Staff Analyst, Joseph Shaw - Quality Improvement Staff Analyst, and Pandora Armbruster – Quality Improvement Administrative Assistant.

III. AGENDA REVIEW PERIOD

Jaron Brandon suggested that Item #5 under the Business Section be moved up to Item #2 Social Media Ad-Hoc Committee immediately following Item #1 - 2021 Data Notebook. The group agreed to the change in order of items. All other agenda items will remain in the same order.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

None received.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The group discussed several edits and clarifications needed for the December 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes. Penny Ablin moved to approve the December 1, 2021 Meeting Minutes with the noted corrections. Elizabeth Marum seconded. Motion passed. (Ayes: 8 – Jaron Brandon, Cynthia Halman, Elizabeth Marum, Heather Farris, Jennifer Pastorini, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, and Sherry Bradley Nays: 0 Abstentions: 3 – Mary Anne Schmidt, Jenn Salazar, and Susie DeMassey Absent: 4 – Valerie Shuemake, Constance Bone, Emily Valentine, and Marjorie Langdon)

VI. SUPERVISOR’S REPORT – Board of Supervisors Representative – Jaron Brandon

Supervisor Brandon congratulated Tami Mariscal on her recent promotion to Director of the Department of Behavioral Health. He expressed his gratitude of Amanda, Lindsey, and Pandora’s continued efforts in supplying much needed support in other areas.

Jaron requested feedback and ideas for the Board of Supervisors upcoming February workshop to determine priorities for the coming year. This important event helps define and determine BOS goals and the provides focus and direction for county department heads.

Jaron recently toured The Refuge Recovery Center in East Sonora. This non-profit rehabilitation and detox facility meets the needs of low-income community members with substance use disorders.

The PIT (Point-In-Time) count of sheltered and unsheltered people experiencing homelessness is scheduled for the end of January and volunteers are still needed to assist ATCAA. The first 50 people volunteering will receive a gift certificate. A Facebook event has been created and the training is scheduled for the 26th.

The Board of Supervisors recently appointed two new members of the Advisory Board, Constance Bone and Marjorie Langdon.

And finally, a new Public Health Officer has been named. Jaron shared that he has been identified as the point person for California State Association of Counties - Health and Social Services Agency.

<p>VII. DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Rebecca Espino, HHS Agency Director and Tami Mariscal, BH Director</p>

Rebecca Espino, Health & Human Services Agency Director thanked the Behavioral Health Advisory Board, and particularly Mary Anne, Sherry, and Heather, for their participation in the BH Director's interview panel. She encouraged board members to show support for Tami Mariscal's upcoming official appointment as Director of Behavioral Health at next Tuesday's Board of Supervisors meeting.

Tami Mariscal also acknowledged her appreciation of the Advisory Board's support during the interview process.

She shared news of Behavioral Health's recent submission of a second Crisis Care Mobile Unit grant application. The department is hoping to receive a noncompetitive allocation of \$500,000. \$125,000 would be used for direct client care and \$375,000 for infrastructure. There is an additional competitive funding opportunity of up to \$1M per team which BH is attempting to develop.

CalAIMs Quality Improvement grant program is being discussed by the Department of Health Care Services. This would bring in \$250,000 to Tuolumne County as an incentive in the development of some of the CalAIMs Initiatives. A workgroup has been formed and an action plan developed to start hitting milestones in pulling down and securing those funds.

We are maintaining the federal quality standards of timeliness of 10 days from request to assessment and functioning at 3 days at substance use assessment which is very good.

We are continuing to look at staffing, strategizing with Health & Human Services Agency leadership, Human Resources, and County Administrators Office to fill vacancies. We currently have 8 Clinician, 1 Behavioral Health Worker II and 3 Program Supervisor vacancies. We are collaborating with Human Resources in developing employment recruitment flyers which we are hoping will encourage candidates to seek employment with our department. Staff are participating in this process, utilizing their pictures and stories. We will share more with the Advisory Board when these are completed.

The electronic health record implementation continues with an estimated “go-live” date of September 2022. This is a very quick turnaround and is in line with what CalAIMS expects us to do.

The department looked closely at the continued rise in Covid 19 cases within the community and discussed a continuity of care plan to increase safety for clients and staff. Group therapies will be moving to a virtual platform as of today. Individual treatment is still an option for clients when necessary. Staff meetings of more than a few people will be moving to virtual platforms as well, though still allowing one on one meetings to continue in person if needed.

