

REGION II
Behavioral Health Board

MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

January 14, 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/81714543574?pwd=d1VVb3U1WXV1cGRscEJxUVpDa0JyUT09>

1. Roll Call, Welcome, and Introductions

Board Members

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

Others In Attendance: Caitlin Rusche, Shaun Hollace, Elaine Durford, Wendy Stoneberg, Steve Thomas, Tammy Everson, Melanie Patterson, Zlata Myr, Jen Griffis, Stephanie Biedman, Laura Thayer

2. **Approval of December BHB Minutes (Action Item):** Motion to approve by Tom Lamar, seconded by Dianne Baumann. Motion carries.
3. **Financial report—Carol/Perri:** Caitlin was present for Perri and Carol. She has no financial report to present.
4. **Appointment of John Rusche for Board Vacancy on Executive Committee-- Board (Action Item):** Jim asked John Rusche to finish vacant term on executive committee and he said yes. Chris Goetz made the motion, Dianne Baumann seconded the motion. No discussion. Motion carries
5. **Appoint Dustin Hibbard as Ex-Officio member—Board (Action Item):** No objections from the executive committee for Dustin to be appointed as an Ex-officio Board member. Shari Kuther made the motion, Kathleen Connerley seconded the motion. No discussion on the motion. Motion carries
6. **Appoint Shaun Hollace as Housing subcommittee co-chair-- Board (Action Item):** Lisa Martin recommended Shaun Hollace as the housing subcommittee co-chair. Pam Lopardo made the motion, seconded by Suzi Quintal. No discussion on the motion. Motion carries.
7. **Point in time homeless count—Steve Thomas:** Steve Thomas reported the point in time study for this year. There has been discussion at the state level for the plans to conduct the survey and how to conduct it in a safe manner. They will make an attempt to do the survey, with a team of volunteers, although this was not recommended for this year due to COVID. This year's plan is an abbreviated survey (18 questions typically), this year with 8 questions. They will send survey's to providers and offer the \$5 incentive card and he will get those cards mailed. January 25, 2021 this year is the survey date. They are asking providers to fill these out with clients they see. He will send survey card to the providers who requested them previously. He reported they are able to reimburse for expenses that are spent on

incentive cards. Steve's email: steve@familypromiselc.org. Typically they attempt to gather information from the major areas as well as the outlying areas. They are collaborating with people from the tribe to connect with people face to face. They are asking all providers working in the rural communities partner to gather information. Over the past 5 years the numbers have increased steadily as the team of volunteers have increased and there is a more accurate picture of the homelessness in the area.

8. **Board Activity Funds—Board:** Jim believes there is about \$8500 remaining for the year, ending June 30th. Board members are encouraged to find activities to support and not wait until June to do so.
9. **Legislative update—Tom/Jim:** Tom did not have any new updated information. He attempted to get on the Idaho association of counties legislative committees. Justin McLeod got on the committee and Kathy LaFortune is the alternate for the committee. She has a conflict for attending today.

Tom believes the legislature will be focused on funding for transportation and education but not to the current needs. Current concerns about education funding, as they are reporting federal funds could be subtracted from their state funding. Current positive revenue and concerns that there are going to be cuts to Medicaid spending. There is a focus to decrease Governor's powers during public health crisis. More information will be gained over the next few weeks. Tom wants to make sure that Medicaid expansion is fully funded, as there are over 100,000 people that are covered.

Chris Goetz reported there are conversations to cover Medicaid expansion by the counties as well as decreasing property tax collections.

No information about funding of the crisis/recovery center. Broadband expansion through the CARES act and some new funding becoming available through the CARES act. DIGB II is also involved in broadband expansion. Clearwater county has made huge strides in expanding access to broadband, through fiber optics.

Jim Rehder asked about Public defense system funding, and Chris Goetz reported the legislature wants the counties to use their indigent funding for this system. Tom Lomar echoed this information.

John Rusche reported there is some push to cap local budgets and to find alternative ways to fund Medicaid expansion. Ron Nate has found a constitutional argument the state cannot spend the rainy days funds that exceed what is brought in.

10. **Recovery Community Center Latah/Nez Perce Counties—Shaun Hollace intro – Board:** Darrell reported they continue to be fully opened. They are doing an outreach effort with the U of I. They have rented a small space called Vandal Recovery with some student programs. He is currently in the middle of planning for the fundraising breakfast. Last year he got \$50,000 in CARES money and there is \$33,000 allocated through the Governor through COVID funds. There was statewide request for RSS through Health and Welfare and they have not heard back at this time.

Shaun reported that First Step 4 Life is awaiting funding. They are moving into a smaller building to have more funds to support people in the community. They are working to spend their funding on the homeless and helping them with housing. They are moving into the new building at 903 D Street in Lewiston on February 1st.

John Rusche reported INNOVIA has another round of funding for non-profits they will be announcing soon. Stephanie Beidman reported that Shaun has been doing well in his new position and expanding their services.

No crisis center updates

11. BHB Subcommittee Members, Reports and Board Discussion

–**CMH**- Laura Thayer reported they met last month. Health and Welfare is rolling out a Child and Adolescent Needs and Strengths (CANS) collaborative in each region and a statewide learning collaborative. Next meeting today at 3:30.

–**ABH**- Shari Kuther reported there was no meeting this past month due to no agenda being posted. Last month there was no meeting. The plan is for the next meeting to be February 2021.

–**Housing**- Lisa Martin reported they met Monday of this month. There is a warming shelter committee that meets via zoom every Wednesday, through United Way. They have not secured a warming shelter as they are searching for a 501C3. There is some funding to access for the warming shelter. There are possibilities for sober housing in Orofino, opening March 1st. Orofino is in great need of sober housing.

–**Telehealth**- Dean was not present for the meeting this month. No report.

–**Prevention**- Sharlene Johnson reported they met on January 5th. They are planning to spend their funding and action plan for the grant. Discussed doing a virtual positive norms class to help learn how to do a positive norms campaign. They are discussing turning their billboards into bus clings to see if this is an option in our area. Discussed year 3 and some changes that have been removed from the mandates. They will be sponsoring a media campaign for youth and then sponsor a positive social norms campaign. They discussed a prevention app, mental health first aid for youth, QPR training, lighting areas of high need, brochures for underage drinking and methamphetamine and a town hall. Spring break sticker shock campaign is going out in March. Webinar series planned through the end of the year, starting January 26th. Tall cop campaign starting with POST credits for law enforcement.

Public Input- Reviewed the roster and the subcommittee chairs. Jim asked chairs to contact their non-Board committee members to determine if they are still interested in being engaged in the subcommittee. Needs and gaps need to be reviewed within the Subcommittees to be brought up to the board. Shari Kuther asked about the subcommittee members list as she does not have that current list. Jim said he and Caitlin will work with Perri to get the revised list out to the Board.

Jim Rehder wrote an op-ed for 6 regional newspapers on Crisis Centers, Suicide Prevention and Behavioral Health in general that was printed between Christmas and New Year; he has heard positive feedback.

Wendy Stoneberg with Optum Idaho reported Optum has their mental health initiative that will continue through 2021. Organizations are able to provide an 8 hour community course in mental health first aid and they will supply a trainer and pay for the materials for the attendees. Last week they did an interview with KLER and are interested in doing a series on mental health. They have been doing something similar with KTVB in Boise and they are reaching out to North Idaho. There is a landing page for the series and there are useful and helpful topics.

12. Next BHB Meeting – February 11, 2021

13. Meeting Adjourn- 2:20pm