



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

of Mariposa County
Post Office Box 784
Mariposa, California 95338
(209) 966-3222

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD MEETING MINUTES

August 2, 2023
12:30 p.m. – 2 p.m.

Mariposa County Health & Human Services – Mariposa Conference Room
5362 Lemee Lane, Mariposa, California 95338

To attend via telephone, call 1-669-900-6833, then at the prompts enter the following:
Meeting ID 985-9834-5239, participant ID #, passcode 123456

Members Present: Paul Brickett, Ellie McQuarrie, Olga Leonard and Rosemarie Smallcombe

Members Excused: none

Members Absent: Matt DiPirro

Guests Present: Bryan Blew, Summer Lynn Marquez, Debra Barcellos, Loretta Milne, Megan Atkinson, Lisa Parker, Mike Charman, Christine Doss, Kareli Gomez

Staff Present: Sheila Baker, Kristina Keheley, Adrienne Beas, Amanda Brum, Joe Lynch

Quorum: Yes

- I. **Call to Order/Roll Call:** Meeting was called to order at 12:31p.m. by Paul Brickett, Chair. Roll call introductions were made. Quorum was confirmed.
- II. **Mission Statement:** The mission statement was read by Paul Brickett.
- III. **Approval of Meeting Minutes for July 5, 2023 (attachment):** Sheila Baker asked for a change to be made on her Staff Report section. The exemption was for the SB326 new MHSA reform, not for housing. Loretta Milne stated the Oakhurst location for the Day Program was not closing and that sentence in Public Comment should be removed. Rosemarie Smallcombe made a motion to approve the minutes with corrections and Olga Leonard seconded the motion. All members present (Ellie McQuarrie, Paul Brickett, Rosemarie Smallcombe, Olga Leonard) voted "aye," none were opposed, none abstained. Minutes for July 5, 2023 were approved.
- IV. **Public Comments:** none
- V. **Agenda Items**
 - A. **Announcements:** No report.
 - B. **Committees/Community Partner Reports:**

1. **Mariposa Heritage House:** Summer Lynn Marquez reported. 233 clients were served, 97 clients were assessed for services. 34 individuals are engaged in life skills and 36 clients were given housing navigation services. 617 meals were served. At Yosemite National Park they provided services to 14 clients. It was a very busy month.
2. **Mariposa Minds Matter:** No report.
3. **Connections:** No report.
4. **Probation:** Guest Kareli Gomez reported. Eight inmates are enrolled in Behavioral Health Court. They have a planned trip to North County to facilitate drug testing with a grant they received.
5. **Native Solutions:** Lisa Parker reported. They solidified the contract with TRADE yesterday and the Mariposa County Board of Supervisors approved it unanimously. The new house has been opened. It is an eight-bed facility. Placements are occurring within the tribes. They can now receive referrals from Mariposa County. The second lease with TRADE House number two was signed. This will be a transitional home primarily for families. The home is currently undergoing repairs, and a fence will be installed around the existing pool. It is a three-bedroom, two bath home with a retrofitted garage that could be used for another family. An RV was purchased for staff. The house should be open by August 15, 2023. The Native Solutions Visitation Center is completely full, and They have hired two new staff members. They were doing 1 to 2 visits per week and now they are up to 3 to 4 visits a day helping parents with the reunification process. Supervised visitation is growing. Fridays and Sundays are very busy as there is parent exchange in a safe environment. They are now handling Custodials through CWS. Parenting classes are now being offered for people whose children are detained. They applied in January for three of six rounds of grant money for evidenced based programs. They were awarded the round one grant. Added on therapeutic visitations vs monitored visitation. They are a Quest lab verification site. Now they can send hair, oral and urine specimens out for court case management. Trade Sober living will be having an open house soon. They have really grown in the last 3 years. Mike Charman asked how-to sign-up folks that are not "in the system". Lisa is working with Sheila Baker on this. Sober living is a facility for sober living, it is not a treatment facility. There is a self-pay option that looks at income and funding sources to help with payment. Their level of care within their program is to make sure the individuals are established with BH, going to AA meetings, meeting with their counselors. They also help them with their driver's license, birth certificates and employment. In phase 2 the individuals are on Native Solutions' workman's comp as a volunteer. They assist them with finding jobs, feeding and clothing them. They essentially help them get through the barriers so they can move on and live on their own. It is a nine-month program. The facility is currently co-ed until August 15, 2023, when the second house opens. The goal is to have one home for women and one for men. They do allow medication that is kept locked. Note they do not administer; they need to meet with the house manager to get them. Lisa answered some quick questions. The name "Trade" was an acronym. Her board chose the name. Trade one life for a sober life. They have a therapist to help with reunification. Monitors are not licensed so they bring the therapist in during visitation when necessary. They work with the court case by case when a child needs therapy. The DHCS grant was written to be evidence based. The Round 2 grant is \$750K; they should find out if they were awarded this one sometime in August. Round 3 is for Mariposa Safe Families for wrap around services. DHCS was excited to see Mariposa County present at the grant sessions. Megan Atkinson asked about the referral process. Sheila said the referrals get submitted to Behavioral Health for an assessment.



