

REGION II
Behavioral Health Board

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

April 8, 2021-- 1:30 PM

Zoom Conference Meeting due to COVID-19 restrictions

website: www.riibhb.idahopublichealth.com

Zoom Conference Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88680210367?pwd=MjhWVGtHa05mQllGYlFpZURvdGZJUT09>

1. Roll Call, Welcome, and Introductions

Board Members

	Dianne Baumann	x	Sharlene Johnson	x	Pam Lopardo	x	Skye Taylor
x	Sara Bennett	x	Darrell Keim	x	Lisa Martin	x	Jenny Teigen
	Terema Carlin	x	Diane Kovach	x	Mike Ponzozzo		
	Megan Comstock		Shari Kuther		Suzi Quintal		Dean Allen
	Kathy Connerley	x	Kathie LaFortune	x	Jim Rehder	x	Dustin Hibbard
x	Beverly Fowler		Tom Lamar		John Rusche		Todd Hurt
	Chris Goetz	x	Deborah Lind				

Others In Attendance: Cindy O'Brien, Eric Peterson, Lana Schuerman, Mike Wraith, Karen Kopf, Laura Thayer, Stephanie Beidman, Jen Griffis, Wendy Stoneberg, Shaun Hollace, Elaine Dufford, Teresa Shackelford, Joshua Gartrell

2. **Approval of March BHB Minutes (Action Item):** Mike Ponzozzo made the motion to approve the minutes, Lisa Martin seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.
3. **Financial report**—Carol/Perri: Jim Rehder reported that Perri sent out the budget items. We currently have \$16000 unexpended. \$9000 is for board activities
4. **Board activity fund request**—support for CIT training—Board **(Action Item)**: Darrel Keim made motion to approve \$3,000 for CIT, Jenny Teigen seconded the motion. No discussion on the motion. Motion passed.

Motion to amend the agenda for emergency timing issue for ICADD applicants to discuss increased funding for ICADD. Jenny Teigen made the motion, seconded by Sharlene Johnson. No discussion on the motion. Motion passed. Jenny presented the option of funding 10 scholarships to spend \$3,250. Jenny made the motion to increase the ICADD funds, seconded by Lisa. No discussion on the motion. Motion passed

5. **Interim Board appointment to fill H&W position vacancy**—Mike Wraith-- Board **(Action Item)** : Mike Wraith, the new region 2 interim Program Manager introduced himself to the board. Skye motioned to approve Mike as an interim BHB member until a Region 2 Program Manager is selected, Pam Lopardo seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion passed.
6. **ICADD scholarship applications open to apply for May conference**—Board **(Action Item)**: Previously addressed in #4. ICADD will be offered virtually this year, with 24 CEU's available. Registration is open now and it will take place May 25-26th.

7. **Mental Health Advocate Award nomination**—Board: There are two nominations this year. Darrell Keim and Tammy Watson have been nominated for the award. Jim will send out the information and each board member will choose one person. Votes will be sent to Caitlin to tally the votes. The deadline for voting is April 14th. The Region 2 MH advocate of year will be announced after voting is completed. Deadline to submit our decision to Empower Idaho is Apr 26. No discussion.
8. **Officer Election process/Ex-Officio appointment preparation**—Mike P/Jim: Mike Ponozzo reported the nomination committee includes himself and Beverly Fowler. The nomination committee will present candidates for the chair, vice chair, secretary and 2 at-large positions at the next meeting. Jim, Tom Lamar, Sara Bennett, Beverly Fowler, and John Rusche are currently the executive positions currently. If someone is interested in being on the executive board they can contact Mike or Beverly to make their interest known prior to the May 13 Board meeting.
9. **BH State Planning Council meeting Apr 29/30**—Jen and Jim: Jenny reported the planning council works with statewide BHB's and offers suggestions to the Dept of BH to where block grants are spent. They meet at the end of April for a 3 day meeting. There are 5 subcommittees and anyone can join virtually this year. Jim reported he plans to attend the April 29 & 30 meetings. This past year the information about our crisis center network was left out of the report and Jim was able to get it added before it went to print.
10. **Legislative update**—Tom and Committee: Kathie reported the legislature is very busy. Not much to do with behavioral health. Property taxes, education, transportation and election issues have been addressed. They indirectly impact mental health as property tax changes impact spending towards behavioral health, especially within Latah county. She discussed concerns about what is being discussed with regard to property taxes. There is a proposed income tax cut which would impact revenue sharing in counties. She reports feeling good that Latah county has helped fund CIT training. She discussed rescue money coming that can be spend on broadband, but she is concerned about the provider shortage.

