

NOTICE AND AGENDA OF PUBLIC MEETING
DIVISION OF PUBLIC AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH
Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board

February 26, 2019

11:00 a.m. to Adjournment

Board Members: Amy Adams, Jason Bleak, David Byun, Lois Erquiaga, Pete Goicoechea, Fergus Laughridge, Brooke O'Byrne, Erika Ryst, Jeri Sanders, Bryce Shields, Matt Walker, Elaine Zimmerman.

Behavioral Health Coordinator: Valerie Cauhape

1. **Call to Order – Roll Call – Done.**
Fergus Laughridge, Chair (Valerie Cauhape conducts) Mr. Laughridge confirms quorum.
2. **Public Comment – None.**
3. **Approval of Minutes from Nov. 29, 2018 (For possible action)**
Fergus Laughridge, Chair – Did not see if minutes were mailed out. Asked Ms. Cauhape. Ms. Cauhape cc'd Mr. Laughridge on email, she did not receive minutes either. Trying to track down minutes, not posted on DPBH website. Item carried over to next meeting.
4. **Updates regarding behavioral health efforts in the region (Informational)**
Valerie Cauhape, Coordinator
Mr. Laughridge introduces Ms. Cauhape to group, as Ms. Gutman's replacement.
Ms. Cauhape – Describes background to group. Explains project of state-wide electronic resource guide project. She has already begun work on this project, with digital marketing strategist in Carson City. Due to weather, is staying engaged with plans in Carson City. Has submitted scope of work to the State, for fiscal 2020-'21. Includes maintenance of resource guide website; communications with board and public; has set up a RRBH facebook page; also opened and Instagram account, nvrurallbh; complete a board level strategic plan retreat – to discuss how the group wants to move forward, priorities, so there will be a clear action plan for her to work on. Has been working with coordinators of three other boards, most specifically Northern Board with Jessica Flood, as interests are mutual and possible partnership on various projects. Mentions AB 46 to be heard at Legislature next day; AB66 has been pulled (to work on language); AB85 is still being heard. Trying to keep board members updated weekly with email messages.
Mr. Laughridge – Thanks Valerie for update. Asks if there are any questions from board members.
Ms. Byrne – Asks Ms. Cauhape, that as she gets communications, if she would share with board.
Ms. Cauhape – States she will.
Mr. Laughridge – Commends Ms. Cauhape for the work she puts in for the board, behind the scenes, and exceptional communication. A positive, breath of fresh air to the board.

5. **Discussion regarding Assembly Bill 47 progress and next steps (Informational)**

Valerie Cauhape, Coordinator – Chief Ben Reed and Board Members

Ms. Cauhape – Few main points of bill: It applies to counties under 55,000 in population; pilot program will supply CIT training within those counties; will provide mental health professional for either in-person or telemedicine assistance and care coordination of people in crisis, that person would also be working in conjunction with law enforcement. Next component, non-law enforcement transportation to inpatient care in a way that is safe and dignified; and, four case managers who would be coordinating after-care once the person returns to the community. After reviewing data, problem with population criteria, could potentially exclude Elko County, while also bringing in almost of northern counties with addition of Nye and Esmeralda. Looking to submit amendment to language to counties with population density of 4.0 people or lower, would wrap in counties in region, as well as Nye, Esmeralda and Mineral, and would exclude other western counties. Would concentrate limited funds to those specific counties. Mentioned Assemblyman Sprinkle is now aware of action of bill, regarding refining of definition of population. Legal counsel will tie this back to prelude chapters of NRS will keep population at under 55,000, as per last census, which will include Elko county. Also, they are not interested in identifying specific counties (in bill).

Mr. Reed – After studying bill, need to rework the bill in however committee is comfortable in reference to population issue so Elko is not excluded. Wants to testify on bill; will be on vacation, hope to in future. Had CIT training last year, was one in December hosted by Winnemucca PD. Set another CIT training session for law enforcement and first responders for Sept. 16-20 at the Elko Police Dept. Believes bill will help each county, sheriff's departments. Non-law enforcement language in bill to be helpful, as will funding. Eager to get CIT group going in his area; hopes passing of bill will do this. The jail in Elko, now has telehealth in use. Met with CEO of local hospital, hoping to get involved with transportation aspect of AB47.

Mr. Laughridge – Expresses how bill affects all areas, not just Elko, as it creates pilot program of issues to be studied in region, and how it works into the strategic plan. Asks if any questions for individuals.

Ms. Erquiaga – Asks for clarification of amendment of population in bill. If changed, would only exclude Reno, Carson City and Las Vegas?

Mr. Laughridge – Yes. Hopes to get language on record to address rural to super rural counties, in intent.

Ms. Cauhape – In her conversations, the language does make an appropriation to DPBH, will then essentially be up to DPBH as to how program is built, how it is evaluated and how it's rolled out. This is the opportunity as the pilot project, to advise and guide DPBH in the process.

Mr. Laughridge – Thank you, Valerie.

Ms. O'Byrne – Do we know who will be testifying Monday and are we missing any key representation?

