

**Sacramento County
Mental Health Board (MHB) General Meeting Minutes**

October 6, 2021

In compliance with County, State, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention directives related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, this meeting was held remotely via Zoom and Conference Call.

Attendance			
MHB Members			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Loran Sheley, <i>Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Bradley Lueth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Silvia Rodriguez, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Corrine McIntosh Sako	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Laura Bemis, <i>Secretary</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent	Lourdes Santana-Sanchez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Ann Arneill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Maria Padilla-Castro	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
William Cho	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Theresa Riviera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Ryan Gallant	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Paul Wagstaffe	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Supervisor Patrick Kennedy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent		
County Staff to MHB			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Jason Richards (Stephanie Dasalla covering)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Janice Snyder	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent

Agenda Item	Discussion
I. Welcome and Introductions	Chair Loran Sheley called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. and introductions were made.
II. Comfort Agreement	Dr. Corrine McIntosh Sako read the MHB Comfort Agreement.
III. Approval of Minutes	Dr. Corrine McIntosh Sako moved to approve the minutes and Mr. Ryan Gallant seconded the motion. (Dr. Ann Arneill abstained.) Motion carried.
IV. System Partner Updates	<p>Advocacy Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Robin Barney, Adult Family Advocate, and Ms. Angelina Woodberry, Adult Consumer Advocate Liaison, announced the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expert Pool Town Hall Meeting, October 8, 2021 from 1:00-3:00 pm. Focus: Respite Care Programs ○ The first Peer Advocate Council (PAC) meeting was recently held, which is a meeting for peer specialist working in the behavioral health system to come together, learn from one another, and share information. The next meeting will focus on either peer certification and/or SacMap. ○ The next Group Facilitation 101 meeting will be held on November 5, 2021. • Ms. Andrea Housely, SAFE (Sacramento Advocacy for Family Empowerment) Program, announced the following:

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ An Anger Management Group will be held each Wednesday for eight weeks. ○ Ms. Housely will be collaborating with Trisha at the CAPS Clinic to offer advocacy services to all consumers seen at the CAPS Clinic. <p>Association of Behavioral Health Contractors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms. Diane White expressed her thanks to Dr. Quist and the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for supporting providers financially as they struggling with workforce challenges in response to the COVID vaccination mandate.
<p>V. Mental Health Board Business</p>	<p>Liaison Reports</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chair Loran Sheley announced that MHB member, Mr. Ryan Gallant, has agreed to serve as the MHB liaison to the Quality Improvement Committee. ● Ms. Theresa Riviera made the following announcements, but will also submit a written Cultural Competence Committee report to Jason Richards after the meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cultural competence related recommendation for Avatar will be made ○ Thanked the Division of Behavioral Health for funding attendee sponsorships for the National Latino Behavioral Health Conference. ○ Preparing for Afghan refugees to arrive in Sacramento. ○ Cultural Competence Newsletter has great information. <p>Standing Committee Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Adult System of Care Committee: Dr. Corrine McIntosh Sako reported that the Adult System of Care Committee met on September 28th and provided the following update about the meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Emily Halcon, Sacramento County Homeless Initiative Director, gave a homelessness presentation. ○ Committee members drafted a Letter of Recommendation to submit to the BOS regarding the implementation of Assisted Outpatient Treatment/Laura’s Law, which will be reviewed later this evening. ○ The next Adult System of Care Committee meeting will be on October 26th at 4 p.m. ● Children’s System of Care Committee: The Children’s System of Care Committee is currently on hiatus. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Rodriguez is working on the a draft of the school-based mental health services report. ○ Ms. Rodriguez and Dr. Ann Arneill will discuss convening a Children’s System of Care Committee meeting to review the draft report prior to submitting to MHB members for review. ● Executive Committee: Chair Sheley reported that the Executive Committee met on September 28th and accomplished the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Worked on goals that were established at the July Retreat and a tracking spreadsheet, which will be reviewed at the November meeting.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Worked on MHB Duties and Core Values, which will be presented at a future MHB General Meeting. ○ The next Executive Committee meeting will be on October 19th at 12 p.m. <p>Mental Health Board Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chair Sheley announced that input has been received regarding the composition/membership of the Wellness Crisis Call Center and Response Advisory Committee. Input has included ensuring broad membership, beyond MHB members. The MHB will convene an Ad Hoc Workgroup and hold a special meeting to allow time for adequate public comment. Chair Sheley inquired about which MHB members would be interested in participating in the Ad Hoc Workgroup with her. The following members expressed interest: Dr. Ann Arneill, Mr. Brad Lueth (if meetings are after 5 pm), Dr. McIntosh Sako, Ms. Theresa Riviera, and Ms. Silvia Rodriguez. ● Chair Sheley will be presenting the MHB Annual Report to the BOS on November 2. Time to be determined.
<p>VI. Mental Health Board Discussion/Action Item – Brown Act Public Emergency Allowances/Teleconferences: Requirements for Local Boards and Commissions</p>	<p>Ms. Janice Snyder, County Counsel, provided an overview of Assembly Bill 361. This Bill amended California’s open meeting laws to better facilitate virtual meetings during declared emergencies (such as COVID-19). Changes will affect local advisory boards, which includes MHB meetings. Ms. Snyder explained that BOS members are considering adopting a Resolution that would pertain to all Sacramento County advisory boards. Ms. Snyder will provide an update at the November meeting.</p>
<p>VII. Mental Health Board Discussion/Action Item – Review and Approve Mental Health Board Items</p>	<p>Mission and Values Statement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Chair Sheley announced that the Mission and Values Statement will be reviewed at a future meeting. <p>Minimum Mental Health Board Member Duties</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Dr. Ann Arneill presented the draft “Minimum Mental Health Board Member Duties” document. The document was drafted by consulting with the Executive Director of the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions and MHB Executive Committee members as well as using the MHB Bylaws and general good practice for meetings and members. MHB members thanked Dr. Arneill for her work in drafting the document. ● Upon one public comment and MHB member comments regarding protocols for MHB members representing the MHB at public events, virtual meetings, and on social media platforms, Ms. Janice Snyder made the following comments: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms. Snyder recommended adding a Welfare and Institution Code and making a minor edit to the letter. ○ Ms. Snyder also recommended developing a policy and procedure in the future on social media protocols for MHB members. ● Mr. Paul Wagstaffe made a motion and Dr. McIntosh Sako seconded the motion to approve the “Minimum Mental Health Board Member Duties” with the edits discussed. (Abstentions: 0.) Motion carried.

