

**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**  
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE (IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM)**  
**MINUTES ■ Monday, September 12, 2022**

<p><b><u>BHAB Officers Present</u></b>  Michael Rodriguez, Chair  Janis Gardner, Secretary  Elizabeth R. Stone, Member-At-Large  Chris Tejada, 1<sup>st</sup> Vice Chair</p> <p><b><u>Others Present</u></b>  Ratan Bhavnani, NAMI Volunteer  Ceci Casey, Family Member  Ariana Del Zotto, Homeland Language Services  Roberta Griego, NAMI Ventura County  Mary Haffner, Haffner Law Group  Scott Walker, Crisis Intervention Team  Liz Warren, BHAB Member  Jerry Weaver</p>	<p><b><u>Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Staff Present</u></b>  Dr. Loretta Denering, Assistant Behavioral Health Director  Cheryl Fox, Youth &amp; Family Services Division Chief  Julie Glantz, Adult Services Sr. Behavioral Health Manager  Kathy Mulford, Substance Use Services Interim Division Chief  Cynthia Salas, Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity, Equity Services Manager  Patricia Alamillo, Management Assistant / Zoom Engineer  Vickie Poliquin, BHAB Assistant</p> <p>NEXT MEETING:  Monday, October 10, 2022, 1:00 – 2:30 p.m.</p> <p>In-Person &amp; Virtual Meeting Via Zoom</p>
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*Note: The committee has not yet approved these minutes. There may be additions/deletions or corrections before the minutes are accepted in final form.*

	DISCUSSION/CONCLUSIONS	RECOMMENDATIONS/ ACTIONS	RESPONSIBLE
I.	<b>Call to Order</b> Mr. Rodriguez called the meeting to order at 1:11 PM. Mr. Tejada provided information on how to access interpretation services.		
II.	<b>Roll Call – Board Executive Committee Attendees</b> Secretary Gardner confirmed that a quorum exists through roll call. All Executive Committee members introduced themselves.		
III.	<b>Approval of the Agenda</b> Mr. Rodriguez asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Ms. Stone moved to approve the agenda; Ms. Gardner seconded. The motion to approve the agenda as written carried unanimously through roll call.	The agenda was approved as written. <b>M/S/C</b>	
IV.	<b>Approval of the Minutes – August 8, 2022</b> Mr. Rodriguez asked for a motion to approve the August 8, 2022, minutes. Ms. Gardner moved to approve the minutes; Mr. Tejada seconded. The motion to approve the minutes as written carried by a majority vote through roll call with one abstention.	The minutes were approved as written. <b>M/S/C</b>	
V.	<b>Welcome and Introductions</b> Mr. Rodriguez introduced himself, welcomed everyone to the meeting and all members introduced themselves.		
VI.	<b>Public Comments</b> There were no public comments.		
VII.	<b>Chair Comments and Announcements</b> Mr. Rodriguez advised that VCBH Director, Scott Gilman, had a schedule conflict and was unable to attend today's meeting.		
VIII.	<b>Director's Updates – Dr. Loretta Denering (for Scott Gilman)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• MHSA's Annual Suicide Prevention Forum is scheduled for September 21 at Ventura College. All are welcome to attend and registration is required. A virtual version of the Forum is scheduled for September 29 from 4:00 to 5:30 PM for those not available to attend in person.</li> <li>• On August 31, VCBH submitted its application for the Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Project (BHCIP) Round 4 Grant funding focused on a Youth &amp; Family Wellness Center. On September 9, the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) acknowledged receipt of the application advising that responses or updates will not be received before December.</li> <li>• Due to administrative issues, DHCS has delayed its Contingency Management Pilot Program that the Substance Use Services (SUS) Division plans to participate in. SUS is prepared to begin the Program as soon as DHCS notifies of the okay in November or December.</li> </ul>		

