

MEETING MINUTES

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

Date: April 10, 2024

Time: 2:30 PM

Location: Bishop COB Room 103, Lone Pine Wellness Center (satellite/virtual) and via Zoom

1. CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTIONS

Michelle Saenz called the meeting to order at 2:50 PM. All attendees introduced themselves. We are happy to welcome new BHAB Member, Claude "Pete" Peters, a local Marine Veteran, who also has a background in Mental Health. He and his wife actively help veterans.

MEMBERSHIP IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Lynn Martin, Claude Peters, Michelle Saenz

Virtual: None

COMMUNITY & STAFF IN ATTENDANCE

In Person: Jody Veenker, Anna Scott, Araceli Morales, Vanessa Ruggio,
Gina McKinzey, Brandon DeHaven, Vivian De La Riva,
Gina Ellis, Cathy Rigney, Lucy Vincent, Kelly Nugent

Virtual: Shelley Scott

2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Lynn Martin requested an acronym list.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (ACTION ITEM)

Minutes from February 14, 2024 meeting were approved as follows: Ms. Martin moved to approve, Mr. Peters seconded the motion. Motion carried: Ms. Martin– Aye, Mr. Peters – Aye, Ms. Saenz – Aye

4. STAFF REPORTS (INFORMATIONAL ITEM)

- 1) Behavioral Health Updates – Anna Scott
 - a) Recruitment continues for an HHS-BH Deputy Director. The Administrator Team is consulting other directors and people throughout the state.
 - b) Inyo County Mental Health Plan (MHP) Contract Amendment was presented to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on March 19, 2023 and the DHCS County Performance Contract (CPC) Amendment will go before the BOS on May 7, 2024. Mrs. Scott explained the difference between both contract amendments to BHAB Participants. No substantial changes are taking place.
- 2) Family Strengthening Team Updates – Jody Veenker
 - a) Currently working with 4 families
 - b) Over the past 6 weeks, 11 referrals were received from Bishop schools, juvenile probation and behavioral health. 2 families are in the orientation process.
 - c) Family Strengthening Team staff is in the process of completing Triple P Standard (ages 0-12) Certification, and Triple P Fearless, an intervention to help parents support their child experiencing anxiety.
 - d) Staff will be participating in the volunteer resource fair on April 12 to recruit natural supporters for family team meetings and to promote family strengthening services to the community.
- 3) SUD Updates – Cathy Rigney
 - a) SUD clients served include PC-1000, Drug court, Jail clients. DUI is a court-ordered program which serves clients who have substance (drugs or alcohol) use issues. Mrs. Ellis explained that an additional DUI class was added to accommodate an increase in enrollments.
 - b) Mrs. Ellis shared about SUD/DUI trainings and meeting taking place and progress made in process and workflow improvements.
 - c) Maria Fierro has joined our SUD team. She is a bilingual accredited addictions counselor.
- 4) Wellness Center Updates – Vanessa Ruggio
 - a) Wellness Center Staff was presented with “Most Improved Safety Award” at the BOS meeting on March 5, 2024.
 - b) Mrs. Ruggio reported on Bishop and LP visits and about groups being held at Bishop Wellness Center.
 - c) With the addition of a new case manager, Wellness Center Lone Pine is now open on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Community members are welcome to virtually join BHAB Meetings at the Lone Pine Wellness Center.
- 5) Progress House Updates – Kelly Nugent
 - a) Rooms are available for new residents and/or short-term respites. There are currently 5 residents.
 - b) Kitchen remodel is in progress. Larger size will facilitate working with clients in the kitchen.
 - c) Residents enjoy attending Art & Mindful Wellness Groups at Wellness Center.
 - d) State licensing was just renewed. Facility is licensed for ages 18 to 59.
 - e) Spring project: the Garden

5. AGENDA ITEM REQUEST FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS

Next meeting to be held on Wednesday May 8, 2024, at 2:30pm at the Bishop COB Room 103, at Lone Pine Wellness Center (in-person, virtually) and via Zoom

Meeting adjourned at 3:33 PM