

REGION II  
*Behavioral Health Board*

**MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

**December 14, 2017, 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**

X	Sara Bennett	X	Diane Kovach	X	Lisa Martin		Mike Smith
X	Eleanor Downey		Kristy Kuehfuss		Cynthia Nunez		Skye Taylor
X	Beverly Fowler	X	Tom Lamar	X	Elizabeth Patzer		Jenny Teigen
	Chris Goetz	X	Deborah Lind	X	Mike Ponzozzo		Bob Tippet
X	Shannon Hotchner	X	Darcy Lodge	X	Jim Rehder		Joyce Broadsword
X	Darrell Keim		Theresa Shackelford	X	Jennifer Shuffield	X	Tom Stroschein

**Others In Attendance:** Tammy Watson (First Step4Life); Joyce Lyons; Terri Rainey (DHW-CMH); Summer Overberg (IDOC); Glenda Thomson (IDOC); Jim Crowley (IDJC); Sam Heisley (Problem Solving Unit); Cindy O’Brien (A to Z Counseling); Alayna Getman (Optum); Sen. Carl Crabtree, Sen. Dan Johnson, Rep. Thiera Stevenson, Rep. Dan Foreman,

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

Motion to Approve: Beverly F.

Second: Darrell K.

Motion Carries

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

In packet for Board to review

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

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

Adult Mental Health Consumer Rep	Diane Kovach
Adult SUD Consumer Rep	Jenny Teigen
Family Member of an Adult Mental Health Consumer	Deborah Lind
Parent of a Child with Serious Emotional Disturbance	Shannen Hotchner Megan Compton
Representative of Juvenile Justice System	Skye Taylor

Jim presented roster to Board explaining that The Parent of Child with SED was the only position with two applicants. He advised the Board that the Executive Committee met previously and had decided that they'd like to move Shannen's name to the Board for vote since she has only held the position a short time. A brief discussion occurred and resulted in Board consensus that Shannen would maintain the position.

Mike P. made motion to approve the roster as presented. Eleanor D. seconded. Motion to reappoint Diane, Jenny, Deborah, Shannen, and Skye carried. Jim will reach out to Megan to let her know the Board's decision.

Jim reported to the Board that Eleanor is vacating her position on the Board in anticipation of her upcoming retirement. He further expressed the Board's appreciation to the numerous contributions she made in her term on the Board. He further reported that no one has yet to apply for the position Eleanor will be vacating and asked the Board to inform qualified individuals they know who might be interested in holding a Board position.

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

Tom L. presents the RCR proposal to Board and Legislators and provides them with copies of the White Paper on the Project: Tom explains we are essentially asking for five crisis centers for the price of one by providing the services in each of the hospitals within our region. Tom further explained we have letters of support from many community partners. We believe this proposal will help reduce county costs for transportation and security. Tom understands the governor is invested in stabilization of behavioral health crisis across the state. R2BHB is hopeful our plan will be met with optimism. Jim explains this is essentially the same plan we presented last year but we have fine-tuned it and have prepared budgets. There are four Crisis Centers around the state that are currently up and running. Jim states we believe this model is much leaner than the previous models that have been funded. Jennifer S. adds she likes this model because it creates a tiered system and gives options to inpatient hospitalization.

Tom Stroschien says the support system will come from the Recovery Centers. Darrell provides a brief example of a warm handoff between this program and Recovery Centers.

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Sen. Crabtree expressed enthusiasm about the number of stakeholders pulling together on this project. He stated the point we will have to make is the Cost/Benefit analysis.

Rep. Stevenson added the information provided today by the Board, she is able to give her support. Sen. Johnson told the Board the RCR Project is ranked #1 in DHW budget. But warned long term sustainability will be important for us to demonstrate.

Jim then introduces the Overdose Prevention Proposal and asked Darrell to describe the law to the legislators. Darrell explained the intent behind the bill is to offer individuals involved in or witnessing a drug overdose the opportunity to seek 911 police and medical assistance without the fear of drug charges. He advises that the R2BHB is still working on the Proposal for next year.

Jim states the following are other issues the R2BHB will be advocating for in 2018:

- Continued support for Recovery Centers
  - Tom S. states Norma Jaeger is with the Idaho Supreme Court has volunteered her time to write grants for Recovery Centers. Recovery Idaho received a \$500,000 grant they will be using to provide warm handoffs to people as they come out of jail, hospitals, prison. These funds will also provide them with sober companions, workshops, classes to help them in their recovery. A big part of the grant is to designated to go toward the development of support systems for participants through a community of peer support.
- Darrell also mentions Rep. Kingsley's Sober Idaho bill. Darrell prepared an education piece he provided to Board and legislators.
- Suicide Prevention "Mental Health and You" App based on the Texas Model; it would cost roughly \$40k to fund and make it Idaho based.
- Adequate funding for SUD Services

Lisa M. introduces herself to the legislators and states in representation of Region 2 Judges, she is advocating against the priority payments proposal. She shares that Problem Solving Court participants pay program fees that help pay for a myriad of supports to the participants. Under the Priority Payments proposal those funds would those fees to restitution payments for victims. Rep. Stevenson reports she and some other legislators met with Judicial group a few nights ago – and they are very aware of the issues of concern regarding this issue.

