

Plumas County Behavioral Health Commission Meeting
5/7/2025 1 pm Plumas County Board of Supervisors' Room, Quincy, CA
Approved at 6/11/25 meeting

STANDING ORDERS

Call to Order / Roll Call

Call to Order: Mimi Hall called the meeting to order at 1:00 pm.

Roll Call/Attendance:

Commissioners: Bill Cook, Kendrah Fredricksen, Liberty Gott, Mimi Hall, Megan McCrorey,
(quorum established)

Commissioners Absent: Kristin Gyford, Merle Rusky, Valerie Sheldon, Stephanie Swithenbank,
Kristy Tucker

PCBH Staff: Jay Hemphill, Jessica McGill, Kristy Pierson, Gary Sanderson, Sharon Sousa

County Counsel: N/A

Public in Attendance (in-person):

Public in Attendance (by Teleconference): Jesslan Avlos (EPHC), Ericka Thompson (PDH SLS),
Darin Wood (EA)

Pledge of Allegiance

Additions to or Deletions from the Agenda/Approval – *For urgent items only.* **Liberty moved to approve. Bill Cook seconded. Motion carried.**

Public Comment – N/A

ACTION AGENDA

1. Behavioral Health Commission

- a. Review and approve draft PCBHC minutes of April 2, 2025
 - i. **Megan moved to approve the minutes. Liberty seconded. Motion carried.**
- b. Approve the MHSA FY24-25 Annual Update to go for a 30-day Public Comment period
 - i. Kristi requested a special meeting on June 11th to give the full 30 days. It was suggested that we postpone our next commission meeting until then.
 - ii. **Megan moved to open the public-comment period as of today and reschedule our next meeting to June 11th, Bill seconded. Motion carried.**

2. Informational Announcements & Reports

- a. Commissioners Reports and Announcements
 - i. Bill announced the local Memorial Day Service will be on May 26th at 11 am at Dame Shirley Plaza.
 - ii. Liberty mentioned that veterans will be honored at the NRA dinner.
 - iii. Mimi met with Partnership Health Plan (Medi-Cal provider) – needs in PC: workforce recruitment and retention at all levels, \$20,000 sign-on bonus, housing needs; PC BoS is doing comprehensive salary study.

- iv. Mimi attended CA State Association of Counties, she met new leadership in Social Services and BH Departments; trying to manage for potential changes in Federal Funding.
- v. Mimi: Community group hosting town halls – Thur. May 15th 6:30 – 8:30 pm at Quincy Library, Supervisors Hall and Engle will attend.
- b. Presentation by PCBH system of care stakeholders
 - i. Darin Wood and Ayla Coral – **Environmental Alternatives (EA)** has a contract with PCBH for transitional housing and Full-Service Partnership (FSP), which is wraparound for up to 10 clients (currently have 6); also transitional housing (in Chester) for up to 3 clients (currently have 2).
 - 1. Targeted Case Management – job preparedness, school, SSI help, Section-8 housing, budgeting, clinical services (but noted it is hard to keep a FT clinical provider).
 - 2. EA owns 3 properties in Quincy, and they provide housing, utilities, and help with other day-to-day needs.
 - 3. Groups – led by Case Manager, social gatherings for clients, some fieldtrips (fishing, archery), exercise techniques, food groups – teach how to cook certain meals, some peer-led activities, outdoor activities (disk golf, nature hikes, Pokémon-Go), help clients connect to community.
 - 4. 24/7 availability (on-call) – reduces law enforcement involvement.
 - 5. Goal – help clients obtain skills, help them get more permanent housing.
 - 6. Work with the county, help with medication, take clients to appointments.
 - 7. Have a couple of folks who are now considered after-care (clients go back to being managed by PCBH).
 - 8. Mimi mentioned PC Housing Council (under Almanor Foundation and LMNOP contractor) – broad plan for expanding housing – she will look into this further.
 - ii. **SmithWaters Patients’ Rights Advocates:** Melody Alman – Strategic Director, and May Morra – Executive Assistant
 - 1. There has not been a significant number of calls to PRA from PC.
 - 2. SB 43 – upcoming changes coming January 2026 – 5150’s (only one hearing has been requested in PC but it was cancelled).
 - 3. Annual statewide training will occur next week – including minors’ rights, one issue is related to minors and medications (re: no forced medication).
 - 4. Training courses are available through Smithwaters.
 - 5. They are available for mediation and counsel.
 - 6. All PCBH locations have information; Liberty asked about availability in schools and FRC.
 - 7. They are planning a site visit soon.
 - iii. Schedule is in process, with the next few months as follows:
 - 1. June: PDH Senior Life Solutions
 - 2. July: Plumas Rural Services (PRS)
 - 3. August: Eastern Plumas Health Care (EPHC)
- c. Housing projects/plans for BH clients
 - i. Sharon is working with Tracy Ferguson – the hope is to break ground in 2026 – she is very committed to working with RCHDC to get something started.

- ii. RCHDC says it will cost \$22 million to build apartments – there is disaster recovery money up to \$9 million, there may be BH gap money; Tracy is looking into additional funds. MHSA has \$800,000 – they are checking to see if these funds can be used. There is \$300,000 in Permanent Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) grant. May apply for REAP grant money in conjunction with other local non-profit organizations. There may be BHSA money – need to see how this can be applied. (Unspent MHSA money will roll over into BHSA.) Mimi asked if PCBH could hire a consultant to help with this.