Elizabeth Marum inquired about the current percentage of vacant positions. Tami estimated that 15-20% are still waiting to be filled.

VIII. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS: Members of the Advisory Board may share announcements and/or comment on matters not on the agenda. Advisory Board Members’ comments/announcements will be limited to **three minutes**.

- Sherry Bradley inquired about the vacant MHSA Coordinator position and requested consideration of appointing an ad-hoc committee to work with the new director regarding the “Taking the Call” item further down on the agenda. Director Mariscal informed the group that the MHSA Program Coordinator position was converted to an Agency Manager position and has been filled by Jennifer Guhl. She was a previous Program Specialist within the MHSA Program and supported the Enrichment Center. Tami also expressed her approval of the formation of an ad-hoc committee to focus on the “Taking the Call” subject and believes that this may be helpful to the department’s efforts. Cynthia Halman requested updates surrounding this topic moving forward.
- Jennifer Salazar relayed her concerns regarding the lack of Behavioral Health’s presence in the homeless encampments. Jennifer’s work with “One Pile at a Time” has brought forth focus and concerns regarding the services and needs that need to be addressed. She would like to see a greater Behavioral Health presence out there.
- Mary Anne Schmidt thanked Rebecca Espino in recently opening a warming center during this cold weather. Mary Anne also checked with County Counsel regarding the BHAB Bylaws and is still unable to get them completed. She would like Rebecca or Tami to assist in getting these moved forward within the editing process. She also thanked Rebecca for organizing the interview panel and noted how much she had learned through this process.
- Elizabeth Marum thanked Jennifer Salazar for her continued work in the community cleaning up and working with the homeless encampments. The group joined in in honoring her for her great work.
- Cynthia Halman informed the group that Lantern of Light will be offering a Suicide Bereavement Clinician Training course through Dr. John Jordan of the American Foundation of Suicide Prevention (AFSP). They will be moderating the training which will be available via Zoom. 6.5 Continuing Education Units (CEUs) through AFSP will be made available to those completing the course. This course will be held on March 3-4, 2022. Also, the Community Workshop for Survivors of Suicide Loss is scheduled for March 1, 2022. Dr. John Jordan will be providing some additional education about suicide grief and its impacts, as well as providing positive coping tips and skills. This will be followed up with a dinner for the

Suicide Loss group. Both events will be held at the Peppery. These events were all provided through a grant from the Sonora Area Foundation. Maureen inquired whether the CEU's would be available to nurses. Cynthia will check on this and let her know.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENT: Members of the public may be heard on any item not on the Board's Agenda. A person addressing the Board will be limited to **five minutes**. Comments by members of the public on any item on the agenda will only be allowed during consideration of the item by the Board.

No public comments were received.

X. BUSINESS

Continued Items:

1. Tuolumne County 2021 Data Notebook (20 minute): Discussion, Review and Possible Action to Approve for Submission – Cynthia Halman

The group discussed each question up to #12 and the answers provided via Behavioral Health. The group decided that this document will be forwarded out to members for their further review and input into questions #13 through #22.

Ad-hoc Committees' Progress Reports:

2. "Social Media" Ad-Hoc Committee (15 Minutes) – Mary Anne Schmidt
 - Update & Possible Action on Facebook Build Out/Suggested Links for FB page (This Item was moved up from #5 during the Agenda Review Period III. above)

Mary Anne asked for feedback and discussion on the proposal submitted to Advisory Board members from the Social Media Ad-hoc Committee. The group discussed several ideas regarding a budget for boosting posts, moving vetted information from other sites forward, etc. Mary Anne clarified that the Behavioral Health Advisory Board would like to create their own Facebook page, not a page that would be managed by Behavioral Health staff. After additional discussion, the Ad-Hoc Committee decided to meet with Tami and identified Behavioral Health staff a second time to clarify any issues and collaborate on the proposal.

Continued Items:

3. "Taking the Call" National Conference (5 minutes per person): Reports from Attendees – Mary Anne Schmidt

Mary Anne shared highlights of her report on the "Taking the Call" National Conference. Her report contained feedback received from 6 members and 2 community members who attended this conference. There is another briefing coming up on January 19th, 12-1 PST called Justice Briefing Live with the Center of Social Government Justice Center. This briefing is focused on the First Response Toolkit. It is a continuation of the "Taking the Call" conference. She would like to meet with Tami regarding this topic to learn more about implementation.

