

Lake County

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes - February 9, 2023 Regular Meeting

1. The meeting was convened at 4:14 p.m. by Chair Julie Colfax and a quorum was established. Members in attendance included Julie Colfax, Bonnie Blumenthal, Sheila Roseneau, and Lee Zeledon. Lake County Behavioral Health Services Director Todd Metcalf and Lake County Supervisor Michael Green (non-voting Members) were present. Chair Colfax noted that her last name has formally been changed and requests that she henceforth be addressed as Julie Colfax Pennington.

Stakeholders present included Janet Taylor (Konocti Senior Peers), Simone Tapman (IHSS provider and member of the IHSS Advisory Board), and Betsy Cawn (Recording Secretary).

2. Chair Pennington read the standard meeting agreements for the benefit of new participants.

3. Approval of the new Brown Act meeting requirements with lengthy discussion (motion, Bonnie Blumenthal; second, Sheila Roseneau; motion carried by voice vote.

4. Agenda for today's meeting accepted by consensus (no objections or amendments).

5. Approval of Minutes of the November 11, 2022, regular meeting (motion, Sheila Roseneau; second, Bonnie Blumenthal; motion carried by voice vote.

6. Approval of Secretary's Report from December 8, 2022 (no action was taken due to a lack of quorum) (motion, Sheila Roseneau; second, Lee Zeledon; motion carried by voice vote).

7. Acceptance of resignations from Michelle Young and Camille Cummins (motion, Sheila Roseneau; second, Lee Zeledon; motion carried by voice vote.

8. Approval of letters of thanks to outgoing members and to the Board of Supervisors for notification of vacancies (motion, Sheila Roseneau; second, Bonnie Blumenthal; motion carried by voice vote.

9. Approval of nomination of Lee Zeledon to the position of Secretary (motion, Sheila Roseneau; second, Bonnie; motion carried by voice vote.

10. Request for nomination to vacated seat (Vice-Chair pro tem). Chair Pennington requests that nominations be sent to Secretary Betsy Cawn by March 4 for action to be taken at the March 9, 2023, regular meeting.

11. Review and approval of the Annual Task List and Meeting Calendar for calendar year 2023 and review and approval of Goals & Objectives for FY 2023-2024 (motion, Sheila Roseneau; second, Lee Zeledon; motion carried by voice vote).

12. Review of proposed new templates for (a) meeting cancellation; (b) application letters; (c) notice of vacancy to the Board of Supervisors; (d) letter of resignation; (e) letter of thanks to outgoing members (action abled to March 9 meeting).

13. Review and discussion of proposed social media presence for Mental Health Advisory Board. Chair Pennington will convene an ad hoc work group meeting to consider multiple issues provided by members in attendance, Director Metcalf, and Supervisor Green. Outgoing Secretary Betsy Cawn and newly elected Secretary Lee Zeledon will provide suggestions and recommendations at the March 9 meeting.

14. Review and discussion of future meeting venues, Brown Act compliance requirements, possible options for individual members to attend remotely from off site location (such as a peer support center) with agendas posted properly at both the off-site location and the County Courthouse; Chair Pennington will take all input under advisement and schedule the upcoming meetings appropriately.

15. Workgroup reports:

a. The Data Notebook project was completed and submitted to the state review body on January 29, 2023.

b. Draft Bylaws were submitted by the ad hoc committee (Bonnie Blumenthal and Betsy Cawn). Supervisor Green, with concurrence from Director Metcalf, recommends sending them to County Counsel Anita Grant without further discussion; Chair Pennington will take that action.

c. The Annual report workgroup met on November 22, 2022, and are expected to reconvene on February 18, 2023, at 10:30 a.m.; progress will be reported at the March 9, 2023 regular meeting.

16. Review and discussion of complaint from Sunrise Special Services. Executive Director Matthew Barnes deferred to Chair Pennington for formal reading of the complaint. Following the formal reading, members concluded that there is no action that can be taken by the MHAB at this time.

17. Director's Report: LCBHS has hired a new consultant to assist with contract and fiscal management; Director Metcalf will be providing a full report to the Board of Supervisors in the near future (the consultant's contract ends in June).

LCBHS is partnering with Lake County Public Health Services' "SafeRx" program, for which almost half a million dollars has been provided.

"CARE Court" goes into effect July 2024 to implement a new 24-month, court-ordered housing and rehabilitation program; LCBHS has been meeting with Lake County Probation Department, Department of Social Services, and County Counsel's office, and notes that the County of Los Angeles has filed a lawsuit to fight the imposition of the program by the Department of Health Care Services, due to concerns about their ability to meet the staffing and service delivery requirements.

The "Hope Center" facility in the city of Clearlake, which has been operated by a team coordinated by Hope Rising, has been transferred officially to the Adventist Hospital Clear Lake.

Director Metcalf has completed a six-year project to develop a strategic plan for the Behavioral Health Services department which is under review by all employees at this time.

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New mission and vision statements have been created. All of the new plan materials will be presented to the Mental Health Advisory Board at a future regular meeting.

A consultant has been hired to design the rehabilitation of their Clearlake offices. Groundbreaking for the Collier Avenue Project is expected at some time in March. The new Electronic Health Record System is due to go live on March 1.

The Family Support Center in Middletown is still struggling to find its mission and provide services under a lease that will extend into 2025; all of the LCBHS equipment has been moved to other locations, but new uses for the facility need to be identified. Sheila Roseneau has discussed the possible uses with Shannon Kimbell-Auth (who is now directly employed by the American Red Cross for programs devoted to Lake County hazard mitigation projects). Chair Pennington also has suggestions for that facility and requested to be included in future conversations about the upcoming changes.

LCBHS is also looking for an opportunity to provide services in the central Kelseyville area, and are looking at the facility owned by Adventist Health in that location; updates will be provided at the next regular meeting.

18. Announcements: Chair Pennington reminded members that outgoing Vice-Chair Cummins was planning on creating a youth-oriented outreach event in the Spring (involving live music at a local venue equipped for that type of event); the Board may wish to abandon the proposed project or plan for a later time. Chair Pennington will confer with incoming Secretary Zeledon about what action to take at the next regular meeting.

A followup meeting of the Bylaws ad hoc workgroup will be scheduled after receiving input from County Counsel.

Janet Taylor announced that Konocti Senior Support is beginning a new 8-week training series on March 8, and this will be the 6th year that she has been awarded an LCBHS "mini-grant" for art therapy classes -- she will be joined by author Jordan O'Halloran for their second session on March 11 at the Middletown Art Center, from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

19. The regular meeting of the Mental Health Advisory Board was adjourned at 5:54 p.m. The next regular meeting of the MHAB will be held on March 9, 2023, at 4 p.m.