

**NORTHERN REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD**  
**DRAFT MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 4, 2022**  
**2:00 p.m. to Adjournment**

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 - Chair Taylor Allison, Dr. Ali Banister, Vice-Chair Meeting was called to order.

**Members Present:**

Chair, Taylor Allison  
Vice Chair, Dr. Ali Banister  
Assembly Woman, Dr. Robin Titus  
Laura Yanez  
Lana Robards  
Sheriff Ken Furlong  
Erik Schoen  
Dr. Amy Hyne-Sutherland  
Shayla Holmes

**Members Absent:**

Nicki Aaker  
Sandy Wartgow  
Dr. Amy Kegel

**Guest:**

Kim Hopkinson  
Kendall Holcomb  
Veronica Portillo-Bradford  
Daria Winslow

- 2.) **Public Comment:**  
Mr. Charles Duarte, Nevada Director Public Policy and Advocacy. Mr. Duarte brought up the subject of no grant application. They are trying to get support from Department of Health and Human Services.  
Chair Allison stated this is something which is important and will be placed on an agenda for future presentation.
- 3.) **For Possible Action:** Review and possible approval of meeting minutes from July 7, 2022. Chair, Taylor Allison and Board members

This item was tabled. They will be reviewed at the September meeting.

**4.) Informational:** Update and discussion regarding implementation of 988 Crisis Response Line and Regional Crisis Response System. Presented by Kim Hopkinson, Social Entrepreneurs, Inc. (SCI)

Ms. Kim Hopkinson gave a presentation on the Crisis Response System (CRS).

Ms. Hopkinson gave a brief history on the CRS and spoke of the vision for the system and its mission. There are three main components to the Crisis Response System.

- a.) The 988 Crisis Line: Ms. Hopkinson stated 988 is live nationwide and will connect people with a counselor. The 988 system was made to work in conjunction with the 911 emergency system but does not replace it. The surcharge for the 988 Crisis Response System will be .35 and be applied to all phone bills.
- b.) The Crisis Mobile Team Response: With this, there are people who will respond, and go to an individual experiencing crisis.
- c.) Crisis Stabilization Centers: These are designed for people to go to for a safer place, other than an emergency room or incarceration facility. They help to de-escalate and address the individual's mental health concerns or thoughts of suicide.

Ms. Shayla Holmes inquired, knowing the only the only component set up right now is the 988 Crisis Line, are callers who need 988 and are needing an in-person response if the calls are being routed to 911.

Ms. Hopkinson stated, Crisis Support Services of Nevada (CSSNV) is following the same protocols as they do when answering the ten-digit suicide prevention line. They are regionally responsive as they can be. The 988 system currently does not have geolocation options. This has been discussed on a federal level. CSSNV still collects information which enables them to get a correct emergency response to the caller.

Ms. Holmes inquired, using 988 without geolocation, if there is a way data can be collected on a regional or regionalized basis as well as the nature of the calls.

Ms. Kendall Holcomb addressed Ms. Holmes inquiry by stating, the way it is routed through the Crisis Support Services, the lines cannot differentiate between 988 and the 10-digit suicide prevention lines. They can tell if there has been an increase in calls.

Ms. Hopkinson stated, 988 recognizes calls by area codes. If a caller living in Nevada has a phone number with an area code other than the ones designated for Nevada, the call will be routed to the state where the area code is assigned.

Ms. Holmes inquired if there is any update as to when the other two segments are scheduled to begin operating.

Ms. Veronica Portillo-Bradford stated the funding for the Mobil Crisis and Crisis Stabilization Centers is still actively being worked on.

Chair Allison requested clarification on local providers who want to receive referrals from CSSNV, had to be an open beds.

Ms. Hopkinson stated she does not have the information, however Ms. Hopkinson recommended local providers contact CSSNV for information.

**5.) Informational:** Review and discussion of administrative duties and Board responsibilities for 2023 legislative bill draft request (BDR) process. Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator

Assemblywoman, Dr. Robin Titus explained how the process works at the legislative level. First, the Bill Draft Request is sponsored, then sent through the senate, or it is sent as a Senate Bill Draft or as an Assembly Bill Draft. Assemblywoman Titus would then present and introduce the bill, then turn it over the Chair to finish presenting the BDR.

Assemblywoman Titus stated, since she is a part of the Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board she will make sure it gets a hearing once it is introduced to the floor. Assemblywoman Titus stated committee bills will get heard, there is no guarantee they will go further.

Ms. Cherylyn Rahr-Wood announced, the Board will be losing administrative assistance from the state as of January 1, 2023. They are organizing meetings and ensuring they are in compliance with the Open Meeting Law (OML).

