

REGION II  
*Behavioral Health Board*

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

**December 16, 2016, 1:30 PM**

State Office Building – Third Floor Conference Room

website: [www.riibhb.idahopublichealth.com](http://www.riibhb.idahopublichealth.com)

**Phone Conference (Call-In) Number: 208-799-4332**

I. Roll Call, Welcome, and Introductions

**Board Members**

	<b>John Allen</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Beverly Fowler</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Deborah Lind</b>		<b>Skye Taylor</b>
	<i>Vacant parent of child with SUD</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Chris Goetz</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Joyce Lyons</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Laura Thayer</b>
	<i>Vacant, Adult Corrections</i>		<b>Jennifer Griffis</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Lisa Martin</b>		<i>Vacant, MH Consumer</i>
	<b>Eleanor Downey</b>		<b>Dr. Jefferson</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Elizabeth Patzer</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Teresa Wolf</b>
	<b>Cynthia Nunez</b>		<i>Vacant SUD advocate</i>	<b>X</b>	<b>Jim Rehder</b>		<i>Joyce Broadsword</i>
<b>X</b>	<b>Tammy Everson</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>Tom Lamar</b>		<i>Vacant, Adult SUD Consumer</i>		<i>Tom Stroschein</i>

**Others In Attendance:** Darrell Keim (LCRC), Dean Allen (BPA), Eric Peterson (Nez Perce Recovery Center), Bob Tippett, Nez Perce County Commissioner, Kirstie Smith, Jenny Tiegen, Nez Perce Recovery Center); Jennifer Shuffield (IDHW-BH), Rep. Mike Kingsley, Sen. Carl Crabtree, Sen. Dan Foreman, Rep. Caroline Troy, Rep. Dan Johnson, Alayna Getman (Optum), Cindy O’Brien, Darcy Lodge. By phone: Tammy Everson

II. **Approval of November BHB Minutes:**

Changes by Eric P. requests that reference to Ross Edmunds statement regarding Crisis Center Funding be on page 3, paragraph 4 be stricken. Motion to Approve– Beverly F. moved and Laura T. seconded. Board Approved.

III. **Financial Report (Carol M):**

No report this month.

IV. **Selection of Board Members to Expiring and Vacant Terms (Board):**

Jim reports that the Executive Committee met and approved the roster of nominees below be recommended to the Board:

- Tom Lamar (Latah County Commissioner); Bob Tippett (Nez Perce County Commissioner), Mike Ponzoso Lewis County Commissioner (4yr appointment)
- Jennifer Shuffield (IDHW--4yr appointment)

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- Corrections – waiting for Dept of Corrections appointment—(vacancy)
- Cynthia Nunez (School District Representative—4yr appointment)
- Sara Bennet (Private Providers Representative—4yr appointment)
- Darrell Keim (SUD Advocate—appointed to vacancy)
- Darcy Lodge (Parent of SUD Child—appointed to a vacancy)
- Diane Kovach (MH Consumer Representative—appointed to a vacancy)
- Jenny Teigen (Adult SUD Consumer Representative—appointed to a vacancy)

Tom L moved to approve the nominees – Joyce L second. Board vote unanimous

#### V. **Discussion With Regional Legislators (Board):**

**Sen. Johnson:** Chair of Senate Tax committee this year. Also serving on Resources and Environment committee and Agricultural committee. No longer serving on Judiciary Rules committee and JFAC this year. Also serves on some interim committees he anticipates wrapping wrap up in near future.

Legislative Issues: Working on legislation for changes to driving without privileges laws to help free up court time.

**Rep. Nilson-Troy:** No longer on serving H&W committee. Will be serving on Ag and Business Committee, Legislative Joint Oversight Committee – this committee is responsible for audits to state agencies. Also serves on Idaho Rural Council and Suicide Prevention Council.

Legislative Issues: Working with Sen. Burgoyne on bringing the ABLE Act to Idaho. Also working on Tax Credits to folks who would like to retrofit their homes so they can stay in home as they age.