Mr. Laughridge – The primary presenters, after introducing to Chairman Sprinkle, are Valerie and I, and others, including Chief Reed. Goal is to give committee members background on what is being put forward. Talk about points of CIT, be brief but informative. Joan Hall from Rural Hospital Partners will likely speak that they are in support of bill. Senator Goicoechea will present the bill to the board. A power point is ready for presentation.

Ms. Cauhape – Also heard from Sheriff Watts in Eureka County with intentions to testify; Sarah Adler on behalf of NNAMI intends to testify with a few others who intend to send letters. Mentions second bill, AB191 with similar language. Will review for areas that may be problematic, will summarize and send out by end of week. Language parallel to AB47, but fiscal note is much larger.

Mr. Laughridge – Was approached to add this language to bill, chose not to after deliberation and consultation with others. Any other questions? (None)

6. Discussion regarding regional strategic plan (Informational)

Fergus Laughridge, Chair – Valerie Cauhape, Coordinator and Board Members

Mr. Laughridge – Encourages board to work together and support Valerie's robust plan and mission. Suggest and encourages retreat, open to the public to keep within Open Meeting Law. Discuss what group, as a region, wants to do.

Ms. Cauhape – Included in 2020 fiscal year grant cycle, reimbursement for travel for strategic planning retreat – did preliminary clearing with DPBH grant representative, feel it will go through. Recommends afternoon session, overnight at conference hotel, finish with morning session, then all return home. Asks for dates that would be good/bad.

Ms. Byrne – Likes idea of 2-day setup. Asks for general time of year.

Ms. Cauhape – Suggest late September to October, after grant cycle – before holidays with stable weather. Hotels at GSA rate.

Ms. Byrne – October works well for her.

Ms. Adams – October works for her as well.

Mr. Shields – October works as well.

Mr. Laughridge – Adds October for him.

Ms. Zimmerman – Schedule changes rapidly, cannot commit at this time. But will make event priority.

Ms. Cauhape – Will also look into spaces that have videoconferencing for those only able to participate in part of the retreat.

Mr. Laughridge – Agrees format on afternoon session, evening social with discussion, then return for morning session before heading home. Will go forward with this plan.

Ms. Cauhape – Will send on Doodle Poll to group for times/dates of retreat for availability.

Ms. O'Byrne – Building off comment of Mr. Laughridge, as a board, discuss prior to retreat, strategic planning in future call.

Mr. Laughridge – Thanks Ms. O'Byrne for addition. Owes it to community and persons served, to do best for them in strategic plan.

Ms. Cauhape – Forgot to mention, also working on CAST assessment with social entrepreneurs and DPBH, on what services are available and how they are or are not being utilized. Has done preliminary review of the tool, not sure of barriers to accessing existing services and exclusionary criteria. Will work with social entrepreneurs to try to collect some of this data will be useful information to have. Will look for other behavioral health data and collection of information from various sources.

7. Make recommendations for future date and times of next Board meetings (For possible action)

Mr. Laughridge – Reminds group is mandated and obligated to meet quarterly. Would like to schedule standing meetings.

Ms. O’Byrne – If group is to have recurring meeting, have it at standing time. Helps for planning purposes.

Ms. Ryst – Would like to have Doodle Poll to figure time that works for everybody.

Mr. Laughridge – Good response from group.

Ms. Ryst – Would like to schedule meetings a bit later in day. Asks for comment.

Mr. Laughridge – Confirms for 12:30-1 p.m. on Tuesdays. Asks for frequency of meeting; quarterly, at a minimum; even or odd months.

Ms. Adams – Suggests every other month as consistency would be helpful.

Mr. Shields – Agrees with Ms. Adams.

Ms. O’Byrne – At a minimum, every other month is good as it gives more opportunity to prepare for retreat and strategic planning. More can be accomplished.

Mr. Laughridge – Asks Valerie to create Doodle Poll for meetings. All in agreement best way to go.

Ms. Cauhape – Confirms fourth Tuesday of April will be date for next meeting, at 1 p.m.

Mr. Laughridge – By arbitrary suggestion, use fourth Tuesday of even month as meeting date. No further comments.

8. Public Comment

Mr. Laughridge asks if any comments from public or board members.

Mr. Reed – Mentions a hastily arranged meeting of Governor Sisolak and several of his assistants in Elko two weeks prior, he was off that day, his second in command, Captain Ty Trouten, received a call and went to Vitality, where Governor met with staff. Captain’s takeaway from that meeting was very positive. Much of today’s phone call (information) was discussed in person. Meeting was arranged by Ester Quilici, who discussed much of what Vitality does (for community). Capt. Trouten steered conversation to AB47, the need for the bill, and the problems with behavioral health delivery of services in the rurals. Governor indicated he was aware of AB47. Took it as positive interaction.

Mr. Laughridge – Thanked Chief Reed for report and extended thanks to Capt. Trouten taking initiative for stepping up for group. Asked for other comments. (None.)

9. Adjournment – Meeting adjourned.

Fergus Laughridge, Chair