

REGION II
Behavioral Health Board

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

October 12, 2023-- 1:30 PM

website: www.riibhb.idahopublichealth.com

Zoom Conference Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81228514631?pwd=c2JseTdrV1hnbWtBaWRxSUdzdFBDZz09>

1. Roll Call, Welcome, and Introductions

	Dianne Baumann	x	Theresa Graber-Gimmeson	x	Tammy Lish-Watson		Jenny Teigen
x	Don Beck		Shaun Hollace		Pam Lopardo	x	Laura Treat
x	Sara Bennett	x	Shaun Hogan	x	Lisa Martin		
x	Megan Comstock		Sharlene Johnson	x	Shawn McDowell		Ex-Officio
x	Beverly Fowler		Beverly Kloepfer	x	Michelle Mendenhall		Theresa Shackelford
x	Vince Frazier		Shari Kuther	x	Summer Overberg		April Christenson
	Chris Goetz	x	Tom Lamar	x	Jim Rehder		Rep. Lori McCann

Others in Attendance: Brianne Hoffman, Astahna Atkins, Ryan Soukup, Karen Kopf, Kaylie Bednarczyk, Tammie Everson, Sean Waldron, Caitlin Rusche

2. **Approval of September BHB Minutes (Action Item):** Motion to approve minutes by Tammy Lish-Watson, Seconded by Michelle Mendenhall. No discussion. Motion passed
3. **Financial report—Carol/Perri:** Jim reported we have \$9504 in the activity fund. \$8004 balance if approve the request for the Nez Perce Tribal Fentanyl taskforce.
4. **Nez Perce Tribal Fentanyl Taskforce Activity Fund request—Sara/Board (Action Item):** Sara discussed the request and what is being planned. Don Beck made the motion to approve funding, seconded by Shawn McDowell. No discussion on the motion, motion passed.
5. **Appoint Commissioner Beck to BHB Appointing Authority—Board (Action Item):** Motion by Tom Lamar, seconded by Lisa Martin. No discussion. Motion passed.
6. **Board affirmation of Commissioner Frazier’s appointment to the BHB—Board (Action Item):** Appointing authority met and appointed Vince Frazier to the Board. Motion to affirm Vince by Shawn McDowell, seconded by Tom Lamar. No discussion, motion passed. Commissioner Frazier introduced himself to the board.
7. **Region 2 Rural Crisis Center Network update—Joyce Lyons:** Unable to attend. She will present in November. Jim reported what Joyce emailed to him—Crisis centers doing well and busy.

- 8. St. Joe's Hospital BH services update—Brienne Hoffman:** Brienne announced they have completed the remodel on the unit which will open up to 20 beds. The current struggles are staffing and providers, in order to reach the max patients. Currently they have 12 patients, which is the capacity of one provider. The majority of the patients are high aquity. Continue to work on recruiting staff. They are working to do direct admits from counseling offices and doctors offices, as a way to avoid the ER. One employee provider and two locums currently. They are working to recuit two new providers. Last month there were 45 admits. Some of the patients they have currently have been there for over one month.

- 9. Lewiston Recovery Center update—Tammy/ Astahna Atkins:** Tammy introduced Lewiston Recovery center manager hired, Astahna Atkins. Astahna reported she has 5 years clean, is a drug court alumni and she has been working to get the center open M-F in Lewiston and next week she will be getting the Orofino center open, which will be run by volunteers. Commissioner Beck asked how the center was funded and it was reported that the Lewiston/Orofino centers are funded by the State Recovery Center funding of \$150,000 per year. They are working to build a board of directors of 11 people. 6 must have lived experience or a family member. They are looking for law enforcement, school district, stakeholders within the community. Lisa reported there will be an application for board members and Tammy Lish-Watson will have that available starting Friday. Teresa asked how often they meet and it was reported once monthly for the whole board and one more meeting monthly if participating in a subcommittee. Asthana said they will extend operational hours when they get volunteers trained.

- 10. Draft of 2024 BHB Legislative priorities—Tom/Chris/Jim:** Jim read the priorities: 1)Establish Youth Crisis Centers in each Region, 2) We support Medicaid Expansion funding/continuation, 3) Recommend the amendment of BHB state statute to have Regional Idaho Association of Counties elected officials select county commissioners for their regional BHB's. 4) Legislative support for affordable housing and homeless shelters, 5) Consistent and helpful funding for State Recovery Centers, 6) Legislative and State Board of Education action/approval to expand Masters of Social Work (MSW) program at LCSC and U of I to help address Behavioral Health Work Force Shortage, 7) Loan forgiveness options for critical Behavioral Health positions including MSW, Nurse Practitioners, and Clinicians, 8)Action to promote school curriculum for Substance Use prevention and Mental Illness awareness.

Idaho Behavioral Health Council behavioral health set the following priotities: Increase the supply of behavioral health professionals, Prevention education and programming, treatment for behavioral health issues, recovery services.

Tom Lamar asked for the next steps and Jim reported the BHB legislative priorities in the past has been sent to legislators. Jim recommended sharing with Rep Lori McCann and Rep Marco Erickson and Tom recommended sharing with those who are interested. Tom recommended asking for names of those who would be interested in getting it written into legislation. Jim will share the legislative priorities with other State BH Board Chairs and work with Cheryl Foster, Idaho Behavioral Health Project Manager who communicated with Jim via email.

Tom discussed some proposed legislation for fentanyl trafficking and taxing vape products. The Board will continue to work on Legislative priorities to prepare for the December Legislative BH Board meeting.

11. Recovery Community Center Latah County—Shaun Hogan: Shaun reported the Oxford House has begun construction. Soups On Luncheon scheduled November 1st \$20 ticket, can be purchased at the center. Working on re-entry program with the assistance of Joyce Lyons to get policies and procedures so they can be shared to be replicated.

12. BHB Subcommittee Members, Reports and Board Discussion:

--CMH: No update available

--ABH: Shaun Hogan reported there was no meeting this past month

--Housing: Lisa Martin reports they met in September. Cynthia Nunez reported that access point has no more funds for motel stays and has limited stays for rental assistance. The Lewiston Community Fund received a block grant to pay past rent and to prevent eviction.

--Prevention: No meeting this past month.

13. Public Input: Summer Overberg reported no significant changes to services that are provided with the Dept. of Correction. Jim asked Summer to give an IDOC update on offender preparation for release and meicaid expansion enrollee data.

Ryan Soukup with Optum updated that the Community Closet's campaign. Give Feed the boot has previously identified a school, they are building upon that this year. They worked with the State Department of Education and identified schools that need supplies for their community closets. They will be delivering coats, clothing, hygiene, etc. Genesee and Orofino Elementary are within our region.

Sean Waldron reported next week is the State Behavioral Health Planning Council meeting and he will provide an update after that meeting. Jim said Jenny, chair of the State Planning Council will give a report at the November Board meeting.

14. Next BHB Meeting – November 9, 2023

15. Meeting Adjourn