



# 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, January 24, 2024  
10:00 a.m. – 11:45 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

**Doug Chaffee, Vice Chairman**  
Fourth District

**Andrew Do,**  
First District

**Vicente Sarmiento**  
Second District

**Katrina Foley**  
Fifth District

**BHAB MEMBERS**

Alan V. Albright, LMFT  
**Chair**

Frederick Williams, LMFT  
**Vice Chair**

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento  
Second District

Hector Bustos

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, Hector Bustos, Karyl Dupee, Stephen McNally, Chinh Tuong Nguyen, Kristen Pankratz, Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento, Chase Wickersham, Fred Williams

**Members Absent:** Susan Emerson, Matthew Holzmann, Duan Tran,

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 10:03 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**

- November 22, 2023
  - Chase Wickersham made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 22, 2023, meeting and Steve McNally seconded the motion. The minutes were approved for the record. Yes 9 /0 No

**Public Comment**

- Jim Farrell:  
Mr. Farrell expressed concern for the conservatorship process. He also expressed concern on the 5150 process and how hospitals address follow-up and transfer of care following a 5150.



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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 –Veronica Kelley

Dr. Kelley provided the Mental Health Services and Recovery (MHRS) update. She provided some highlights including announcing the new department name change from MHRS back to BHS. She an update on SB 43, effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, any LPS Conservatorship, the court can make the recommendation based on whether the person would be more appropriate for assisted outpatient treatment or care if they meet the requirements. This has caused an increased in referrals for Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT). In addition, another part that is already taking place is the evidentiary part of the court proceedings hearsay is allowable without cross examination of a third party. Dr. Kelley also provided an update on Prop 1 and how this proposition would impact programs funded through Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) and the entire system for MHRS. MHRS will need to revise the entire system of care to be able to sustain contracts that are currently in place. There will be significant changes, but also an opportunity for the department in recreating a system of care that work for the community being served.

Alan Albright requested a list of all MHSA funded programs, should Prop 1 pass the BHAB would be able to differentiate between a before and after. There was discussion around Prop 1 speculating how certain programs or MHSA components would be affected. Dr. Kelley offered to provide a more concrete update after the March 5<sup>th</sup> ballot and the department has knows if prop 1 passes.

## Updates and Presentations:

- **CalOptima health Behavioral Health Services Overview-  
By: Carmen Nicole Katsarov, LPCC,CCM**

Carmen Katsarov provided a comprehensive overview of CalOptima's behavioral health services. CalOptima is the first managing care plan that services a variety of behavioral health services for mild to moderate clients. She provided the benefits and services that are provided and provided information on how services are accessed.

## Old Business

- **2024 BHAB Chair and Vice Chair Elections (Action Item)**  
The nominating committee stated the current slate nominated for Chair and Vice Chair of 2024, Alan Albright for Chair and Fred Williams for Vice Chair. Karla Perez asked for a vote by roll call for the 2024 Chair and Vice Chair. The BHAB vote unanimously, the new Chair for 2024 is Alan Albright, and 2024 Vice Chair is Fred Williams.
- **Discussion regarding BHAB Survey tool for the Community-**  
Alan Albright shared a draft of survey questions that would be utilized during tabling events in the community. Alan asked that members take review the survey questions, provide comments and edits as needed, then bring back to the BHAB for further discussion. The hope is to have this on survey moneky and track this data, in hopes that it would help the BHAB advise and recommend on awareness and access to services, community mental health and recovery needs and gaps. Karyl and Susan agreed to form an ad hoc, review the survey and provide feedback.



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## New Business

- Recognition for the Villa's 60 years of Service- April Thornton and Diane Holley provided Lorraine Martinez with a plaque in recognition of The Villa's 60 years of Service.
- MHSFiscal Update- Julia Rinaldi  
Julia Rinaldi provided an MHSFiscal fund fiscal update and included a projection of funds for fiscal year 2023-24 for all MHSFiscal components. In addition, Julia provided an allocation summary of all programs included in each of the components. Julia will continue to keep the BHAB informed of all MHSFiscal funding updates.

## Committee Updates:

- N/A

## Announcements:

- Fred Williams announced upcoming events that included the 44<sup>th</sup> Annual Black History Month Parade and Unity Festival, TET Festival, and upcoming BHAB Committee meetings.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 11:50 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 \*\**