

MINUTES – APPROVED
July 19, 2018

MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD

May 17, 2018

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

1400 Emeline Avenue, Room 206, Santa Cruz, CA

Present: Aimee Escalante, Bek Sebedra, Hugh McCormick, Jim Roszell, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

Excused Absence: Jodie Wells

Unexcused Absence: 0

1. Public Comment

- Audience member stated that the presentation at the Board of Supervisors Meeting was outstanding
- Suzanne Stone introduced herself to the MHAB as the new Executive Director of Advocacy, Inc

2. Approved meeting minutes for April 19, 2018

Motion by Rebekah Mills to approve MHAB minutes for April 19, 2018.

Second by Supervisor Greg Caput.

AYES: Aimee Escalante, Bek Sebedra, Hugh McCormick, Jim Roszell, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

ABSTAIN: Kate Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann

ABSENT: Jodie Wells

3. Standing Board of Supervisors (BOS) report, Greg Caput:

- Grand opening of the Sheriff's medium security facility – Rountree. Classes will be offered for high school GED, and some college credits.
- Behavioral Health Facility in Watsonville – development of facility continues

4. Standing Behavioral Health (BH) Directors report, Pam Rogers-Wyman:

- Governor's Budget: May Revise
 - The Governor released his budget revisions and there are a number of new funding mechanisms to support mental health services. This was done in conjunction with May being mental health month. For next year, the MHAB may want to consider supporting some events or publicity around mental health awareness month
 - Funding to Address Homelessness
 - No Place Like Home: \$2B Housing bond has been stalled due to litigation over how it was approved in the budget.
 - The State has decided to bring it forward as a ballot measure in November in order to avoid a long legal battle in the Courts.
 - A Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) will be released still prior to the ballot measure, and is anticipated to have competitive and non-competitive funding.
 - Santa Cruz was awarded a Technical Assistance (TA) Grant to review the options, seek community input, and make a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors. The TA Grant will go to the Planning Department

- Homeless Outreach
 - The May budget revision has \$50M set aside, statewide, to support County outreach, intervention and treatment for homeless individuals with mental health issues. This may allow the County and City to expand its HOPES Team. Do not have any information now on how we can potentially access the funding or whether it will be a competitive process.
- Preventing Homelessness
 - The May budget revision has additional funds for the Human Services Department to preventing homelessness, including funds to increase the CalWORKS housing support program to support temporary shelter. The State will also establish a Senior Homeless Prevention Pilot Program which will provide support through temporary rental or utility assistance, housing repairs, landlord mediation and case management
- Criminal Justice
 - Funding remains to establish an incompetent to stand trial treatment program, but only for the 15 Counties with the highest volume of referrals (not Santa Cruz) and LA County with a special appropriation of funding. Additional funds for correctional workforce expansion in the prisons to have higher counselor staffing levels
- Local Mental Health Plans
 - Funding to support local plans to recoup some costs over the past several years for unfunded mandates, such as managed care regulatory changes and increased costs to Counties in implementing these changes. As noted during a prior update, the County's prior DHCS Audit three years ago included a review of 140 domain areas, the audit in March reviewed 257 domain areas, many of which were new requirements as of July. These new requirements take money away from services when staff are burdened with additional administrative requirements
- Drug Medi-Cal Expansion
 - The County has been tracking the numbers of clients served in the Drug Medi-Cal Program carefully. Santa Cruz expanded services beginning in January 2018 as part of the State and Federal ODS Waiver. In prior quarters, we were serving approximately 375 individuals per quarter. In the first quarter of ODS implementation, the number of individuals served increased over 200%, to over 900 individuals that first quarter
- Key reminders for the MHAB
 - Pending items for consideration and action:
 1. Scheduling an annual training for the Board
 2. Update and Review the Strategic Plan

5. Ad Hoc Committee and Board Member Reports:

- a. Jail Committee Report, Rebekah Mills
 - Announcement: Panel Discussion on Mental Health in Jail. Monday, June 4th, 3pm, 1400 Emeline, Building K, Rooms 206 and 207
 - Second meeting with Chief of Corrections – learned a lot about the crisis support officer program and about the tablet computer program
 - Tour of main jail next month
 - Looking for another jail committee member to take leadership role of improving communication between jail staff and people on the outside who are supporting someone with mental health issues
 - One focus of the jail committee is how medications are prescribed and provided when incarcerated, and how generic prescriptions work

