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**Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board  
MEETING AGENDA  
April 27, 2022  
1:00 PM to adjourn**

**In-person Meeting Location:** Community Conference Room, Elko Police Department  
1448 Silver Street, Elko, Nevada, 89801

**Online/Phone Participation:**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81622245601?pwd=MWl2Q0hWdmFITWp6cnBNU1dUU3dBdz09>

Meeting ID: 816 2224 5601

Passcode: 823316

Dial by your location

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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 (Fergus Laughridge), or designee*

**Members: Fergus Laughridge (Chair), Senator Pete Goicoechea, Bryce Shields, Jeri Sanders, Matt Walker, Amy Adams, Sean Burke, Amanda Osborne, Brooke O'Byrne, Steven Brotman, Sarah Dearborn, and Dr. Erika Ryst.**

2. Public comment  
*(Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting)*

3. Review and Approval of Minutes from March 23, 2022 ***For Possible Action***  
*(Fergus Laughridge, Board Chair)*

4. Discussion and Approval of Letter Regarding Behavioral Health Licensure and Workforce Concerns to the 2022 Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services ***For Possible Action***  
*(Fergus Laughridge, Board Chair and Valerie Haskin, Rural Regional Behavioral*

*Health Coordinator)*

As a part of the Board's role of providing advocacy to policy-makers regarding the needs and challenges of the citizens utilizing the behavioral health system and providers of services within the Rural Region, the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board will review and approve a letter for submission to the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Health and Human Services that outlines the Board's primary concerns and potential solutions to these issues.

5. Discussion and Approval of Letters to Licensing Boards Affected by Senate Bill 44 (2021) Regarding Further Concerns Regarding Licensure of Behavioral Health Providers ***For Possible Action***

*(Fergus Laughridge, Board Chair and Valerie Haskin, Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator)*

After hearing presentations from the four licensing boards affected by Senate Bill 44 (2021) during its March meeting, the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board will review and approve letters to the licensing boards that outlines the Board's continuing concerns regarding licensure processes and potential solutions to these issues. Four letters will be reviewed and approved, one each to the following licensing boards:

- a. The Nevada Board of Examiners for Social Workers
  - b. The Nevada Board of Psychological Examiners
  - c. The Nevada Board of Examiners for Marriage and Family Therapists & Clinical Professional Counselors
  - d. The Nevada Board of Examiners for Alcohol, Drug, and Gambling Counselors
6. Discussion and Approval of the Addition of a May Meeting of the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board to the Board's Approved Meeting Schedule ***For Possible Action***

*(Valerie Haskin, Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator)*

Due to the increased interest among state and local stakeholders to present to the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board, the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator proposes the addition of a meeting in May 2022 to the Board's previously-approved meeting schedule. The proposed meeting date is May 18<sup>th</sup>, at 1pm. The meeting would be a hybrid format, utilizing Zoom. The in-person location is TBD.

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7. Presentation of Current Nevada Medicaid Reimbursements and Programming for Behavioral Health Services, Specifically Those Serving Residents of the Rural Region. **Informational**

*(Sarah Dearborn, Board Member and Social Services Chief II, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Health Care Financing and Policy | Behavioral Health)*

This presentation will outline current funding mechanisms, reimbursement rates, programs, and services covered under Nevada Medicaid for behavioral health (including both treatment and programming for mental health and substance misuse or abuse). The presentation may also review the processes related to changing any policies, rates, or mechanisms for reimbursement for these services.

8. Presentations by Behavioral Health Providers Serving the Rural Region **Informational**

*(Fergus Laughridge, Board Chair, Valerie Haskin, Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator, and representatives from treatment provider agencies, as listed below)*

Representatives from the following agencies providing behavioral health treatment will present information regarding current volumes of patients served, types of services provided, most common diagnoses seen, current wait times for treatment, and any challenges experienced by the agencies:

- a. Presentation from Zephyr Wellness (Jake Wiskerchen or designee)
- b. Presentation from Nevada Health Centers (Steven Brotman or designee)
- c. Presentation from DPBH Rural Clinics (Michelle Sandoval or designee)
- d. Presentation from The Family Support Center (Renee Mayo or designee)
- e. Presentation from Vitality Unlimited, Vitality Integrated Programs (Ester Quilici or designee)
- f. Presentation from William Bee Ririe Hospital (Matt Walker or designee)

9. Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator Update **Informational**

*(Valerie Haskin, Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator)*

Updates will be given regarding the activities of the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator since the previous meeting (March 23, 2022)

## 10. Board Member Roundtable Discussion

*Informational*

*(Fergus Laughridge, Board Chair and Valerie Haskin, Rural Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator)*

Members of the Rural Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board will discuss their current activities or concerns related to behavioral health as they are encountered in their respective communities and professions.

## 11. Public Comment

*(Action may not be taken on any matter brought up under this agenda item until scheduled on an agenda for a later meeting)*

## 12. Additional Announcements

*Informational*

## 13. Adjournment – Chair (Fergus Laughridge)

AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

- **Department of Health and Human Services Website:**  
[https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/RBHPB/Board\\_Meetings/2018/Rural\\_Regional/](https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/RBHPB/Board_Meetings/2018/Rural_Regional/)
- **Nevada Public Notices:** [www.notice.nv.gov](http://www.notice.nv.gov)
- **In-Person Location:** Community Conference Room, Elko Police Department 1448 Silver Street, Elko, Nevada, 89801

We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. In the event of videoconference technical difficulties, the meeting may be conducted by teleconference from the same location. If special arrangements are necessary, please notify Rhonda Buckley, Bureau of Behavioral Health Wellness and Prevention, in writing please send to, 4126 Technology Way, Suite 200, Carson City, Nevada 89706 or by calling (775) 684-4081 before the meeting date. Anyone who wants to be on the advisory council mailing list can sign up on the listserv at [www.listserv.state.nv.us/cgi-bin/wa?HOME](http://www.listserv.state.nv.us/cgi-bin/wa?HOME).

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