**Sen. Carl Crabtree:** New to Idaho legislature. Serving on JFAC committee and education committee.

**Sen. Dan Foreman:** New to Idaho legislature this year. 30 years in US Airforce as an Officer (served in two different military conflicts), retired and went to work as police officer for City of Moscow. Serving on Judiciary and Rules Committee, Ag Committee and Health and Welfare Committee.

Issues: Wants to see tax cuts – feels Idahoans pay enough in taxes. Feels it is important for individual, family members, community, and finally churches/charities to step in to help individuals solve their problems – last resort should be the state.

**Rep. Mike Kingsley:** New to Idaho legislature this year. Served on R2BHB for three years. Serving on Health and Welfare Committee.

Issues: Wants to take BHB issues down to the state and fight for them (including R2 Recovery Center). Believes in Recovery Centers – sees them being very effective. Would like Recovery Centers to be able to do Preventative Work. Wants to fight for a R2 Crisis Center. Is concerned about Sober Housing. People coming out of rehab or prison system need alternative place to go.

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Jim gives legislators background on the board explaining we exist as a regional representation for individuals with Mental Illness and Substance Use Disorders. He explained the transformation process that began in 2010 and culminated in the combining of RAC and MH Board to become Regional Behavioral Health Board who is administratively supported by Public Health. R2BHB is made up of 22 members with very specific criteria of who will sit on Board. We become informed and then inform legislators on needs and gaps in regional behavioral health services. We apply for grants, work with organizations to fill gaps, and try to take care of these issues at local level.

Each year we try to prioritize for our legislators those projects that we feel are important to folks we represent. Our priorities for 2017 include:

- **Medicaid Expansion**
- **Crisis Stabilization Program for R2**
- **Crisis Transport**

Joyce and Beth presented Rural Crisis Stabilization Program. Chris gave a brief presentation on issue of crisis transport. Sen. Foreman spoke from Law Enforcement perspective on the need for security and transportation. Spoke about how covering security and transportation for mentally ill puts a strain on law enforcement resources. He stated he feels rather than investing in more infrastructure we have to develop a flexible response. Joyce shares that with Crisis Stabilization Services many times officers can be relieved of providing security by hospital personnel or contracted security providers. Sen. Foreman also states the reason the folks many times need to be transported by LE is because they don't have family members to transport.

Chris Goetz also spoke about need for additional secure MH beds for criminally mentally ill.

Jim asks Dean Allen to explain Managed Care – Dean explains that DHW contracts with BPA and Optum to manage Idaho Medicaid dollars spent on Outpatient Behavioral Health Services.

Sen. Crabtree asks the Board where our budget is for our R2 Crisis Stabilization Program– are we hoping to get funding for R2 Crisis Stabilization Program this year? Jim explains that we are if there is funding available for our pilot project. Sen. Johnson asks if H&W will back this – Joyce says she's mentioned it to them and they are interested in how our plan unfolds -- they feel it is a good proposal for our rural region.

Sen. Foreman states we are all being forced to deal with symptoms. He says the problem in our State, there is such a need for these services and asks why? Jim states it is because here in our State we don't emphasize prevention. Sen. Johnson says the one prevention tool we have is education.

Tom L. adds MH issues are largely human health issues. For the most part the individuals we are talking about do not have access to good health care. We need to address fundamental health care issues we have here in the State of Idaho. He feels it is within our power to do – at least it has been the last few years. We need to be addressing the 78,000 individuals who fall into the health insurance gap. He reports that County Commissioners meet every week to make decisions to cover individuals health care

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bills who are without insurance. Tom states he really likes the R2 Crisis Stabilization program because it engages each of the five counties. He states that supports this decentralized plan.

Sen. Foreman asks “why can’t people in our great state afford to pay for health care?” He believes it is an education problem.

Lisa Martin introduces herself and her role with our Specialty Courts and reports that approximately 80% of R2 specialty court participants do not have access to health care benefits. Further, she states “There are a number of people that are so ill that they cannot work.”