Ms. Rahr-Wood stated the subcommittee looked at various concepts for Bill Draft Requests. After the Board determines which BDR they would like to work on, they will get it to their Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB) before September 1<sup>st</sup> and hand it in by September 1<sup>st</sup>.

Chair Allison suggested the board assemble a meeting regarding the loss of the Administrative Assistant, to see what this looks like for the five regions. If the board need to address this, it can be placed on an agenda for future meetings as an action item.

Ms. Rahr-Wood addressed the subject of physical locations for the board meetings. Ms. Rahr-Wood inquired of the board if anyone knows of any other locations that could be available in addition to the location at Technology Way.

Ms. Holmes stated Lyon County has several locations with Zoom capabilities which can accommodate the Board's meetings.

Chair Allison closed this item.

- 6.) **For Possible Action:** Discussion and decision regarding survey results for potential legislation for the Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board's Bill Draft Request for the 2023 Nevada Legislative Session. Presented by board members and Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator

Ms. Rahr-Wood shared the survey results from the subcommittee meeting held on August 3. The options on the survey were Regional Behavioral Health Authority, Community Health Workers, Safer Suicide Care and Supportive Housing. The nine subcommittee members responded.

Mr. Eric Schoen asked for clarification on the top ranked concept.  
Ms. Rahr-Wood stated it is the Regional Behavioral Health Authority.

Ms. Amy Hyne-Sutherland requested information about the last subcommittee meeting. Ms. Shayla Holmes stated at the last subcommittee meeting they went through and worked on what draft changes could be made to the existing 433C. The subcommittee wrapped it up with a recommendation to the Board to support enabling language in the amendment in 433C allowing for regionalization of Behavior Health Authorities. The board voiced their opinions on the various concepts selected for consideration for the Bill Draft Request (BDR).

Chair Allison entertained a motion to move forward with one of the proposals.

Ms. Holmes made a motion to move forward with an amendment to 433C creating a Regional Behavioral Health Authority model as their BDR.

Ms. Hyne-Sutherland second the motion.  
The motion was passed unanimously.

- 7.) **Informational:** Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator and board member or taskforce appointee updates on behavioral health concerns, initiatives, and success in their area of specialty or county on behalf of the local behavioral health taskforces. Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator, Board members or appointees.

Ms. Rahr-Wood stated the Regional Fast Team meetings are still going on. The Behavioral Health Crisis workgroup is still meeting the last Friday of every month. Ms. Rahr-Wood stated if anyone is interested in attending or part-taking in these meetings, let her know and she will send out an invitation.

Ms. Holmes stated the Lyon County Public and Behavioral Taskforce met August 3. The focus was talking about 988 and local integration. Their suicide protocol has been drafted. As a county, they will be working on updating their emergency operation plan.

Ms. Hyne-Sutherland stated they are working with quad-county partners. This is made up of nine agencies. They are working on a community health needs assessment survey and

is due by August 12. Ms. Hyne-Sutherland encouraged the other board members to take the survey.

Ms. Daria Winslow, Executive Director of Partnership Douglas County and Chair of Douglas County Behavioral Health Task Force gave an update from the Douglas County Behavioral Health Taskforce. They are now in the planning session. They were viewing their goals and priorities for the next three years and found what they need to revamp and what is being done for the youth and seniors. They are supporting work on SB390 in Douglas County and supporting the work Ms. Hyne-Sutherland is doing at Carson-Tahoe.

Mr. Eric Schoen stated in Storey County, they are seeing increased stress from increase economic pressures, which are being expressed in mental health, discomfort and trouble adjusting to these. There has been a record enrollment in the summer program. They are working on affordable housing with the Nevada Housing Coalition to attain a better understanding of how the process works and how they can work with developers to create possible projects.

Ms. Lana Robards announced New Frontier is moving ahead with their expansion project in Fallon. They have secured funding and plans have been drawn. They are in the process of clearing the environmental and are looking to the spring of 2023 to break ground. They will be adding a full medical suite and therapist offices and hope to expand the number of beds from 28 to 42 incrementally.

Chair Allison closed this item.

- 8.) Informational:** Next meeting September 1, 2022, at 2:00 PM until adjourned. Moving forward every first Thursday of the month at 2:00 PM until adjournment. Chair Taylor Allison.

Mr. Schoen requested for a new calendar with correct link.  
Ms. Rahr-Wood will send out the link.

Chair Allison closed this item.

- 9.) Public Comment:**

Ms. Miranda Bransing stated if anyone needs help with on-boarding or training with open Beds, she is the contact person. Please feel free to reach out to her.

Chair Allison closed this item.

- 10. Adjournment:**

Chair Allison adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

DRAFT