Penny Ablin spoke of information shared during the conference about a Wichita, KS Mobile Outreach Team that worked on guiding the homeless population to housing and services. The team was called the Homeless Outreach Team (HOT)

which positively impacted the number of 911 calls made and lessened the engagement of Law Enforcement.

New Business:

4. Crisis Care Continuum Report from CALBHB/C (5 minutes): Discussion, Review and Possible Action – Cynthia Halman

Cynthia shared highlights of the CALBHB/C Report presented on November 5th regarding 988. The group discussed the positive changes this Assembly Bill may make at the mental health response level. Sherry suggested the creation of an ad-hoc committee to focus on what steps the Advisory Board could take to assist Behavioral Health with this topic. A Crisis Care Continuum Ad-Hoc Committee consisting of Cynthia Halman, Mary Anne Schmidt, Sherry Bradley, and Penny Ablin was created and a meeting with Tami will be scheduled.

Ad-Hoc Committees’ Progress Reports:

5. “Speakers for Advisory Board” Ad-Hoc Committee (10 minutes) – Cynthia Halman
 - Suggested Speakers – Cathie Parker – TCSOS, Juvenile Hall, Probation Dept., Community Cultural Collaborative, District Attorney’s Office, ATCAA, and Mark Dyken – Resiliency Village
 - Invitations for them to attend future meetings.

Cynthia would like to include Sonora PD in this list. Penny suggests law enforcement be invited first as they could provide input on topics already part of the Advisory Board’s focus. Sherry suggested that topics for speakers be defined so that pertinent information can be provided. Mary Anne feels that monthly speakers may interfere in getting to important agenda items. Jennifer Salazar feels that speakers would be important in educating members on what is happening within the community and would like to add Jason Revord from One Pile at a Time to the list of potential presenters. Mary Anne suggested a speaker series to be held outside of the regular monthly meeting to not impact regular monthly business. Cynthia created an Ad-Hoc Committee of herself, Mary Anne, Elizabeth Marum and Heather Farris to pursue various options more fully.

Items for Future Meetings:

6. “Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors” Ad-hoc Workgroup (5 minutes) – Cynthia Halman
 - Review, Discussion & Possible Action to Approve for Presentation to Board of Supervisors
7. “Bylaws Review” Ad-hoc Committee (5 minutes) – Cynthia Halman
 - Review, Discussion, and possible Action regarding the “Executive Committee” language used in the current and draft bylaws.
 - Review & Approve County Council Edits, if completed, and Possible Action to move forward to the Board of Supervisors for acceptance.
8. Social Get-Together Discussion – Cynthia Halman

- Proposed Date, Place and Associated Costs – Cynthia Halman

XI. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned by Cynthia Halman at 6:03 pm. The next Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting is scheduled for February 2, 2022, at 4:00 pm via videoconference through Zoom and teleconference only. Meeting information will be posted on the February 2022 Agenda.

1 **Behavioral Health Advisory Board**

2 **County of Tuolumne**

3
4 **FINDINGS OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**
5 **AUTHORIZING REMOTE TELECONFERENCE MEETINGS**
6 **OF THE BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**
7 **FOR THE PERIOD DECEMBER 1, 2021 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2021**
8 **PURSUANT TO THE RALPH M. BROWN ACT.**

9
10 **WHEREAS**, all meetings of BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD and its legislative
11 bodies are open and public, as required by the Ralph M. Brown Act (Cal. Gov. Code §§ 54950 – 54963),
12 so that any member of the public may attend, participate, and view the legislative bodies conduct their
13 business; and

14 **WHEREAS**, the Brown Act, Government Code section 54953(e), makes provisions for remote
15 teleconferencing participation in meetings by members of a legislative body, without compliance with the
16 requirements of Government Code section 54953(b)(3), subject to the existence of certain conditions and
17 requirements; and

18 **WHEREAS**, a required condition of Government Code section 54953(e) is that a state of emergency
19 is declared by the Governor pursuant to Government Code section 8625, proclaiming the existence of
20 conditions of disaster or of extreme peril to the safety of persons and property within the state caused by
21 conditions as described in Government Code section 8558(b); and

