

**Sutter-Yuba Behavioral Health  
Behavioral Health Advisory Board**

**Minutes of the Regular Meeting**

Thursday, June 15, 2023

5:00 p.m.

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1. **Call to Order**

Chair Clarkson called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. **Roll Call**

The following members were in attendance: Chair Lesley Clarkson, Heather Esemann, Tom McWhorter, Renick House, Jay Kaze, Supervisor Dan Flores, Manny Cardoza and Maggie Walker.

The following members were excused: Supervisor Don Blaser and Mary Page.

Also, in attendance: Rick Bingham, HHS Assistant Director, and Behavioral Health Director; Phillip Hernandez, Program Manager SUDS; Brandy Chastain, Pathways, Dennis McCloud and Sue Hopper, Executive Secretary.

3. **Public Comment:** No public comments were provided.

4. **Action Items:**

- a. **Approve May 23, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes** - Member Cardoza moved to approve the May 23, 2023, Special Meeting Minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Member House.

Aye votes: Clarkson, Esemann, McWhorter, House, Kaze, Flores Cardoza and Walker.

Nay votes: None

Abstentions: None

- b. **Approve Annual Report for FY 22/23** – Member Cardoza moved to approve the 22/23 Annual Report with the correction of adding the number of people served to the Latino Outreach Report. The motion was seconded by Member Walker.

Aye votes: Clarkson, Esemann, McWhorter, House, Kaze, Flores Cardoza and Walker

Nay votes: None

Abstentions: None

- c. **Report of Election Coordinator and Election of Board Officers for FY 2023-24** – Mr. Kaze, Election Coordinator, reported on the nominations received for Board Officers for FY 23/24:

**For Chair:** Ms. Esemann

**For Vice-Chair:** Mr. Cardoza

**For Secretary:** Ms. Page

All candidates accepted their nominations. Member Kaze moved to approved Ms. Esemann as Chair, Mr. Cardoza as Vice-Chair and Ms. Page as Secretary. The motion was seconded and approved by all in attendance. Newly elected officers will take their seats at the July 13, 2023, Behavioral Health Advisory Board meeting.

It was requested that Ms. Hopper add a statement to the monthly meeting reminder requesting that board members let Ms. Hopper know by a certain timeline each month whether they will be attending the meeting or not.

5. **Program Presentation** – Pathways, Brandy Chastain, Clinical Director, reported on the following:

- ✓ Pathways provides medically monitored detox residential services and has been around since 1974.
- ✓ Pathways serves adults 18 years of age and older.
- ✓ This fiscal year Pathways has provided services to 144 individuals from all over the state.
- ✓ Pathways does not currently provide outpatient services.
- ✓ Structured program: family education and conjoint group is outstanding – works with client and their families to help them process and begin healing.
- ✓ Staff is compassionate and most have been with Pathways for a long time. Currently experiencing difficulty hiring new certified staff.
- ✓ Works with the client to determine full needs before being discharged – medical, housing, etc.
- ✓ TB's and physicals for clients can be a hindrance to clients entering services since these items may take a few days and clients may decide not to go through with services. Dr. Cassidy does what he can to expedite and work with these situations but cannot address all of them at all times.
- ✓ Pathways treatment facility has 23 beds certified for detox.
- ✓ New strain of Fentanyl laced drug is out that is resistant to Narcan.

6. **SUDS Program Update** – Phillip Hernandez, Deputy Branch Director, Adult Services. Mr. Hernandez reported on the following:

- ✓ Opioid – Fentanyl Efforts – Sutter County staff met with the District Attorney and Sheriff to coordinate efforts; looking at creating an educational campaign – specifics have not been ironed out yet. Yuba County also has a Fentanyl task force and will be putting out an education campaign as well.
- ✓ COPENOW – Narcan distribution continues – looking at increasing distribution from 2 kits per person to 4 or 6 due to the new strain of Fentanyl laced drug that is resistant.

7. **MHSA Program Update** – Phillip Hernandez, Deputy Branch Director, Adult Services. Mr. Hernandez reported on the following:

- ✓ MHSA Innovation Plan is in the works for the next year. Ms. Gowan will provide a presentation soon. Plan will provide training on FSP services and is multi-county.

8. **Behavioral Health Director's Report** – Rick Bingham, Assistant Director/BH Director. Mr. Bingham reported on the following:

- ✓ Governor's MHSA Initiative – will be on ballot in 2024. Three different sections – 1) Facilities Bond for Behavioral Health Capacity and Housing for homeless vets – 3.5-million-dollar bond. 2) Broader behavioral health reform – counties deal with specialty mental health – this initiative is to align regulations between counties and managed care. 3) MHSA Reform – historically MHSA has always been directed at mental illness. Substance use was a secondary issue and would only be treated if the mental illness was present. This will now change to where substance use can/will be treated without the mental illness qualification. Will need to scale back some programs in order to implement others. The new MHSA Plan will change the way funds are allocated and create a new “homeless category” which will take 30% of funds. This will leave less funds in the other categories to continue same services.

9. **New Business**

- a. Discussion on relocating BHAB meeting to the Behavioral Health building.
  - ✓ After discussion it was decided to move the BHAB meeting back to the Behavioral Health building at 1965 Live Oak Blvd.
- b. Review of Presentation Calendar for FY 23/24
  - ✓ It was decided to remove dates off of the presentation calendar and have the board decide each month who they would like to have a presentation from.
- c. Discussion on Getting Services to Homeless
  - ✓ Would like to create an ad hoc committee to discuss homeless issues – will be appointed at the next BHAB meeting.

10. **Old Business**

- a. Ethnic Outreach, PATH, BEST, HEART Site Visit Reports – Lesley Clarkson, Heather Esemann and Maggie Walker – this item was tabled for this month and will be discussed at the July meeting.

11. **Other Announcements/Correspondence**

- a. CALBH/C May Newsletter – Informational Only

12. **Adjournment** - There being no further business brought forward Chair Clarkson thanked everyone for their participation and adjourned the meeting at 6:17 p.m.