

Alpine County Mental Health Board

February 18, 2021

Special Meeting Minutes

Via Zoom

MEMBERS PRESENT

Jessica Bennett, Chair
Rita Lovell, Vice Chair
Jane Sweeney
Supervisor Irvin Jim

MEMBERS ABSENT

No absentees



Other Attendees:

Deb Goerlich, BHS Admin Asst. III (minutes)
Gail St. James, BHS Director
Nani Ellis, BHS Fiscal & Administrative Supervisor
Katie Johnston, BHS Fiscal & Tech Specialist
Briana Vallejo, Live Violence Free
Amy Broadhurst, Ex. Director First 5

1. **Call to order regular meeting:**

The meeting was called to order at 12:07 p.m.

2. **Oral Communication - General Public Comment**

This portion of the meeting is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Mental Health Board. No action can be taken on matters not listed on the agenda.

Amy Broadhurst, First 5 Alpine commented – “WATER, A Superhero in the fight for Dental Health – free virtual parenting event on February 25 via zoom at 6pm”

3. **Consent Agenda**

Matters that are routine and non-controversial and are usually approved by a single majority vote without discussion. Items can be removed from the consent agenda to be discussed and considered separately.

3.1 Request approval of regular meeting minutes on 1/28/2021

MOTION J. Sweeney/SECOND R. Lovell to approve the special meeting minutes as amended

AYES: J. Sweeney, R. Lovell, J. Bennett

NOES: NONE

MOTION CARRIED

4. **New Business:**

4.1 Discussion on the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) contract by and between Alpine County Behavioral Health & Alpine Kids

- The BHS Director reported that a letter from Alpine Kid’s had been distributed to the Board of Supervisors and Alpine Kids participants. In the letter, MHSA had been mentioned several times as a county agency

Approved as Submitted 4/22/21

that they had been contracted with. The BHS Director also reported that the Board of Supervisors had recently increased the level of insurance requirements for all contracts. BHS had been working with Alpine Kids to complete this piece of the contract. The Alpine Kid's Director and their governing board had elected to end the program.

4.2 Discussion on the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (also known as Laura's Law) AB 1421- Gail St. James, BHS Director

- Dissemination of the History of AB1421. The BHS Director requested MHB members and the public email their comments to her once they have read the Bill, by the middle of March 2021. - [See attached Exhibit "A"](#)
- The MHB unanimously agreed to support Alpine County's decision of opting out of the Assisted Outpatient Treatment

4.3 Discussion on the 2020-21 MHSA Plan Annual Update Stakeholder's Meeting presented on February 8, 2021 - Gail St. James, LMFT

- BHS Director reported the Stakeholder's meeting was well attended; BHS is in the process of collecting the data. The plan will be drafted and available for public comment by 3/22/21. The Public Hearing will be held on 4/22/21 during the MHB meeting, in which the MHB members will vote regarding approval and making the recommendation to the BOS for their approval at the next BOS meeting scheduled for 5/15/2021.

5. Unfinished Business

5.1 Director Report - Gail St. James, LMFT or designee

- Nothing to report at this time.

6. Board Member Reports:

- A) Chair Bennett - thanked the members for being flexible with the Special Mental Health Board meeting today.
- B) Vice Chair Lovell - reported the NorthNet Library System's (NLS) is hosting a panel discussion on March 9, 2021 on **Mental Health Supports for Disaster Preparedness and Recovery**. Libraries have played a crucial role in community mental health, serving as a source of refuge, providing vital human connection, and linking patrons with essential resources. Vice Chair Lovell will be attending.
- C) Irvin Jim - BOS Liaison shared he has nothing to report at this, his first meeting.
- D) Jane Sweeney - MHB Member shared at the Stakeholder's meeting she had volunteered to be on the Alpine County Suicide Prevention committee. Through California Behavioral Health Local Committees & Boards (CALBHBC) she has enrolled in a class/training on guidelines for children with Emotional Disorders from dealing with COVID19 & the isolation. Member Sweeney is also signing up for the Suicide training that is being offered.

Adjournment: 12:43 pm

The next scheduled meeting will be held in March 25, 2021, the location to be determined.



Rita Lovell, Vice Chair
Mental Health Advisory Board