Jim then moves the discussion asking the Legislators to give a brief overview of the items they will be working on in 2018.

**Rep. Stevenson:** Serves on the Ag, Business, Revenue and Taxation Committees. Professional Licensure will be a bill she will be working on and the Grocery Tax Bill will come up again. She also informs the Board that tax cut issues will be contentious.

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**Sen. Carl Crabtree:** Serves on the JFAC and Education Committees. He is interested in helping Public Health with their funding issues (equalizing funding between larger areas and rural areas), he is supporting the R2BHB Rural Crisis Response plan. These are the two main ones he wants to mention today.

**Sen. Dan Foreman:** Serves on the H&W, Ag, and Judicial Rules Committees

He states healthcare is going to be a hot topic in legislature this year. He is going to sponsor a bill in the Senate that would make it legal to purchase health insurance across state lines. He also states there is a projected budget surplus so what to do with the surplus will be a topic consuming a significant amount of time. He tells the Board he believes the state spends too much money. He wants us to be prepared for another recession. He believes people need to be empowered to do as much as they can for themselves and then only use the State as a backup. He wants to know what is driving the behavioral health crisis and states he wants us to try to find out what the causes are and provide long-term solutions.

**Sen. Johnson:** Serves on the Local Tax, Ag and Resources and Environment Committees. He believes changes to Fish and Game pricing will be an issue this year. The oil and gas commission will possibly be an issue, and within the Ag committee will be updates to rules. He reports export prices have been okay but there's no such thing as a free lunch – everything we do takes money. He warns, if we spend in one area it means it takes from someplace else. He states money left over can go away very easily. He further discusses changes to Medicaid Waiver programs and states that Idaho must be careful to have the debates and work out plans to address healthcare costs. The biggest issue in his mind, though, is the issue of taxes. He sees two big tax decisions in 2018. First, whether or not we are going to conform to the new tax code which won't impact budget for this next year but will impact revenues for future years. The second issue is whether or not we are going to have tax relief in this next year. This will take a good part of the session. The State is growing so budgets are increasing. He further indicates projections are tough to make based on all the changes at the Federal level.

Eleanor D. speaks to the Lt. Governor's push to do away with the Licensing Board. She asks legislators where they are at with this issue. Rep. Stevenson does not see the Licensing Board going away. She further states some of the licenses boards are very important others are quite inert. Rep. Foreman says he has some pretty strong issues with this because it falls within the realm of expanding government. He feels that government's primary role is to protect its citizens. He feels the tendency of government is to grow and grow. He does feel we need oversight and regulations in some industries but he feels we are growing too large. He indicates while we need do need some regulation he believes we need a lot less of it than we currently have.

Darrell asks the legislators how the R2BHB can help them. Rep. Stevenson gets a lot of feedback via text to her phone. She requests we let them know when there is something specific coming up that the legislator needs the Board's feedback on. Sen. Johnson says feedback before they vote is good 😊 He states he feels he has heard the BH message from our Board loud and clear. He says make sure we are getting the support we need from the top of DHW-BH. He says keep pressure on H/W. He says if they are not listening to the Board we need to let legislators know. Most of the money spent by the state

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goes to education and health and welfare. He also mentions he went to the Eagles yesterday and they are doing a fundraiser lunch for the Recovery Center. He says go support them.

Sen. Crabtree says that being invited to our meeting is very helpful. It helps them understand the genesis for these ideas that they are asked to support. He also tells us to call them or contact them. He says it is important for them to hear from people in their districts. He says it's not about what he thinks but it's more about what the constituents think and then supporting them. He ends by telling Board about a debate that went on for 1 ½ hours regarding hair care compared to a transportation bill up to spend \$760,000,000 was passed without any questions being asked. He encourages Board members to be in the know about what the legislature is doing and the bills they are passing into law.

Sen. Foreman states he is still pretty new to the legislative process. One of his biggest hurdles is there is so much info that comes in and creates an overload. He asks we assume he knows nothing about what we are presenting. He wants us to be very forceful in presenting our concerns to him. He wants to know why an issue we are supporting is good. He also encourages us to come to committee meetings. Please send letters, call, come to Boise.

Conversation with Legislators ends and Jim thanks them for attending.

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

CMH Committee: No report

Needs and Gaps: Eleanor says nothing report but this committee will need a chair

Housing: Lisa reports that their subcommittee met with Rising Sun. They are considering a house in Orofino. A brief discussion on the homeless was held and it was decided that the Board needs to invite representation from the Roc to come to these meetings.

Telehealth Committee: Dean reports that the State has contracted with UI to develop some telehealth programming for the SHIP Grant

Crisis Center: Mentioned earlier

Nominating Committee: No Report

Bylaws: No Report

Legislative: See reports above

#### VII. **NOTES:** Tom Stroschien comments on how important meetings like we just had with our legislators are. Tom reports that Health and Welfare employees are dedicated and he feels they need a thank you from us. He also mentions that we really need to make our Recovery Centers work.

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Dean reports that the Board needs to prepare something for the legislature to address the underfunding for SUD services because this will possibly have ripple effect to many other issues (housing, need for acute treatment, etc.)

VIII. **Next BHB Meeting:** Thursday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018

IX. **Meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm.**

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