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6. Mariposa Safe Families: Megan Atkinson reported. All programs are going well and there are new programs coming. One is a children's grief support group for youth that are ages 8 to 12 years old. This group is run in conjunction with Chrissie Doss and her team at Transformations. There is also another similar group that is for ages 13 through 18. The groups meet once a week for eight weeks. Megan will send the flyer out to the group. There is also another support group for parents with children that have mental health needs that will begin in August; also, being run in conjunction with Chrissie Doss and her team. Lastly, they are also going to have a First Responders support group. Informational referral services continue at the family resource center. A reminder that the center has moved to 5070 Bullion Street. The computer center is in there for folks to use free of charge. The youth empowerment center continues with their programs such as Friday night live and after school matters. A large grant was awarded to implement social emotional learning that will be for all the schools including El Portal, Yosemite Valley and North County. As an update to SVS leaving Mariposa, Megan and Ms. Milne have met with Veronika and Yolanda Cruz from the State Council on Disabilities at the Sequoia regional office to discuss the clients leaving the SVS (Social Vocational Services) program and they are going to do some legwork on bringing that program back to Mariposa County. In the meantime, SVS does meet at The New Life Church on occasion for one of the programs. Rosemarie Smallcombe indicated that this board could send a recommendation to the Board of Supervisors to send a letter. She offered to also make a call to precede the letter. Megan suggested we let Yolanda at the Regional level do the legwork and have this board discuss again at the next meeting.

C. Old Business:

1. **Review BHRS Contracts:** Sheila Baker reported. This is the first year that they can do pooled agreements. One is for Board and Care and the other is for the hospitals. We must maintain separate agreements. The agreements are all being updated for the 23/24 year. This was passed by our Board of Supervisors. Joe Lynch indicated that our county policy has changed. When we spend over \$60K we are required to do an RFP. Our long-term partners are being asked to do this for the services they provide. We plan on doing this in the Fall. Joe plans on having three-to-four-year contracts with our community partners. This year we will have to RFP. The policy allows an exception to hospitals. The goal is to build an infrastructure so we can keep our current partners and services but also add more partners so access to care is fundamentally easier.

D. New Business:

1. **Vote to submit recommendation to the BOS to approve Mike Charman as member of the Behavioral Health Board.** Mike Charman spoke about his passion for the community. Rosemarie Smallcombe made a motion to submit a recommendation to the BOS to approve Mike as member of the Behavioral Health Board. Olga Leonard seconded the motion. All members present voted "aye". None were opposed; none abstained. Motion approved.
2. **Amanda Brum, Administrative Analyst with Health and Human Services discussed Housing.** We were awarded \$607K to assist with the encampment

area. This was competitive funding and Mariposa County was the only county who received the funding. The goal is to get the people at the encampment into permanent housing. They will need immediate shelter then permanent shelter. There is a RFP that has been put out for fifteen shelter units to house everyone if they choose that path. Some may just want the temporary housing. This initiative will be a collaborative effort that will shift into a multi-disciplinary team. We want the individuals to know what is happening, the timeline, and what services will be offered. Voluntary services will be available such as employment training, etc. The end goal will be that the encampment is returned to its natural state. The RFP should be posted today. The timeline will be solidified once the shelter units are in place. Looking forward to sharing more with this team and our community partners. Joe Lynch stated that Heritage House is an emergency shelter, not a permanent shelter. Cars have been moving out and we will permit Connections to be our County Shelter. They have been working closely with the Sheriff's office to put more rules in place around the shelter. There are many legal barriers to close the encampment, but they have been working on it for a long time. The RFP is going out to places that have moveable temporary shelters. The Alliance is also looking at new shower systems via different funding. It will take about 6 months to get permitted. Mike Charman said if there are no options for homeless people, we cannot criminalize them.

E. Review and Discuss Policy/Legislative Issues Relevant to the BHB: Rosemarie Smallcombe reported. She briefly discussed the At Home strategy which encompasses accountability, transparency and housing. She will send an email out to the group with more information.

F. Review and Discuss BHRS Contracts (Quarterly): N/A

G. Staff Reports:

1. **Acting Director of HHSA:** No report.
2. **Director of Health Services:** Kristina Keheley reported. She received a flyer from CA BH Association with informative sessions on SB326; Mental Health Services Act. There are public forums and there was one yesterday. There are six other dates coming up. One is tomorrow in Stockton. She will send the information out to Lisa Bello who can send it out to the group here. We were awarded Path round 3 for \$782K. The Sheriff's office was also awarded funding to provide infrastructure for CalAim. Kristina spoke a bit about the MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) program that Mariposa County has for the jail. JCF is a MAT provider via Dr. Carter. Kristina will follow up with them to see if they can be the MAT provider for Native Solutions.
3. **Deputy Director of BHRS:** Sheila Baker reported. She updated the group on SB326. The state level is looking at negotiating with small counties under 200k vs over 200k. We need something under 20k. We are looking at exemptions and more flexibility because we would have to shift funding over to housing. CBHA is working hard to see if the buckets can have the same percentage and not be so rigid. For small counties it is very problematic. We are not in a panic we can manage it. However, many counties like Los Angeles are in a panic state. We are concerned but still working with CBHA on negotiations.
4. **Financial:** No report.
5. **Quality Assurance:** Sheila reported that QA is working on audits. SUD unit is preparing for an audit. EQRO is also coming up. As discussed earlier they are also working on new contracts for the 2024 year.

VI. Adjournment: Meeting was adjourned at 2:06 p.m.



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Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on September 6, 2023 at Mariposa County Health & Human Services from 12:30 to 2 p.m.

Submitted,

Lisa Bello

Recording Secretary

Approved 9/6/2023