

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)

1911 Williams Dr, Training Room (first floor) · Oxnard, CA 93036

IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Monday, December 12, 2022, 1:00 – 2:30PM

BHAB Executive Members Present:

Michael Rodriguez, Chair

Chris Tejada, 1st Vice Chair

Nancy Borchard, 2nd Vice Chair

Janis Gardner, Secretary

Elizabeth R. Stone, Member-At-Large

Guests:

Liz Warren, BHAB Member

Shawna Morris, Casa Pacifica

Ariana Del Zotto, Spanish Interpreter

Mark Stadler, CIT

Scott Walker, CIT

Mary Haffner, NAMI Member

Gane Brooking, BHAB Member

Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH) Staff Present:

Scott Gilman, Director

Dr. Loretta Denering, Assistant Director

Dr. John Schipper, Adult Services Division Chief

Cynthia Salas, Office of Health Equity and Cultural Diversity,
Equity Services Manager

Cheryl Fox, Youth and Family Division Chief

Jakeline De Leon, Management Assistant / Zoom Engineer

- I. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order at 1:10PM by Chair Michael Rodriguez. Ariana, Spanish Interpreter, introduced herself and provided instruction on the interpretation services available for the meeting.
- II. **Roll Call of Executive Committee Members to Determine a Quorum** – Secretary Janis Gardner confirmed a quorum through roll call.
- III. **Approval of the Agenda** – The Behavioral Health Advisory Board Executive Committee Agenda for December 12, 2022, was approved (Gardner/Tejeda/Passed). It was motioned to approve as written carried by majority vote through roll call.
- IV. **Approval of the November 14, 2022, Minutes** – The Behavioral Health Advisory Board Executive Committee Minutes for November 14, 2022, were approved (Gardner/Tejeda/Passed). Ms. Stone commented on agenda item number 8 regarding a comment she made. Her comment was “lived experience and expertise” not as it was written, “lived classed experience”. Amendment was accepted (Gardner/Tejeda/Passed). Minutes were motioned to approve by majority vote through roll call.
- V. **Welcome and Introductions** – All members of the BHAB Executive Committee introduced themselves.
- VI. **Public Comments** – Chair Rodriguez stated there were no written comments. Mary Haffner commented on a request to recognize Jerry Harris for his services. Vice Chair Tejeda will be connecting with Ms. Haffner regarding her recognition request.
- VII. **Director’s Updates** – Scott Gilman provided a director’s report. He provided an update on *Crisis Now*, a tool kit from SAMSHA that helps communities design a robust County crisis response system. More information is to come. He provided an update on the Surge Plan, the chiefs and managers are reviewing the surge plan, and next phases are directing clients to the right resources. Finally, he provided an update on CalAim and how it will be organized for the Director’s Report for the General BHAB committee meeting.

VIII. Executive Committee Members Comments & Announcements – Ms.

Stone commented on receiving an update on individuals discharges from jail and the transition into a peer program. Dr. Denering responded to Ms. Stone's comment, she stated that the letters that have come through are from the Health Care Agency, and they were specifically for emergency departments and hospital systems and the discharge planning is through the Sherriff's department. CalAim is meant to connect the county system, provide more communication within each department; and the State has given them until 2027 to complete this project. Vice Chair Borchard commented her concerns about funding. Director Gilman responded and stated he understands her concerns and believes they have a good system for monitoring what is happening.

IX. Secretary's Report / Announcements – Secretary Gardner provided a

report. There are 3 openings for BHAB members, 2 in Supervisor Huber's office and one in Supervisor Parks office. There is an opening for a psychiatrist and a veteran or a veteran's advocate. The District Attorney's office will have a specialized prosecution team that handles alcohol and drug impaired driving cases through a \$427,000 grant from the CA Office of Traffic Safety. Governor Newsom announced \$480.5 million in grants for youth mental health; it is grant funding to construct new facilities, expand existing facilities that help children, youth, transition age youth, and prenatal individuals with a mental health and/or substance use disorder. Highlights from the State of the County presentation by CEO Dr. Sevet Johnson on November 30th, are law enforcement received \$27 million for capital projects and emergency resources; new construction on health and programming units including 64 beds for inmates with mental health needs and 15 new employees; an access line for mental health services and crisis: 1-866-2243; over \$22 million in new investments and mental health in the mental health continuum including the new Lewis Rd development for a 80 to 120 bed Mental Health Rehabilitation Center; Crisis Now project; continuing opioid treatment and services; and homeless services and projects in the works.

