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**NORTHERN REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2021  
2:00 pm to Adjournment**

Meeting Locations: Teleconference only

Teleconference: Call in number: 16699006833, meeting ID: 6665788969

Password: 488389

Teleconference weblink:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6665788969?pwd=MUNJRStSdTY5UDEExSct3ZnJSSFA1UT09>

Password: Northern

*Note: Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the chairperson's discretion.*

1. Call to order/roll call – Taylor Allison, Chair or Dr. Ali Banister, Vice-chair

**Members:** Taylor Allison (Chair), Dr. Ali Banister (Vice- Chair), Sandie Draper, Matt Law, Shayla Holmes, Dr. Daniel Gunnarson, Erik Schoen, Amy Hynes- Sutherland, Lana Robards, Sheriff Ken Furlong, Nicki Aaker

**Guests:** Colleen Lyons, MD, Sara Dearborn, Valerie Haskin, Helen Troupe

Quorum is present.

2. Public Comment: No Public Comment

3. Review and approval of amended minutes from and review and approval of minutes from January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021 and March 4, 2021.

Erik made motion to approve minutes, Ali seconded, no oppositions.

4. Review and vote to approve the Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board annual report for 2020.

Dr. Gunnerson made motion to approve, motion was seconded, no oppositions.

5. Update on Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board Bill, SB70, on modernizing and clarifying the mental health crisis hold process in NRS 433a, and proposed amendment. (Jessica Flood, Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator)

Jessica: we went to the workshop for the committee on Health and Human Services, there was some concern on the court ordered pick up. In the next couple of days, you should be able to see it posted on the LCB website. There needs to be one more amendment, hopefully Senator Ratti is willing to bring an amendment when it goes to the floor of the senate, if not we can try to pick it up on the assembly side.

6. Hear presentations on the following bills and vote to approve the Northern RBHPB chair or designee to send letters of support for the following legislation:
  - Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board’s Bill, SB 44 focused on improving paths to Nevada licensure for behavioral health professionals.
    - Valerie Haskin: Too few behavioral health professionals, Nevada licensure process too lengthy, need for care has increased during COVID and may last long beyond the “end” of COVID.
    - Alter language to streamline process of licensure.
  - Washoe Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board’s Bill, SB 69 focused on substance use prevention and peer certification and supervision.
    - Dorothy Edwards: Requires certification for Peer Recovery Support Specialists and Peer Recovery Support Specialists Supervisors
    - Substance misuse K-12 prevention education curriculum
    - Youth Risk Behavior Survey (YRBS) passive consent
    - Legitimize the substance misuse prevention coalitions legal status in statute.
  - Clark County Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board’s Bill, SB 56, focused on telehealth for behavioral health services.
    - Char Frost: The bill seeks to require insurance companies and Medicaid to cover telephonic mental health services.
    - This would require Medicaid to seek a Federal waiver to approve matching funds for audio services.

Taylor: With those presentations, I will open it up for a motion to complete a letter of support on any of the bills we have heard today.

Amy: I will make motion for SB 56, Dr. Gunnarson seconded, no oppositions.

Amy: I will make motion for SB 69, Ali seconded, no oppositions.

SB 44 still has a lot of moving parts so we would like to wait to see how it moves forward.

- Interim Committee on Healthcare’s legislation including:
  - SB154- Medicaid IMD waiver.
  - SB156- focused on expanding licensing for crisis stabilization centers.
  - SB390, focused on implementing 988, a central behavioral health

crisis line as an alternative to 911. (Taylor Allison, Chair, and Jessica Flood, Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator)

Amy: I would like to make a motion to write a letter of support SB156, Nicki seconded, no oppositions.

Erik: AB191 would approve Medicaid reimbursements for community health workers working under the supervision of a doctor, I would love to make motion to write a letter of support

Jessica: We would need to add this to our next agenda

Matt: I would like to add AB346 to our next agenda, this one is alarming to our providers

Amy: SB116 is a bill for the state to build the mental first aid program, I would like to learn more about that.

Dr. Gunnarson: SB146, I would like us to take a look at this one because of the verbiage.

Jessica: There's also some interesting opioid legislation going on. We will talk more about that in my update.

Shayla: AB374, the counties are concerned with section 9, it would need to be amended for verbiage for the counties.

Matt: I would like to speak on this one next time, AB180, this one would dismantle private Medicare plans in rural Nevada

7. Review and vote to approve a draft letter of support for China Springs Youth Camp. (Dr. Ali Banister)

Ali: The Governor has proposed a 1.2 million budget cut that would directly impact the China Springs and Aurora Pines camps. These treatment camps serve the youth who have drug, alcohol and mental health problems and are under supervision of probation. If the budget cut goes through this will be devastating, these cuts could potentially close the program or limit the beds available, there has even been talk of eliminating the girl's program all together. This is the last step for the youth before they are committed to the state.