Jim asked about medicaid expansion. Kathie reported the legislature has discussed revenue sharing. She reported there is discussion about the counties taking over the funding of public health, which would eliminate the indigent and Catastrophic Health fund down the road. Hospitals have asked to maintain the funds for Mental health holds. There are indigent funds savings but there are still expenses through behavioral health expenses, within Latah county 75% are mental health expenses.

Kathie discussed rescue funding possibly being used for housing but no decisions have been made.

11. **Recovery Community Center Latah/Nez Perce Counties**— Board: Darrell reported they were very busy last month. They had a record 65 recovery coach sessions. They are offering free short term and crisis counseling, offering 50 last month. They are looking at developing a harm reduction approach. They are also looking to remodel to include for counseling rooms for sessions.

Shaun reported Lewiston Recovery Center is busy. Kicking off their mobile recovery coaching sessions. Their sessions are increasing and they are looking to hire new staff.

Kathie asked about outreach into rural communities. Darrell reported they have been trying in Deary for the past 5 months, but only had 1 attendee. They are talking about trying a different town or drop this service and add additional services in Moscow. Skye reported Potlatch has historically done well within the area to increase services. Darrell reports that is the other town they have discussed to increase outreach. Jenny asked about the stigma about going into a center within a small town. He was partnering with a local church which also had some limitations, or perhaps COVID.

12. BHB Subcommittee Members, Reports and Board Discussion

- CMH – Laura reported they have not met in the past month. They are working to find a good time to get together.
- ABH: Shari is not at the meeting today. No meeting this past month, will meet next month.
- Housing: next meeting is May 10th, nothing new to report.
- Telehealth: Dean is not present today. No meeting this past month.
- Prevention: No meeting this past month.

13. Public Input – Eric Peterson was at a disability commission meeting and they discussed housing with someone from Spokane. He reported housing is a goal for the commission for options with the warming shelter. They are hoping to get people to work together on this issue. Gabe from the Willow Center is invested in addressing the warming shelter issue.

Wendy Stoneberg with Optum reminded that the Optum conference is next week on Tuesday and Wednesday with CEU's. <https://www.optumidahoconference.com/> Mental Health Awareness month – each region will get about \$1000 kites. They are asking to connect with agencies who would be interested in getting the information and kites out. Be resilient, lift each other up is the message. Interested in Kites for MHAM email: wendy.stoneberg@optum.com

Jen Griffis is on the Idaho behavioral health council and she did not have any specific updates. Workgroups have submitted recommendations and the report will be available and public comment time open mid May.

Lisa asked about the public comments and if there were main concerns. The meeting was recorded and the notes are available online. Comments were very diverse and the need for sustainable funding for crisis and recovery centers. Concerns about Medicaid reimbursement rates and connecting the disconnected pieces with the adult and child side. There were 100 recommendations that were presented but not all will go through, as they are only looking for a plan for the next 2-3 years, currently focused on foundational work.

Stephanie Beidman asked if anyone can get a hold of her if they know of someone trained in EMDR. She is having difficulty finding someone for referral. Her email is: newbeginningslewistonidaho@gmail.com. Karen from Optum reported that the care coordinator will assist. Pam Lopardo reported that there is an intern at the Moscow Recovery Center getting specifically trained in trauma care.

14. Next BHB Meeting – May 13, 2021

15. Meeting Adjourn