

**Plumas County Behavioral Health Commission Meeting**  
**7/1/2020 at Plumas County Library, Quincy, CA**  
**Approved at 8/5/2020 meeting**

**STANDING ORDERS**

**Call to Order / Roll Call**

- Call to Order: Chair, Lori Simpson, called meeting to order at 12:14 pm. This meeting was held as a tele-conference due to the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Roll Call: Commissioners in attendance – Kendrah Fredricksen, Lori Simpson, Valerie Sheldon, Vicki Chestnut
- County Staff in attendance: Tony Hobson, Jessica McGill, John Posch, Elizabeth McAllister
- County Counsel: Sara James
- Public in attendance: Trish Foley (EPHC), Lisa Tobe (Women’s Mountain Passages), Steve McNally (Orange County BH Board), “Aprilia Alberts,” Marian Riddell (joined later)

**Additions to or Deletions from the Agenda**

No changes to Agenda. Quorum established.

**Public Comment** – Lori asked phone callers to introduce themselves.

**ACTION AGENDA**

**1. Behavioral Health Commission**

- a. Review and approve draft minutes of 6/3/20 – Vicki moved to approve the June minutes. Valerie seconded. Motion carried.
- b. Future Behavioral Health Commission meetings to include remote participation options.  
Discussion: This is possible, but we have to work out the logistics. Lori said the Board of Supervisors does this and allows people to email questions. We will have to work with BH technical people to get this to work. Jessica M. at BH said this would be possible. It would also be helpful to have a laptop equipped with a web cam at future meetings with IT person present to assist. This would be beneficial for people in remote parts of the county. We would have to post how to access this ahead of time to be in compliance with Brown Act. Jessica said we could create a “standing room” to reserve this space in GoTo Meeting.

**2. Informational Announcements & Reports**

- a. Commissioners Reports and Announcements – Lori attended the State BH Commission Association meeting for County Supervisors. They talked about the funding from the state and how there is a shortfall. They receive 1 billion instead of 3 billion requested from the state budget for back bill realignment money. Lori also attended a training session.
- b. Patients’ Rights Advocate Report (Elizabeth M.) – N/A

- c. Secretary/Treasurer Report (Kendrah) – Will be stepping down from this Commission at end of year. This will be the end of her second term.
- d. Bylaws – Ad Hoc Committee – We are working with Sara James of County Counsel to officially combine BH and AODA commissions and update bylaws. Hope to discuss at August meeting.

### **3. Behavioral Health Department**

- a. Director's Report (Tony Hobson) – Budget is the big issue right now. They are budgeting going forward at 50% reduction, same with MHSA money. They have already trimmed back and maximized MediCal billing.

BH is in process of finalizing contract with the schools to support Student Services Coordinators. They should be able to draw down federal funding for this. This should help offset these costs. The goal is to have therapists in every single school. Budget hearing will be August 5<sup>th</sup>.

Tele-site contract has gone live at PDH (after a year in the works). Eastern Plumas Hospital will be next and all three by the end of July. This will be available 24/7 but BH staff are available if there are glitches. The medical staff at hospitals are eager to get this going.

With guidance from PH and OSHA they have started operating groups again (e.g. Intensive Outpatient Treatment group). Everyone is 6 feet apart, area is sanitized before and after, everyone wears masks. Six groups a week are currently going MWF. One location in use is Probation's conference room since many of their people participate.

Open Access has started again at the Annex and Wellness Centers. No congregating is allowed, and a limited number of people are in building at once. BH created returning to work safety protocol with other county agencies. They can still offer telehealth also.

The contractor for No Place Like Home (Housing Tools) spoke to Board of Supervisors about taking next step. Funding is taken from MH service dollars for future development of permanent and supportive housing. They presented three different plans. Permanent and Local Housing Allocation (PLHA) funding comes from the real estate market. Pre-development costs will be covered in first year; initial years also include emergency housing costs. In years 2-5 capital reserves will help build up savings account to provide services.

- b. AOD Report – See above
- c. Quality Assurance Improvement (Jessica M.) – Just wrapped up annual EQRO process (was a desk review due to COVID-19). They did a lot more hands on communication. Service provision has improved tremendously over the years. They have two active program improvement projects. That was a huge accomplishment. Plumas does an

exceptional job at serving Hispanic and Latino populations, even though those overall numbers are low. The May numbers were as follows:

- 375 open MH charts
- Ages 1-21: 88 unduplicated, 365 services, 573 hours
- Ages 22+: 168 unduplicated clients, 747 services, 412 hours
- Emergency services are now in with Telemed services (hoping to be able to track separately going forward)
- Tele-med Services: 76 outpatient services, 54 hours; 8 Jail services, 8.25 hours
- In Jail: 6 services, 5+ hours
- 3 reported psych hospitalizations

Due to COVID-19, there has been a lull in people seeking services. That has changed in June and is steadily increasing.

Quality improvement Committee: next meeting scheduled for July 30<sup>th</sup> at 10 am. Contact Jessica M. if you want to attend. She can send an agenda to anyone interested.

- d. Behavioral Health Commission Information and Improvement – Lisa Tobe sent a flier for the Inside-Out Program. They are looking for youth wanting to talk to them regarding COVID-19 experience. They would like to have youth interview each other. They are also talking about racial issues, and biggest hopes and biggest fears. They plan to do photography with it. They are looking to hire people ages 18-24 for different categories.

Kendrah mentioned Margaret Garcia's "Why are you here?" documentary project focusing on minorities and LGBTQ folks. Interviews will be at Our Savior Lutheran on 7/7.

Vicki said she is not getting reimbursed for internet service on her phone. She has not received payment for several months. She has contacted Aimee about this. Valerie said she had been having the same problem (but just got a check on Saturday). Tony will follow-up on this. Vicki asked if BH tech staff could hook up her smart TV so she could access emails, meeting agendas and minutes on something other than her smart phone? Elizabeth thought this might be possible. They will discuss separately.

Kendrah mentioned that Activity Bags will be distributed to kids throughout the county later this month. This is through Plumas County Child Abuse Prevention Council and partners.

**Public Comment** – None

### **Adjournment**

Lori adjourned the meeting at 1:02 pm.

Next meeting will be **August 5, Location to be determined**, from 12 pm to 2 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kendrah Fredricksen, Secretary  
Plumas County Behavioral Health Commission