

MINUTES

Behavioral Health Advisory Board
Clallam County Courthouse
Virtual and In Person
BOCC Meeting Room 160
August 10, 2021
3:00 pm-5:00 pm

Voting Members Present: Amy Miller, Bruce Fernie, Christina Miko, Don Lawley, Don Wenzl, John DeBoer, Tayler McCrorie, Helen Kenoyer, Grace Bell, Travis Hedin

Non-voting members present: Kevin LoPiccolo, Stephanie Lewis, Wendy Sisk, Kristina Bullington, Jody Jacobsen

Absent: Jesse Charles, Tom Stokes, Kirsten Pool, Viola Ware

General Attendance: Jenny Oppelt, Christine Dunn, Patricia Hicklin, Mark Nichols, Lori Johnson, G'Neil Ashley, Tanya McNeil

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order at 3:06pm

2. AGENDA

Majority Approved as modified to hear the presentation from DSHS prior to the presentation regarding Mental Health Court.

3. MINUTES - Approval from July 13, 2021 meeting

Concerns were raised that the minutes from August did not fully represent the RFP discussion. It was discussed that the conversation regarding including RCW language should be captured in the minutes. Additionally it was requested to include the vote that the "RFP should use statutory language" was taken with a majority declining the proposed changes.

Majority approved the meeting minutes from July 13, 2021 as modified.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- Covid 19 Update
 - Wendy Sisk acknowledged the recent Governor's Proclamation that all healthcare workers are to be vaccinated.

- RFP status update
 - Jenny Oppelt reported the RFP was presented to the BOCC at work session on August 9th and approval will go through at the BOCC regular meeting on August 17th. It will also be released to the public on August 17th.
 - Grace Bell requested to be added to the review committee. It was acknowledged that Kirsten Pool communicated prior to the meeting that she would like to step down from the RFP review committee. Further discussion took place as to whether there is a maximum or minimum number of those allowed on the review board, and it was confirmed that there is not. Chair appointed Grace Bell to the RFP review committee.

5. NEW BUSINESS

- Presentations:
 - Food Benefits – DSHS Patricia Hicklin and Lori Johnson (please see attachments)
 - Presented information on the DSHS food benefits and SNAP programs that offer monthly benefits to Washington residents to help purchase food. The number to call for accessing services is #1-877-501-2233 they are open Monday – Friday from 8am -3pm and verbal signatures are accepted. An EBT card must be mailed to an address or PO Box and cannot go to general delivery. If needed appointments are available at the DSHS office to pick up a card for those who do not have a mailing address or PO Box. Providers can complete an interview over the phone for an individual if they complete paperwork designating that provider as their representative case manager.
 - Discussion was had regarding individuals needing to appeal the benefit decision. Appeals can take place at any time over the phone or by writing in.
 - Mental Health Court – Mark Nichols, Prosecuting Attorney (please see attachments)
 - It has been found that traditional court has been ineffective for people experiencing mental health issues. Once the Mental Health Coordinator position is filled (hopefully by October) there will be a quicker advancement of this program. The goal is to be enrolling participants before the end of 2021. The program is estimated to cost roughly \$150k - \$200k annually. The funding for this will be coming from the behavioral health fund reserve and should have no impact on allocation of funding through the RFP process.
 - Discussion was had regarding combining substance use disorder and mental health court versus keeping them separate. The goal is to keep them separate with the option of transferring or transition between the two based on individual need.

- Discussion was had about the impacts of the new law enforcement reform and how this might impact the mental health court. It was stated that referrals to the mental health court will likely increase from law enforcement.
- Mark Nichols was open to returning to the BHAB with an update in 2022.

6. NEXT MEETING AGENDA

- September 14th
 - 2020 Behavioral Health Fund Data Report – Amanda Tjemsland, Epidemiologist Kitsap Public Health District
 - Bylaw Review (voting member/ RFP review participation discussion)

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

8. ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Social Distancing Center is due to close at the end of August, as the Serenity House extension opens.

9. ADJOURN: Meeting adjourned at 4:59pm

Next meeting: September 14, 2021
Virtual and In Person
Clallam County BOCC Meeting Room

Voting Members: Grace Bell, Jesse Charles, John DeBoer, Bruce Fernie, Travis Hedin, Helen Kenoyer, Don Lawley, Tayler McCrorie, Christina Miko, Amy Miller, Tom Stokes, Viola Ware, Don Wenzl
Non-Voting Members: Kristina Bullington, Jody Jacobson, Stephanie Lewis, Kevin LoPiccolo, Kirsten Poole, Wendy Sisk