IX.	<b>Executive Committee Member Comments and Announcements</b> There were no comments or announcements.		
X.	<b>Secretary's Report / Announcements</b> Ms. Gardner reported there will be only one vacancy in Supervisor Huber's office once the appointment of new member, Naomi Marrufo, is approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 13, 2022. There continues to be a vacancy for the practicing psychiatrist. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provided an additional reminder for the Preventing Suicide: Connections &amp; Community 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Forum scheduled on September 21.</li> <li>• Governor Newsom announced nearly \$700 Million in grants for 19 communities across California.</li> <li>• The City of Thousand Oaks will receive \$27 Million in State funding for Project Home Key and plans to use the funding for permanent supportive housing and finding a site for and constructing an emergency shelter.</li> </ul>		
XI.	<b>Old Business</b> A. Needs Assessment – Status Update Mr. Rodriguez advised that the tentative start date for the Needs Assessment is October 1, 2022, depending upon when the finalized contract with Evalcorp is signed.		
XII.	<b>New Business</b> A. Presentation Requests No additional requests for presentations were provided. Mr. Rodriguez asked that people contact him via email with any additional requests. <p><u>CARRY OVER ITEMS – FOR REFERENCE &amp; TRACKING</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Mental Health Diversion – Effects of Law Changes as of January 1 – Public Guardian's Office or Multi-Agency (requested by Mr. Bhavnani) Mr. Rodriguez will provide additional information and Agenda placement TBD.</li> <li>2. Homeless Court and Mental Health Diversion – Public Defender's Office (requested by Mr. Tejada) Agenda placement TBD.</li> <li>3. Substance Use Services &amp; Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS) Updates (requested by Ms. Gardner) Agenda placement TBD.</li> <li>4. WellPath – Overview and Update on Contractual Requirements (contact person: Leah James) (requested by Ms. Gardner) Agenda placement TBD.</li> <li>5. County Counsel Presentation on Rosenberg's Rules of Order – 10/17/22.</li> <li>6. County Counsel Presentation on Updated County Administrative Manual Highlights – 10/17/22.</li> </ol> B. Recognition Award Recommendations Mr. Rodriguez asked for any recommendations for recognition awards and to email him with any additional requests along with the background information for development of the award. <p><u>CARRY OVER ITEMS – FOR REFERENCE &amp; TRACKING</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Terri Yanez, Administrative Services Division Chief – promoted to another County Dept. (requested by Ms. Gardner) Recognition date: TBD.</li> </ol>		
XIII.	<b>Develop Agenda for Hybrid General Meeting Scheduled for September 19, 2022 at 1:00 PM</b> Mr. Rodriguez reviewed the proposed list of agenda items for the September 19 General meeting. <p>Mr. Tejada asked for clarification regarding the overall intent and specific duties for the proposed BHAB Ombudsman and Client Navigator Workgroup agenda item D.1. and whether the Workgroup is being established to draft a Board letter for BOS approval.</p> <p>Ms. Stone requested that information regarding the research conducted by the proposed Workgroup be submitted to the BHAB in writing.</p> <p>Ms. Gardner added that the Workgroup would be asked to research funding sources for the Ombudsman position noting that the Chief Executive Office previously funded such a position many years ago.</p> <p>Ms. Warren asked for clarification about what the Workgroup will undertake and for a clearer understanding about what position the Board of Supervisors had previously approved. Mr. Rodriguez provided a detailed explanation about what was presented to the BOS and the</p>		

	<p>confusion that transpired related to the Ombudsman title that was applied to the job duties of a Client Navigator.</p> <p>Ms. Warren expressed frustration and concern that the County may not fund the additional Ombudsman position that was originally requested by the BHAB.</p> <p>Roberta Griego made a public comment on behalf of the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI) requesting that if the Workgroup is formed, to allow one or two members of NAMI to participate on the Workgroup. Mr. Rodriguez explained that BHAB Workgroups can consist of stakeholders from the community, is not necessarily made up of only BHAB members and welcomed NAMI’s participation and collaboration.</p> <p>Mr. Tejada asked for the recruitment status of the Client Navigator position. Dr. Denering advised she will provide an update and status report regarding this position at next week’s General meeting.</p> <p>Ms. Stone expressed her feelings of concern about the manner and attitude that she feels some BHAB members convey to make recommendations with the expectation that all BHAB members agree with their viewpoints and suggestions. Ms. Stone encouraged people to remember that the BHAB is an advisory board that has a very specific role and that very specific procedures have been established on how the board is governed. She asked that those procedures be followed.</p> <p>Ms. Stone asked questions about the validity of agenda item D.4. since it was provided by a member of the BHAB whose term ends before the next General meeting and is not currently on the agenda for reappointment. Ms. Stone restated her previous suggestion to first speak with the Suicide Prevention Council, consisting of community members and multiple stakeholders involved in working with suicide prevention and the issues of people dying by suicide, to obtain the requested data. Mr. Rodriguez advised that he is in communication with VCBH regarding the process for the request and will discuss the issue at the General meeting.</p> <p>Roberta Griego made a public comment expressing that stakeholders are on the same side and are not, in any way, trying to be adversarial with the BHAB. She expressed hope that if any BHAB member has differences to discuss with stakeholders, that they would address those concerns directly to the entity.</p> <p>There was one correction to agenda XIII.D.1. to place it on the General meeting agenda as an action item and to add that the Workgroup will also research funding sources for an Ombudsman position, if recommended.</p>		
<b>XIV.</b>	<b>Public Comments</b> There were no public comments.		
<b>XV.</b>	<b>Adjourn</b> The meeting was adjourned at 1:51 PM.		

**Behavioral Health Advisory Board EXECUTIVE Meeting Attendance  
2022-2023**

Members 2022-2023	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	June
Michael Rodriguez, Chair	X	X	X									
Christopher Tejada, 1 <sup>st</sup> Vice Chair	e	X	X									
Nancy Borchard, 2 <sup>nd</sup> Vice Chair	X	X	e									
Janis Gardner, Secretary	X	X	X									
Elizabeth R. Stone, Member-At-Large	X	X	X									

Present = X

District 1: Supervisor LaVere; District 2: Supervisor Parks; District 3: Supervisor Long; District 4: Supervisor Huber; District 5: Vacant