Chris G. states he has been talking with one of the southern Idaho Counties that has a Crisis Center and has asked how they are measuring it’s success. They have advised him that one measure they track is the number of MH Crisis calls to law enforcement – they are finding that as the Crisis Center gains momentum the number of calls is decreasing.

Jim R. comments earlier this month the US Senate and House passed the 21<sup>st</sup> Century Cures Act. A copy of the Cures Act Fact Sheet is attached. He feels this will impact the health care delivery system.

Dean A. mentions it is difficult to get prevention funded because it’s difficult to get outcome data to go with funding prevention programs. Sen. Foreman states that’s a failure of government because they should not always need to see hard data but rather take a leap of faith to fund programs based on common sense.

Darrell K. referenced the success of recovery centers. Latah County Recovery Center provided 5500 recovery visits first year.

Sen. Crabtree makes observation – “people seem to react best (especially financially) to a crisis. It’s difficult to get people to buy in when things are not crisis. How do we deal with the challenge of getting people engaged in the prevention and education phase?”

Jim asks Legislators to report on what they feel are the issues that the legislature will be addressing this year.

Sen. Johnson feels that budget and taxes will be on the agenda. Many folks are pushing for tax cuts. There is a surplus that folks will be asking for. He is hoping for more work on Justice Reinvestment and changes to prison system. Healthcare – he is not sure where that will go. He does believe there will be a push to address needs of some citizens in the insurance gap.

Jim asks if Rainy Day funds are back to adequate level. Sen. Johnson says they are rebuilding those funds but Idaho needs commendation because we were able to use those funds during years of shortfall. Jim asks about internet sales tax – Sen. Johnson does not believe we’ll hear much about that.

Rep. Nilson-Troy: Supports initiatives looking at how to recoup internet sales tax – those are owed. We just haven’t yet found a way to go after them . She feels that what happens on the federal level will

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impact closing the health insurance coverage gap and states one way to close the gap would be to use Millennium fund to pay for primary care for individuals without health insurance coverage. She has heard that the historical horse racing issue might come back and that there is a Citizen initiative over campaign finance which should require legislative response.

Sen. Johnson states that there is going to be a push to take some of the surplus and spend it on transportation (roads). Sen. Nilson-Troy feels there will be some looking at education expense and how Idaho funds education.

Sen. Crabtree feels nationally there will be a lot of changes that trickle down to state level. This may require a special session. For example, education may be funded differently, there may be changes to transportation since infrastructure seems to be important to President-Elect Trump

Sen. Foreman feels healthcare, education, and surplus budget will be issues in Idaho Legislature this year. He personally does not feel we should close the gap at least at this time until we know what the Federal government is going to do. He feels that there are a lot of problems with teacher evaluations and that will be an education focus. Regarding the Internet sales tax, he believes most people don't pay attention to it and the Tax Commission does not enforce it – it would seem then it isn't a priority so perhaps we should get rid of it. He feels we should lower Income Tax to let citizens keep more of their money and he'd like to see a little cut to sales tax – sales tax hits everyone. He would like to see the tax code streamlined but feels it should be done in his lifetime.

Rep. Kingsley states one thing he's been learning in Boise is that "there are two sides to toast". He's excited about working with other legislators to find a balance. He sees that as being his job – taking in all sides and making best decision. He feels that the Justice Reinvestment Act effects behavioral health at the local level.

Sen. Foreman feels that the Reinvestment Act took a problem (overcrowded prisons) and dumped them on the local level to deal with. They have defrayed the costs of building larger prisons and pushed them down to local law enforcement, probation and parole.

Conversation with Legislators ends as Jim wraps up meeting by thanking past Board members who are exiting board positions.

**VI. BHB Sub-Committee Reports:**

Deborah L. reports that Telehealth Mental Health Survey is ready to get out to 250 stakeholders. Will be collected and given to student researcher who will give a presentation to the board in February.

**VII. Next BHB Meeting: Thursday, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**VIII. Meeting adjourned at 3:17 pm.**

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