
**NORTHERN REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES
June 2, 2022
2:00 pm to Adjournment**

Meeting held via Zoom

1. Call to order/roll call

Members Present:

Taylor Allison (Chair)
Dr. Ali Banister (Vice-Chair)
Nicki Aaker
Lana Robards
Shayla Holmes
Dr. Amy Hyne-Sutherland
Sandy Wartgow
Kenny Furlong

Members Absent:

Heather Korbolic
Erik Schoen
Dr. Robin Titus
Laura Yanez

Staff/Guests Present:

Dr. Amy Kegal
Dr. Sara Hunt
Jay Kolbert-Clausell
Jeanette Belz
Tyler Shaw
Linda Anderson,
Daria Winslow
Vanessa Dunn
Lea Case
Tray Abney
Lea Taucher
Sara Dearborn
Mitchell Moen
Carin Hennessey
Serene Pack

2. **Public Comment**

Ms. Allison welcomed Cherylyn Rahr- Wood as the new coordinator for the Northern board.

3. **Review and approval of minutes from April 21, 2022, and May 05, 2022**

Tabled to next meeting

4. **Presentation** Nevada Mental Health Workforce and Education Pipeline- Dr. Sara Hunt, Assistant Dean of Behavioral Health Sciences at the University of Nevada – Las Vegas

Dr. Hunt presented the Behavioral Health Education Center of Nebraska (BHECN) program as a possible solution to the workforce shortage of mental health professionals, recruitment, cost and improving the licensing process. Dr. Hunt also spoke about the program's conception, who has adopted the program and how it can be adapted for Nevada.

Ms. Allison – Can there be a collaboration between these education centers and states that have emphasized local behavior health infrastructure or how does that work?

Dr. Hunt – Yes. Nebraska started out as centralized under the University of Nebraska's Medical Center. They expanded their program and now have BHECN regional centers around their state. Nevada could incorporate this program with the regional mental health facilities and have a centralized location.

Ms. Rahr-Wood – How does the licensing board feel about this program and what type of incentives and scholarships are there to keep professionals in our state?

Dr. Hunt – The professional boards are very interested in the program. Scholarships and incentives are open for discussion.

Dr. Hunt can be contacted at <https://www.unmc.edu/bhecn>

5. **Presentation** on policy gaps and solutions for Community Health Workers in behavioral health settings- Jay Kolbert-Clausell, Program Manager of Nevada Community Health Worker Association (CHW) Student Training Team

Jay K-C explained that the CHW is an education program and not professional, licensed providers. They are trusted members of the community and provide front line public service. They offer certifications and have seen a substantial increase in enrollments. There are several facilities offering these training programs.

Jay K-C – Sites AB191 as having language similar to the needs of CHW to increase the number of supervisors for the program and is asking the board to use similar language to attain this goal. Not only did Jay K-C explain the type of supervisors needed, but costs were also presented and how much of a savings to the state this will provide.

Dr. Hyne-Sutherland – Do you have other sponsors for the Bill Draft Request (BDR)?

Jay K-C – This should not be sponsored by an individual. Strong support from the Board is preferred.

6. **Informational** Update from Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board Behavioral Health Housing sub-committee- Dr. Amy Hyne-Sutherland

Draft letter was voted on and approved to be sent out. Dr. Hyne-Sutherland will be mailing the letter on June 8, 2022.

7. **Informational** Discussion and approval of recommendations from Northern Regional Behavioral Health Authority subcommittee- Nicki Aaker

Ms. Aaker – Held first meeting in May. Still gathering information. Funding was discussed and where it can come from. Next meeting is June 10, 2022, at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

8. **For Possible Action** Board discussion and vote to approve recommendations for Northern Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator transition- Taylor Allison

Ms. Allison discussed the infrastructure and position may change in five years. No vote was taken.

9. **Informational** Regional taskforce updates:

Ms. Winslow – Minimal increase in mental health and substance abuse services. Looking at rebuilding taskforce and incorporating partners they no longer have. Discussed expanding to a Public Behavioral Health taskforce. Next meeting is June 22, 2022.

Ms. Holmes – Taskforce did not meet this week as members had other obligations. Next meeting will be in July. The focus will be on local integration for the 988 roll out.

Ms. Aaker – May meeting spoke with the MOST Team. April meeting with the subcommittee on Emergency Housing and they are working on a street outreach program. Working in partnership with Grant Denton in Reno. Case Management subcommittee has a business card to hand out with important phone numbers. They are also working on streamlining the application process. This will help eliminate duplicate processing.

10. **Informational** Future agenda items

Ms. Allison – Would like to list potential BDR's at the July meeting.

11. **Public comment:** There were none.

12. **Adjournment:** 3:16pm