- b. Community Engagement Committee Report, Jodie Wells
 - o Board requested staff recorder to research a County Spanish speaking translator for the NAMI Spanish support group
 - o Future Community Engagement Committee topic: Twin Lakes Conference in October
 - c. Planning Committee – no report
 - d. Bylaw Committee – no report
6. Presentations
- a. Report to Board of Supervisors on Bi-Annual Report – Xaloc Cabanes
 - o Presented items that have come up during Public Comments, and stated the MHAB is doing their best to represent the community; meetings are a place to ask questions and provide answers if possible
 - o Link to the presentation:
<http://santacruzcountyca.iqm2.com/Citizens/SplitView.aspx?Mode=Video&MeetingID=1652&Format=Minutes>
 - b. CALBHB/C Meeting and Training – Rebekah Mills
 - o Meeting provided updates from the CA Behavioral Health Planning Council, the Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission (MHSOAC), and Disaster Readiness & Recovery. Discussion of MHSA included the roles of the MHB, the Mental/Behavioral Health Director, and the Board of Supervisors. MHSOAC has a new fiscal reporting tool, which provides Annual Revenue and Expenditure spreadsheets and charts. Reports are also available from the CA Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) website. Reminded everyone of the available resources, online tools and tapping into experiences of other boards. CALBHB/C and CA Institute for Behavioral Health both have manuals and best practices for local MHB. Saturday training focused on how the Mental Health Board exercises its authority and training on how to effectively advocate on an issue.
 - c. Bylaws and Miscellaneous Items – Siobhan Kelley, Assistant County Counsel
 - o Background information: Supports HAS and typically advise on the Brown Act, which requires certain types of boards and commissions to be open to the public, transparent and accessible. Local authority comes from the State Welfare Institutions Code Section 5604 – 5606. The County has also chosen to implement an ordinance about the MHAB, so the MHAB local authority comes from there as well.
 - o Discussion of Miscellaneous Items:
 - Ethics trainings are for public officials who are compensated or *eligible* for reimbursement. Recommend that the MHAB members complete the Ethics Training (free resources are available)
 - Board Retreat needs to be a Public meeting, properly noticed, etc. Any time there is a discussion about the business of the MHAB, or any time there is a quorum, it is considered a meeting
 - Recording public meetings – if the meeting is public and notice has been provided under the Brown Act, then the public is already on notice that the meeting may be recorded

- Revisions to Bylaws – changes were made to bring them in line with what the code says, and added a few more practical suggestions in terms of the actual operation of the Board
 - Clarification of Bylaws
 - Special Meetings language gives the MHAB the ability to have an emergency meeting
 - Quorum definition of one more than one half. There are 11 members of the MHAB. Half is 5.5 or round to 6, add 1 = 7 minimum required for a quorum
 - 72-hour public notice – designed to be appropriate notice for the public (post notices outside, online, electronic notices)
 - Administrative Secretary position is not required by law
 - Discussions as a member of the MHAB made in a public setting should represent decisions made and voted upon by the Board

Motion made by Rebekah Mills to approve Bylaws as revised. Second by Lynda Kaufmann

AYES: Aimee Escalante, Bek Sebedra, Hugh McCormick, Jim Roszell, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Kate Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Supervisor Greg Caput

ABSTAIN: 0

ABSENT: Jodie Wells

7. Unfinished Business:

- a. MHAB Strategic Plan – Retreat Details: Monday, June 18, 2018, 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, Health Services Agency, 1400 Emeline Ave, Bldg K, Room 206, Santa Cruz, CA
- b. Nominating Committee for Election of Officers
 - Aimee Escalante
 - Kate Avraham
 - Lynda Kaufmann

Nominating Committee scheduled to meet prior to the retreat on Monday, June 18, 2018, 12:00 pm – 1:00 pm, Health Services Agency, 1400 Emeline Ave, Bldg K, Room 206, Santa Cruz, CA

- c. Role of the HOPES Team serving the homeless behavioral health population – discussion to be held at the next regular meeting (to be included in the Director's Report)

8. New Business/Future Agenda Items

- a. September 10, 2018 – World Suicide Prevention Day Light a Candle. Discussion on what the Board would like to do to acknowledge that day and be involved

- 9. Motion to adjourn made by Supervisor Greg Caput. Second by Kate Avraham. Meeting adjourned at 5:08 p.m.