3. Behavioral Health Department

a. Director's Report (Sharon Sousa)

- i. Staffing – still no new nurse hired (only Eliza Fletcher) – PC is out of compliance with health care minimum wage.
- ii. Posted for full-time driver again; hired a site coordinator.
- iii. New job descriptions for BH therapist (approved yesterday).
- iv. They have gotten approval for CM II.
- v. Charlie is first SUD counselor 1 and he is completing training. They now have 2 SUD counselors.
- vi. BoS approved closing of Quincy Wellness Center – will post 30-day notice of closure soon.
- vii. Completed EQRO audit; gearing up for Mega-audit (under Cal-AIM).
- viii. Sara James asked Sharon to present about state hospital bed proposal – JPA group is suggesting an allocation system that 17 small counties would split 5 state beds among themselves. Sharon is not sure this is a good idea – not enough beds offered. Mimi will follow-up on this.
- ix. PCBH is in talks with Social Services re: funding for a 2nd public guardian through PCBH. Other public guardian is funded through general funds.
- x. Office space in Greenville is not being utilized – rent is \$1,000 per month. Commission asked for more details on this.

b. Quality Assurance Improvement (Jessica McGill) – see separate report

- i. EQRO audit occurred (re: info systems, etc.) – waiting for final report. May 12th – 23rd Mega audit (for July 2023 - June 2024).
- ii. Open Mobile Crisis Unit corrective action plan – they are having biweekly check-ins. Implementation meeting is scheduled for June 23rd. Mimi said there may be another contractor who can be involved with this. She will help PCBH connect.
- iii. DHCS Correspondence and BHINs
 - 1. 25-010 Medi-CAL Peer Support – in process
 - 2. 25-012 Referrals to PCBH from facilities through CARE act
 - 3. 25-013 Network Certification Requirements – annual process
 - 4. 25-014 updated templates which need to be used for MH and ODS clients
 - 5. 25-016 reimbursement for administrative services
 - 6. 25-draft – monetary sanctions
 - 7. 25-draft – launch of web-based MH provider forms (now a paper process)
 - 8. 25-draft – update to provider directory requirements
 - 9. 25-draft – alignment of CANS tool – credentialing process
- iv. Access and Utilization for April
 - 1. 230 open charts, 205 unduplicated clients, 89% penetration rate
 - 2. 72 youth; 141 adults

- 3. New Intakes: 28
 - 4. Crisis Services: 42 (10% in jail)
 - 5. Mobile Crisis Unit: 0
 - 6. Psych Placements: 3
 - 7. 5150's: 14 (3 renewals)
- v. Grievances – 1 quality of care and change of provider, 4 change of provider, 1 access issue
- vi. Next QIC meeting will be May 29th at 10 am
- c. MHSA Report (Kristy Pierson)
 - i. They are in the middle of MHSA audit.
 - ii. It is the 30-day annual update and public comment period (see 1.b.ii. above).
 - iii. Learning new BHSA information – 4 modules (2 still being developed).
 - iv. May is Mental Health Month – swag available.
 - v. Working on Wellness Kits for 7th, 9th and 11th graders to give out in May (for 420 or so students in public and charter schools).
- d. BH Commission Information and Improvement – N/A

Public Comment – N/A

Adjourned as BH Commission and reconvened as AOD commission.

Alcohol and Other Drug Advisory Board

- 1. Action Agenda
 - a. N/A
- 2. Informational Announcements & Reports
 - a. AOD Report (Gary Sanderson) – see separate report
 - i. Spent much time gathering audit information; opening session of audit is next Monday.
 - ii. Ongoing discussions with Public Health – MAT services provided to outlying areas (there might be settlement money to help keep wellness centers open).
 - iii. He started working on a peri-natal outreach flyer, and will create other flyers as well (4 total).
 - iv. Working with sub-contractors – monitoring narcotic treatment programs, Granite Wellness, etc.
 - v. SAMHSA was dissolved at federal level – now under Mental Health (not Behavioral Health).
 - b. Quality Assurance Improvement
 - 1. Audits – see BH above.
 - 2. Open substance use Block Grant CAP.
 - 3. Open Mobile Crisis Unit corrective action plan – see BH above.
 - ii. DHCS correspondence – (now meeting every other month)
 - 1. 25-013 Administrative staff are working on this (see BH above).
 - 2. 25-015 Parity requirements for drug Medi-Cal state plan counties – grievances, etc.
 - 3. 25-017 Treatment facilities (now includes AOD) – fee increases for counties.
 - 4. 25-draft – monetary sanctions – may not apply.
 - iii. Access and Utilization for April

1. 41 SUS charts open, 32 unduplicated clients, 78% penetration rate
2. 2 youth (voluntary), 30 adults
3. New intakes: 3 (down significantly from last month)
4. 1 residential placement (partial month)
5. 1 confidentially grievance, 1 access grievance

Public Comment – N/A

Adjournment: Meeting adjourned by Mimi @ 2:51 pm

Next meeting: **June 11th, Courthouse: Supervisors' Board Room**, 1 pm to 3 pm.

Respectfully submitted, Kendrah Fredricksen,

Secretary, Plumas County Behavioral Health Commission