



# 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>

## 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

## BHAB MEMBERS

Alan V. Albright, LMFT  
Chair

Frederick Williams, LMFT  
Vice Chair

Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento  
Second District

Karyl Dupee, LMFT

Heidi Girolamo

Matthew Holzmann

Stephen McNally

Kristen Pankratz, MSW

Jim Taylor

Duan Tran, MSW

Chase Wickersham

**Wednesday, January 25, 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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**Members Present:** Alan Albright, Karyl Dupee, Matthew Holzmann, Stephen McNally, Kristen Pankratz, Jim Taylor, Duan Tran, Chase Wickersham, Fred Williams

**Members Absent:** Supervisor Vicente Sarmiento, Heidi Girolamo,

### Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 9:07 a.m. by Steve McNally who then led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### Welcome and Introductions

- Each member introduced themselves.

### Approval of Minutes

- November 30, 2022
  - Chase Wickersham made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 30, 2022, meeting and Matthew Holzmann seconded the motion. The minutes were approved for the record. Yes 9 /0 No/ 0/ abstain
- December 14, 2022
  - Matthew Holzmann made a motion to approve the minutes from the December 14, 2022, meeting and Steve McNally seconded the motion. The minutes were approved for the record with one change. Yes 8 /0 No/ 1/ abstain

### Public Comment

- Johnice Williams-  
Ms. Williams updated the board members on the various community events, including the Black History Festival taking place on February 4<sup>th</sup>, in Anaheim, the Opioid Forum at Fullerton College on January 26, and the MHRS Early Childhood Mental Health Planning meeting on February 8<sup>th</sup>.
- Alice Gleghorn-  
Dr. Gleghorn is the president and CEO of Phoenix House, she shared information about the program which offers a variety of resources for substance use disorder (SUD) and mental health. She offered to provide a detailed presentation of their services and program for the BHAB.



**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

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**Public Comment:** *(continued)*

- Keith Torkelson-  
Mr. Torkelson informed the BHAB that he will be submitting an Innovation project proposal and might present this idea to the Board of Supervisors in February. He also suggested that the BHAB be added to the County Newsletter.

**Presentation**

***MHSA Innovation Update: OC Navigator***

**By:** Armen Arevian, MD PhD  
Chorus

Dr. Arevian provided a comprehensive overview of the OC Navigator project. He included a quick overview of the website [www.ocnavigator.org](http://www.ocnavigator.org) which includes many mental health and wellness resources. He shared information on the goal of the project, including a review since the launch of the website in April 2022. He reviewed the top areas of feedback and roadmap for improvements. In addition, he included information on the project's outreach efforts in the community. Finally, he shared data based on the activity of the website, such as active users, types of resources, top searches and much more.

**Old Business**

- Propose Bylaw Amendments:  
Karla Perez provided information on the proposed changes which included changes to the membership term and adding inclusivity language for LGBTQ+, TAY, and Veterans, remove System of Care Committees and add Study Committee. Jim Taylor expressed his concern with the language on the bylaw with the residency and voting requirements which excludes non-citizens. Alan asked the members to review the changes made, have a discussion of the any edits at the next meeting and the followed by a vote at the February meeting.
- Alan asked for the motion to move forward with amending the bylaws and forwarding the proposed changes to County Council for their review. Matthew Holzmann made a motion to move forward with amending the bylaws with suggested edits, Chase Wickersham seconded the motion.

**MHRS Chief's Report – Veronica Kelley**

- Dr. Kelley provided a Mental Health Services and Recovery (MHRS) update. She provided some highlights including State updates. The Governor's budget update was released, payment reform is moving forward which will be an intergovernmental transfer and getting paid every 30 days which will have lots of changes in coding for billing (effective July 1, 2023). The Governor is continuing to fund the IMD Waiver which allows the Counties to bill for services provided at facilities that have 17 beds or more in which is paid out of realignment funds. Some of the requirements include having an average length of stay of 30 days and bill for up to 60 days while Orange County's average length of stay is 18 months,



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## MHRS Chief's Report – Veronica Kelley

- providing specific evidence-based practices which are labor intensive and will require extra training for staff, focus on assertive community programs, add community health workers which Orange County currently does not have as a classification, and others. Orange County will not opt in this year but can opt into this waiver at any time. Furthermore, the CalAim continues with Jail in Reach which will allow 90-days pre-release for Medi-Cal to be turned on for folks and allow to bill for services they receive. Care Court's will start in October 2023, more information to come soon after the first cohort meets in February. The Care Court Workgroup is looking at the process in how to petition for these services, more information to come soon after the public comment period for the judicial review for petitioning is over. Opioid settlement funds have been provided to the Counties, cities and the State which is giving \$35 million to the schools. MHRS staff has approached the Superintendents of the schools to work with them on how to obtain and provide Narcan. Dr. Kelley shared her plan for the opioid settlement funds of \$3.4 million over 17 years, this includes 3-parts. Part one- \$1 million for medicated assisted treatment for in custody folks upon release as well insuring that they receive an overdose prevention kit which includes fentanyl test strips and Kloxxado. The second part is a plan of self-care for pregnant women who have an identified opioid use disorder, the goal is to keep families together and have their children thrive. The third part is providing Narcan education to all of the 16 cities part of this plan and ensuring that MHRS is able to secure Narcan and Kloxxado supply.

## New Business

- Approve Letter of Recommendation to the Board of Supervisors and MHRS Director (action item):  
Alan provided background information on the purpose of the letter, which is addressing BHAB's support for Board's efforts to support equity, diversity, and inclusion. Fred Williams made a motion to support the letter and Karyl Dupee seconded the motion. Jim Taylor expressed his concerns for current language on the BOS's BCC's template that is not consistent with supporting equity, diversity and inclusivity. The members withdrew their motions and decided to table to this item to another meeting.

## Committee Reports

- N/A

## Adjournment

- The meeting adjourned at 10:58 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 \*\**