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<p>VIII. Mental Health Board Discussion/Action Item - Review and Approve Letter of Recommendation to Board of Supervisors Regarding Sacramento County's Implementation of Assisted Outpatient Treatment/Laura's Law</p>	<p>Dr. McIntosh Sako reviewed the recommendation letter to the BOS regarding Sacramento County's implementation of Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)/Laura's Law, as approved by the Adult System of Care Committee.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A letter from family members (Nancy and Wade Brynelson, Mary Ann Bernard, Diana and Lorrin Burdick, Susan Goodman, Elizabeth Kaino and Marvin Hopper, Lois Loofbourrow, Susan McCrea, Doug Smith) was submitted to the MHB. The letter explained that the above family members are advocates of AOT, but provided suggested revisions to the recommendation letter for the implementation of AOT services. • MHB members accepted public comments. Below is a summary of comments made: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The letter should take a more neutral stance and less negative tone. ○ No issue with the AOT program itself; however, concerns were expressed about not sharing/citing literature reviews/sources. Public members have not seen these sources. ○ Families members should be considered peers. ○ Uplift the voice of individuals involved in AOT/mental health services. ○ Add "language (including American Sign Lanaguage)" to item #2. ○ If possible, reflect the race, ethnicity, gender identity, linguistic (including American Sign Language) diversity, and cultural diversity ○ Add language that supports family members/loved ones. ○ A Guide for Implementing Assisted Outpatient Treatment should be used as a source for the letter; a roadmap for implementing AOT. ○ Change language on page 2 related to the role of the judge and some of the legal issues. ○ Many individuals are reluctant to trust a court because their experience has been punitive. AOT courts speak a completely different language; less punitive, gracious and compassionate. We want the best outcome for the most vulnerable individuals in our community. ○ We are parents of the very people you're trying to help. Parents of these people that you're trying to help. Asking for revisions/re-wording of the letter; more sympathetic. ○ Reminder, family members, by statue (Mental Health Services Act and AOT), are stakeholders and we're requesting a change to project a neutral posture. ○ Suggest changing "forced" to "involuntary." ○ AOT should be about the "person" and they should be included in the decision making process. • Upon conclusion of public comments, MHB members explained that the letter was written after extensive discussion at the Adult System of Care Committee Meeting, which was the time and place to make public comment in regards to the letter. This item was on the September 28, 2021 Adult System of Care Committee meeting agenda that was posted for the public. MHB members explained that the letter was not intended to take a neutral stance.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MHB members discussed and agreed to make edits to item #2 to read as follows: “Program staff should as much as possible reflect the race, ethnicity, gender identity, linguistic (including American Sign Language) diversity, and cultural diversity of Sacramento County.” • Dr. Ann Ameill moved to approve the letter with the change above and Mr. Brad Lueth seconded the motion. (Ayes: 9; Nays: 1—Mr. Ryan Gallant; Abstentions: 1—Supervisor Kennedy). Motion carried. • Supervisor Kennedy explained that he thought it was best for him to abstain from the vote this evening. He also explained that there was no clear cut, easy answer to the question about implementing AOT in Sacramento County. However, after a great deal of thought, he voted to implement AOT when the BOS voted. Supervisor Kennedy also mentioned that he will explain to his fellow BOS members that there was both opposition and support of the letter.
<p>IX. Division of Behavioral Health Services</p>	<p>Dr. Ryan Quist, Behavioral Health Director, provided a written report on the status of Behavioral Health Services (BHS). He also provided verbal updates and answered one question as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective October 1, 2021, direct service staff who are seeing clients in-person must be COVID vaccinated or must be tested on a regular basis. Prior to COVID, there was a BHS workforce shortage, but now we are in a workforce crisis, which is affecting our ability to provide essential services. • BHS is now hiring leadership positions (Program Manager and Program Coordinators) for the Wellness Crisis Center and Response Team. • BHS is working closely with the Department of Human Assistance’s Encampment Teams to provide behavioral health and housing services for unshelters community members. Transient occupancy tax was discussed. • Flu season is coming up – it’s important to get your flu shot especially during this time of COVID. • BHS is prepared to provide services and supports to Afghan men, women, and children that we are anticipating will be moving to our community. • There were many events and materials distributed in September to celebrate National Recovery Month. • A competitive selection process has been completed for a methamphetamine withdrawal management residential facility. BHS will be requesting authority to contract with WellSpace Health The goal is to open the new facility by the Summer of 2022. • Attend the Fentanyl Awareness Safety Fair, November 6 at 11 am at the North Lawn of the State Capitol, to learn about fentanyl laced pills and how to administer Narcan during an overdose. • CalAim Enhanced Care Management (ECM) services, a new benefit for Managed Care Plan (MCP) members, will begin January 1, 2022. BHS will be contracting with local MCPs. BHS staff members are facilitating administrative aspects of ECM services and will link MCP members to mental health and/or substance use disorder treatment services. • Documentation modernization efforts are underway to reduce and simplify documentation requirements. This

