

**NORTHERN REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH POLICY BOARD  
DRAFT MEETING MINUTES  
JULY 7, 2022  
4600 Kietzke Lane, Suite I-209, Reno, NV 89502  
2:00 pm To Adjournment**

Note: Agenda items may be taken out 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:**

Taylor Allison, Chair  
Dr. Ali Banister, Vice-Chair  
Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Committee Coordinator  
Laura Yanez  
Nicki Aaker  
Lana Robards  
Sheriff Ken Furlong  
Shayla Homes  
Erik Schoen  
Dr. Amy Hyne-Sutherland  
Sandy Wartgow  
Dr. Amy Kegel

**Members Absent:**

Dr. Robin Titus  
Heather Korbolic, Resigned

**Guests:**

Dr. Stephanie Woodard  
Sarah Adler  
Misty Vaughn

- 2.) **Public Comment:**

Ms. Robin Reedy, Executive Director of the National Alliance of Mental Illness of Northern Nevada (NAMI).

Ms. Reedy began by stating four years ago, supportive housing conditions were horrific. As a result of these conditions, there had been a lot of news coverage which resulted in a lot of work done to improve these conditions. Ms. Reedy went on to say, housing is the

number one issue they get calls on their help line. These calls come from individuals with mental issues, parents of adult children looking for a place and parent who are aging or dying and are worried about their adult children who have mental health conditions, having a safe place to live. Ms. Reedy continued by stating NAMI strongly advocates supportive living. The state has done everything possible without spending money to promote supportive housing but now is the time to take a political risk of pushing the envelope into getting revenue streams for long term supportive housing. This would be for people with mental health conditions, disabilities and also push for extremely low-income housing when supportive housing is no longer needed. This will give a quality of life to individuals they don't have now.

**3.) Review and Approval of Minutes from April 22, May 5, and June 2, 2022.**

Chair Allison motioned for the April 22, May 5, and June 2, 2022, meeting minutes to be approved.

Mr. Eric Schoen motioned for approval of the April 22 meeting minutes.

Sheriff Ken Furlong second the motion.

Ms. Laura Yanez would like to have the June meeting minutes to reflect that she was present at that meeting and not absent.

Ms. Nicki Aaker stated there is an error on page three of the April meeting minutes. It reads Pat Kashel. It should read Pat Cashell. There is also an error in the May 5 meeting minutes. On page two, last line it reads "in which pre-applications we". It should read "in which pre-applications are".

Chair Allison asked for a motion on the May minutes.

All said "aye."

None opposed.

None abstained.

Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Schoen moved to have the April minutes approved with the corrections.

Dr. Amy Hyne-Sutherland second the motion.

Chair Allison called out, "All in favor".

All said "aye".

None opposed.

None abstained.

Chair stated so moved.

Chair Allison asked for a motion on the June minutes with changes.

Dr. Hyne-Sutherland made the motion to approve.

Ms. Lana Robards second the motion.

Chair Allison called out "All in favor".

All said "aye".

None opposed.

None abstained.

- 4.) **Informational:** Nevada Behavioral Health Bill Draft Request Concepts, presented by Dr. Dr. Stephanie Woodard, Department of Health and Human Services Senior Advisor on Behavioral Health, Nevada Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public and Behavioral Health.

Dr. Woodard was unable to attend the meeting, therefore was unable to present.

- 5.) **Informational:** Presentation on policy solutions to address gaps in supportive housing. Sarah Adler, Belz and Case Government Affairs, Founder of NAMI of Northern Nevada.

Ms. Sarah Adler gave an overview, explained how the housing finance system works, and gave a possible solution for attaining revenue for the supportive and affordable housing crisis in Nevada. This could be done by raising the Real Property Transfer Tax from .10 for every \$500.00 to .25 for every \$500.00 on the sale of real property.

This presentation can be found on the state website

[https://dphh.nv.gov/Boards/RBHPB/Board\\_Meetings/2018/northern-regional/](https://dphh.nv.gov/Boards/RBHPB/Board_Meetings/2018/northern-regional/).

Ms. Shayla Holms stated the shortage of qualified professionals is one reason the supportive housing program does not work. Ms. Holms is in favor of raising the Real Property Transfer Tax to get the housing but wondered where money will come from for the wrap around services required. Ms. Holms does not think going to the counties is the best option.

Chair Allison inquired how the raising of the tax would impact a buyer or seller.

Ms. Adler responded by saying the Real Property Transfer Tax is different from county to county. Ms. Adler gave Clark County as an example by stating a large portion of the tax goes to the Clark County School District; a significant part goes to the state's general fund, a slice goes to local or county government and a very small amount goes to affordable housing. Ms. Adler pointed out that casino's do not have to pay this transfer when they sell property. She suggested that this loophole could be closed.

Dr. Hynes-Sutherland inquired how this would be distributed among the counties should this pass.

Ms. Adler acknowledged that a discussion would be needed about who in rural Nevada will take responsibility for the allocation of funds.

Ms. Aaker stated an increase in the Medicaid reimbursement rate could be helpful.

- 6.) **Informational:** Safer suicide care policy recommendations. Presented by Misty Vaughn-Allen, Office of Suicide Prevention; Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator.

This presentation was on Safer Suicide Care/Zero Suicide. There was an overview about the organization and what it does, data and statistics were provided and discussed where there are gaps in system and gave recommendations on how these gaps can be filled in.

This presentation can be found on the state website

[https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/RBHPB/Board\\_Meetings/2018/northern-regional/](https://dpbh.nv.gov/Boards/RBHPB/Board_Meetings/2018/northern-regional/).

- 7.) Presentation, discussion and decision regarding potential legislation for the Northern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board's bill draft Request (BDR) for the 2023 Nevada Legislation Session. Board members and Cherylyn Rahr-Wood, Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator.

Chair Allison inquired of the board to decide which concept they should support or should a survey be taken on the concepts presented in the handout and then make their decision at the next meeting.

The board decided to take the survey and make their decision at the next meeting.

Chair Allison tabled this item until the next meeting.

- 8.) **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. Cherylyn Rahr-Wood stated Social Entrepreneurial Inc. will be coming in to discuss the launch of 988. There will be a presentation regarding the Open Meeting Law. They will be reviewing their bylaws and possibly approve them.

The Helmsley Foundation Funding Grant announced they will be receiving iPads.

Ms. Rahr-Wood will be traveling the state during the month of July and disseminating brochures on Parents Guide to Youth Mental Health and Hospital Guide to Youth Mental Health Crisis Hold in Nevada.

- 9.) **Determine Date of Next Meeting:**

The next meeting will be held August 4, 2022, at 2:00 pm. The subsequent Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board meetings will be held every first Thursday of the month for the remainder of the year.

- 10.) **Adjournment:**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 pm.

DRAFT