22 **WHEREAS**, a further required condition of Government Code section 54953(e) is that state or local
23 officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing, or, the legislative body
24 holds a meeting to determine or has determined by a majority vote that meeting in person would present
25 imminent risks to the health and safety of attendees; and

26 **WHEREAS**, on March 4, 2020, Governor Newsom issued a Proclamation of a State of Emergency
27 declaring a state of emergency exists in California due to the threat of COVID-19, pursuant to the California
28 Emergency Services Act (Government Code section 8625); and,

1 **WHEREAS**, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom issued Executive Order N-07-21, which
2 formally rescinded the Stay-at-Home Order (Executive Order N-33-20), as well as the framework for a
3 gradual, risk-based reopening of the economy (Executive Order N-60-20, issued on May 4, 2020) but did
4 not rescind the proclaimed state of emergency; and,

5 **WHEREAS**, on June 11, 2021, Governor Newsom also issued Executive Order N-08-21, which set
6 expiration dates for certain paragraphs of the State of Emergency Proclamation dated March 4, 2020 and
7 other Executive Orders but did not rescind the proclaimed state of emergency; and,

8 **WHEREAS**, as of the date of this Findings, neither the Governor nor the state Legislature have
9 exercised their respective powers pursuant to Government Code section 8629 to lift the state of emergency
10 either by proclamation or by concurrent Findings the state Legislature; and,

11 **WHEREAS**, the California Department of Industrial Relations has issued regulations related to
12 COVID-19 Prevention for employees and places of employment. Title 8 of the California Code of
13 Regulations, Section 3205(5)(D) specifically recommends physical (social) distancing as one of the
14 measures to decrease the spread of COVID-19 based on the fact that particles containing the virus can travel
15 more than six feet, especially indoors; and,

16 **WHEREAS**, the Behavioral Health Advisory Board finds that state or local officials have imposed
17 or recommended measures to promote social distancing, based on the California Department of Industrial
18 Relations' issuance of regulations related to COVID-19 Prevention through Title 8 of the California Code
19 of Regulations, Section 3205(5)(D); and,

20 **WHEREAS**, as a consequence, the Behavioral Health Advisory Board does hereby find that it shall
21 conduct its meetings by teleconferencing without compliance with Government Code section 54953 (b)(3),
22 pursuant to Section 54953(e), and that such legislative bodies shall comply with the requirements to provide
23 the public with access to the meetings as prescribed by Government Code section 54953(e)(2).

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1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, FOUND AND ORDERED** by the Behavioral Health
2 Advisory Board, County of Tuolumne, State of California, in regular session assembled on December 1,
3 2021 does hereby resolve as follows:

4 Section 1. Recitals. All of the above recitals are true and correct and are incorporated into this
5 Findings by this reference.

6 Section 2. State or Local Officials Have Imposed or Recommended Measures to Promote Social
7 Distancing. The Behavioral Health Advisory Board hereby proclaims that state officials have imposed or
8 recommended measures to promote social (physical) distancing based on the California Department of
9 Industrial Relations' issuance of regulations related to COVID-19 Prevention through Title 8 of the
10 California Code of Regulations, Section 3205(5)(D).

11 Section 3. Remote Teleconference Meetings. The Behavioral Health Advisory Board is hereby
12 authorized and directed to take all actions necessary to carry out the intent and purpose of these Findings
13 including, conducting open and public meetings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)
14 and other applicable provisions of the Brown Act.

15 Section 4. Effective Date. These Findings shall take effect immediately upon its adoption and
16 shall be effective until the earlier of (i) December 31, 2021, or (ii) such time the Behavioral Health Advisory
17 Board adopts a subsequent Findings in accordance with Government Code section 54953(e)(3) to extend
18 the time during which its legislative bodies may continue to teleconference without compliance with Section
19 54953(b)(3).

20 ADOPTED this 1st day of December, 2021 by the Tuolumne County Behavioral Health Advisory
21 Board, by the following vote:

22
23 YES: 9 (Cynthia Halman, Emily Valentine, Heather Farris, Jenn Salazar, Jennifer Pastorini, Elizabeth
24 Marum, Maureen Woods, Penny Ablin, and Sherry Bradley)

25 NO: 0

26 ABSENT: 5 (Jaron Brandon, Mary Anne Schmidt, Valerie Shuemaker, Chris Daly, and Susie DeMassey)

27 ABSTAIN: 0
28