X. Old Business

A. Needs Assessment: Status Update – Chair Rodriguez provided an update. The Needs Assessment is in the beginning stages; they are formulating questions and reaching out to do interviews, listening sessions, and BHAB members may be contacted by EvalCorp for an interview and/or assistance in outreach.

B. Site Visits Resumption – Chair Rodriguez informed the committee Secretary Gardner has been gathering information from the Ca Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions and she

will not be present at the upcoming BHAB General meeting, therefore, they will have this item on the General meeting agenda for January. Secretary Gardner added she was in touch with Teresa Comstock from the Ca Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions and the most recent site visit form and protocol she read were approved by the whole BHAB in 2016. She was informed that BHAB can update their site visits and protocol forms, they must be approved by the full BHAB and must be consistent with what other counties are doing. Ms. Comstock sent 3 examples from other counties, and they will be reviewed in the BHAB General meeting in January. Ms. Stone requested to receive the information 2 weeks ahead of time for revision. Chair Rodriguez responded that he would like to include it with the Executive meeting materials first and will look into providing the information beforehand.

XI. New Business

- A. Presentation Requests** – Chair Rodriguez informed members that if anyone has any presentation requests to please send them to bhabadmin@ventura.org and cc Michael.Rodriguez@ventura.org with a brief description of the proposed presentation.
- B. Recognition Award Recommendations** – Chair Rodriguez informed members that if anyone has recognition award recommendations to please send them to bhabadmin@ventura.org and cc Michael.Rodriguez@ventura.org with a brief description of why the person is worthy of recommendation. Ms. Stone requested Ms. Peterson and Ms. Poliquin to be recognized. Chair Rodriguez stated he welcomes the request and would like to receive additional information. Vice Chair Borchard commented she seconds Ms. Haffner’s request for Jerry Harris to be recognized. Ms. Warren requested Carmen Ramirez to be recognized and requested to acknowledge Supervisor Parks for her service. Chair Rodriguez announced the BHAB will be formally recognizing her at the Board of Supervisors meeting, December 13th at 11:30AM, him and Vice Chair Tejeda will both be there to provide her with a certificate for her services. Chair Rodriguez informed the committee they can register to make a public comment through the Ventura County website. Vice Chair Borchard asked about needing to be reappointed due to a supervisor change and/or district change, Chair Rodriguez responded he believes one remains in the district they were appointed in and then for reappointment it can change.

XII. Develop Agenda for Hybrid General Meeting scheduled on November 21, 2022, at 1:00PM – No comments.

A. Old Business

1. Needs Assessment: Status Update

B. New Business

1. **Freeway Overpass Suicides & Suicide Attempts Data Request**
2. **BHAB Committee Reports**
 - a) **Youth & Family Services Committee (October 12 & December 14)**
 - b) **Disparities Reduction Committee (November 1 meeting)**
3. **Presentation Requests**
4. **Recognition Award Recommendations**

XIII. Public Comments – Ms. Salas asked if the board would find it helpful for her to begin sharing nominations for members of the board in terms of outreach, Chair Rodriguez stated he welcomes it and appreciates the work. All BHAB members shared their appreciation for Ms. Salas’ suggestion.

XIV. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 2:26 PM by Chair Michael Rodriguez.

Next Meeting Date – January 9, 2023, from 1:00PM – 2:30PM

Behavioral Health Advisory Board EXECUTIVE Meeting Attendance

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

Present = X

- District 1: Supervisor LaVere
- District 2: Supervisor Parks
- District 3: Supervisor Long
- District 4: Supervisor Huber
- District 5: Supervisor Lopez