Dr. Gunnarson; I would like to see some hard data on this.

Taylor: I will entertain a motion of support with the revision and adding the data?

Sherrif Furlong: I would like to make motion, Shayla: I will second.

Dr Gunnarson and Erik: I will support this only if the data supports the effectiveness of the program.

Discussion about data and an approach with a tiered budget cut and is there a plan for these kids if the budget cut goes through

Amy: how about with Shayla's recommendation we propose a letter of support stating that such a drastic cut would present a gap in services, the board would recommend a careful approach, a more tiered approach if the state decides to make the cuts such there is not such a huge gap in services.

Erik: I would be in favor of that.

Dr. Gunnarson: I can live with that

Lana: So could I

Taylor: So, it sounds like we have a motion from Shayla and a second from Amy, no oppositions.

8. **For Possible Action:** Develop strategic plan for Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board for 2021 based upon the priorities and recommendations previously approved by the board. (Board members and Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator)

\*Tabled until next meeting due to time constraints.

9. **Informational:** Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator update on current local, regional, and statewide efforts and initiatives including the Northern Regional Behavioral Health Communications committee and website and Nevada Crisis Now Initiative meetings. (Jessica Flood, Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator)

Jessica: Ive been meeting and what has been happening is our board is tasked with taking care of adults and youth, and there is a real gap in feedback and advocacy. The Division of Child and Family Services just got funding for a system of care grant for 12 million dollars, they have been working on the consortia on the gaps and needs of the community. There is a lack of access to care for youth for behavioral health treatment.

I just had a request for presenting to the community on dementia holds, this is another huge topic in the regions. There is a lack of training in how to interact with the individuals in best practices.

There is a ton of block grants coming down from Crisis Now. The state is planning on having a bunch of grant opportunities.

I think if we move strategic planning into its own meeting, we could have a bunch of presentations. I thought it would be really good to have a presentation from the mobile outreach safety teams and the assertive community treatment to hear about the success that's happening.

Finally, you guys approved the Northern Regional Behavioral Health Emergency Operations Plan, we would like to schedule a tabletop exercise.

10. **Informational:** Board member updates on behavioral health concerns, initiatives, and successes in their area of specialty or county. (Board members)

Taylor: Douglas county did our overdose tabletop exercises, and we encourage the other counties to get their providers signed up with open beds so you can see availability in real time instead of having to call the facilities.

Nikki: In Carson we did have Elyse give us a presentation on open beds. We encourage you to watch for the MACo list of mental health bills.

Amy: Our Mallory Behavioral Health Crisis Center expansion opened today; we are really excited.

Shayla: In Lyon county we have had good progress in setting our task force priorities and we have started drafting our communications plan, and we have some time scheduled with our sheriff's department and are producing some youth hold and youth mental health handouts.

Erik: The comment about us adjusting to scarcity is really sitting with me Jessica, I would say we are making progress and building capacity, but it feels far short of what the actual need is, there are so many things that have to fall into place, right now we are awash in need.

Matt: Im really trying to push mental health benefits with the insurance companies, I highly recommend looking at the American Rescue Plan, it passed under the Biden administration and is completely changing health care

Lana: 2 of our new MHP's are going to be actively participating in a new learning collaborative for child/parent psychology, it focuses on kids from 0-6 and their families

Jessica: Churchill is going to have Crisis Intervention Training on May 24<sup>th</sup> – 28<sup>th</sup>, so there will be a couple of spots available. Its good to see some of these programs get back on track.

11. **Informational:** Board member recommendations for future presentation and topics for board consideration. (Board members)

Taylor: We have a list of potential legislation to review if we have time and looking at priorities.

12. **Public Comment:** no public comment

13. **Adjournment 4:15pm**

On the internet – agenda and supporting materials

- **Department of Health and Human Services Website**  
[www.dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Grants/Advisory\\_Committees/ACPG/ACPG\\_Workforce\\_Development\\_Workgroup/](http://www.dhhs.nv.gov/Programs/Grants/Advisory_Committees/ACPG/ACPG_Workforce_Development_Workgroup/)  
**Nevada Public Notices:** [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov)

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If you need supporting documents for this meeting, please notify Stacy McCool, Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention, at 775-684-4295 or by email at [s.mccool@health.nv.gov](mailto:s.mccool@health.nv.gov).