



County of Orange Behavioral Health Advisory Board

405 W. 5th Street
Santa Ana, CA 92701
TEL: (714) 834-5481
MHB Website:

<http://ochealthinfo.com/bhs/about/mhb>

**Wednesday, August 23, 2023
9:00 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.**

Meeting Location:

601 N. Ross St., Santa Ana, CA 92701
Conference Center

MINUTES

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BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Donald P. Wagner, Chairman
Third District

Andrew Do, Vice Chairman
First District

Vicente Sarmiento
Second District

Doug Chaffee
Fourth District

Katrina Foley
Fifth District

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Alan V. Albright, LMFT
Chair

Frederick Williams, LMFT
Vice Chair

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento
Second District

Karyl Dupee, LMFT

Susan Emerson, LCSW, CATC IV

Matthew Holzmann

Stephen McNally

Chinh Tuong Nguyen

Kristen Pankratz, MSW

Duan Tran, MSW

Chase Wickersham

Members Present:

Alan Albright, Susan Emerson, Matthew Holzmann, Stephen McNally, Chinh Tuong Nguyen, Kristen Pankratz, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento, Chase Wickersham, Fred Williams,

Members Absent:

Karyl Dupee, Duan Tran

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 9:05 a.m. by Alan Albright who then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Welcome and Introductions

- Each member introduced themselves.

Approval of Minutes

- July 26, 2023
 - Chase Wickersham made a motion to approve the minutes from the July 26, 2023, meeting and Susan Emerson seconded the motion. The minutes were approved for the record. Yes 9 /0 No/ 0/ abstain

Public Comment

- Michelle Murphy-
Ms. Murphy provided an update on the merger between Orange County United Way and 211. Brining 211 into United Way would help 211 thrive in staffing capabilities, warm handoffs, development, marketing and so much more. She provided 211 data, with over 10,000 calls per month and 52% of them are for housing, 10% are for food, 6% for utility assistance, 6% individual support, 6% for mental health. 5% legal, 4% health and 3% for clothing and other needs. They are making referrals and tracking those referrals.
- Keith Torkelson:
Mr. Torkelson provided updates on past events from year 2022 and provided details on upcoming community events. He also provided information on Narcan distribution to individuals in Santa Ana.



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HEALTH CARE AGENCY

**Veronica Kelley, Ph.D.,
Chief**

Mental Health & Recovery Services

**Annette Mugrditchian, LCSW
Director of Operations**

Mental Health & Recovery Services

**Karla Perez
Staff Specialist**

Mental Health & Recovery Services

MHRS Chief's Report – Annette Mugrditchian

Annette Mugrditchian provided the Mental Health Services and Recovery (MHRS) update. She provided some highlights including updating the MHRS Update reports, which will include upcoming community events that MHRS is participating in. She also highlighted that we have received the official notification from the State on the Behavioral Health Bridge Housing and will begin to meet with various vendors to take those contracts to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) for approval. Moreover, the Assembly Health Committee moved forward with Assembly Bill (AB) 326 with the most recent amendments to the Senate Committee.

Steve McNally inquired regarding a letter from the BOS that was sent to the State regarding their concerns with AB 326. Supervisor Sarmiento commented that this letter was directed by Supervisor Foley's office, and it was read at yesterday's Health Committee meeting. This letter was intended to add flexibility to what is being proposed in the bill and to be more collaborative with the Governor's office. Orange County has been one of the counties that has used their resources appropriately and would like to work with the Governor's office to allow for flexibility or creating an exemption to Orange County. A copy of this letter will be sent out to the members.

Some of the members expressed their concerns with AB 326.

Alan Albright commented on the community events list that is displayed in the new MHRS Update, letting members know to inquire should they wish to attend some of the events or have a booth.

Chase Wickersham would like to add the Orange County Veteran Military Family Stand Down event on September 13, 2023, to the events calendar. Fred Williams would like to obtain information on the Vanguard Health fair for 10/18. Lastly, Supervisor Sarmiento added that he would be providing the list of events for CalOptima and Vasila Ahmad will provide a County Calendar of Events.

Presentation

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Fiscal Overview

By: Mike Geiss

Mike Geiss Consulting

Mike Geiss provided a comprehensive overview of the MHSA Budget. He included some background on how the funding is obtained for MHSA, provided MHSA statewide revenues and estimated component funding and well as prudent reserve information. Mr. Geiss also provided a quick update on the Behavioral Health fiscal initiatives and proposed transformation of behavioral health services.



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Old Business

- **Site Visit Reminder-**

Alan Albright announced the upcoming site visit to Phoenix House on 8/29/23.

- Chase Wickersham complimented the May Dashboard for Be Well, he would like to continue to obtain more updates on an ongoing basis. Steve McNally expressed concern with the data reported. Alan suggested to have an updated presentation.

New Business

- **Discussion about new meeting schedule for 2024**

Alan Albright communicated to the members of the board the idea of moving the meetings to a later time and start the meetings at 10:00 a.m. He will continue this conversation at a different meeting. Fred included he would like to hold these meetings at various locations in the community.

New Business

- Vasila Ahmad announced that the board of directors at the CalOptima Board Meeting, they approved spending \$15 million on purchasing 250,000 doses of Narcan to distribute at community events in the fall.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 10:38 a.m.

Officially submitted by: Karla Perez** *Note copies of all writings pertaining to items in these BHAB meetings are available for public review in the Behavioral Health Services advisory Board Office, 05 W. 5th St., Santa Ana, CA 92701, 714.834.5481 or Email: OCBHAB@ochca.com ***