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	<p>should be completed by July 2022 and start as soon as January 2022. Payment reform will be implemented by July 2023, which will change rates and the way we are reimbursed for services.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Question: Dr. McIntosh Sako inquired about the hiring process for the Wellness Crisis Center and Response Team program. Dr. Quist explained that the County civil service process is being used to recruit for the positions. Individuals with work experience that meets program needs and who are on the Sacramento County eligibility lists that express interest will be considered for an interview. Dr. Corrine McIntosh Sako will share this information with the Sacramento Valley Psychological Association to spread the work about hiring for this program.
<p>X. Public Comment</p>	<p>Public Comment 1: Community member thanked Dr. Quist for his update, recommenced peer support to address the workforce shortage, and expressed concerns regarding the re-design for MHPA funded and non-MHPA funded programs.</p> <p>Public Comment 2: Community member provided background of the AOT letter that was sent from family members to the MHPA. Family members expressed their apology for not attending the September 28 Adult System of Care Committee meeting to make public comment regarding the AOT letter that will be sent to Dr. Quist. Family members would like an opportunity to further discuss the planning and implementation of AOT with MHPA members.</p> <p>Public Comment 3: Community member shared a document and announced that ONTRACK Program Resources, Inc., will be holding an event in November with a focus on the Black/African American community and their criminal justice experience.</p> <p>Public Comment 4 Community member apologized for not knowing how to navigate the various MHPA meetings and MHPA committees, to have his/her voice heard. The community member didn't realize there would be a letter after the Board of Supervisors had approved implementation. Community member will be meeting with County and City officials. The Black/African American community must be fully apprised of forensic innovation and Laura's Law.</p> <p>Public Comment 5: Community member explained that consumers are concerned about the pending adult system of care re-design/transformation and what it will do to their established system of care.</p>
<p>XI. Adjournment</p>	<p>Chair Sheley adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.</p>