

**MINUTES – APPROVED**  
**March 21, 2019**

**MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

February 21, 2019

3:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

275 Main Street, Suite 400, Watsonville, CA

**Present:** Bek Phillips, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Holly Heath, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

**Excused Absence:** Aimee Escalante, Hugh McCormick

1. Public Comments

- Richard Gallo – ambassador in Santa Cruz County with ACCESS CA. Friendship Line is a 24-hr crisis line for people with disabilities, seniors and their caregivers (800) 971-0016. Project Return Peer Support Network promotes wellness, personal growth and self-determination for people who have experienced mental illness by providing social opportunities, education, and community involvement. English (888) 448-9777, Spanish (888) 448-4055.
- Ann Hanly – provided background information. Stated that mental health reports on individuals disempowers them.
- Linda Leigh – volunteer with the Volunteer Housing Navigators. Assists individuals find housing. Reminder that once individuals are housed, they need special teams to go out and contact the individuals and make sure things are going well. Aware that there is a lot of money coming into this County soon for homeless issues and would like everyone to keep an eye on where the money is going and how it is going to be used.

2. Approved meeting minutes for December 20, 2018

Motion by Xaloc Cabanes to approve MHAB minutes for December 20, 2018. Second by Erika Miranda-Bartlett.

AYES: Bek Phillips, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Holly Heath, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Aimee Escalante, Hugh McCormick

Approved meeting minutes for January 17, 2019

Motion by Xaloc Cabanes to approve MHAB minutes for January 17, 2019. Second by Erika Miranda-Bartlett.

AYES: Bek Phillips, Erika Miranda-Bartlett, Holly Heath, Kathleen Avraham, Lynda Kaufmann, Rebekah Mills, Xaloc Cabanes, Supervisor Greg Caput

NAYS: 0

ABSENT: Aimee Escalante, Hugh McCormick

3. Standing Board of Supervisors (BOS) report, Supervisor Greg Caput:

- County received state grant of \$10 million to address homeless situation; needs to be spent over 2-year period and will be used for the relocation of the Gateway Plaza camp. Portion of the money will go to Salvation Army in Watsonville.
- Behavioral Health Facility in Watsonville – delay is PG&E.
- Current vacancy on the Mental Health Advisory Board.

4. Standing Behavioral Health (BH) Directors Report, Erik Riera: No report.

5. Ad Hoc Committee and Standing Committee Reports:

a. Jail Committee Report

- Continue to work on written materials to provide to family members and friends of individuals in jail so they have a better understanding of what is going on.
- Committee continues to exist – a lot of work still needs to be done.

b. Community Engagement Committee Report

- Kate to contact Erik regarding the townhall meetings to find out what the County has planned and how the MHAB can join/participate in the meetings.

c. MHSA Advisory Committee

- Passed out draft of MHSA subcommittee meeting minutes held in December. Unclear if this committee is an ad hoc committee or standing committee. Will get clarification from Susan Wilson from the California Institute of Behavioral Health Solutions.
- Recommendation from training is to ask County for summary of changes instead of 300-page document where changes are highlighted and flagged.
- 2 focus areas for the committee
  - MHSA Budget and Accountability – how decisions are made and followed.
  - Sustainable Decision Making – came about as a result of Second Story.

d. Membership Committee – no report.

e. Site Visit Committee – no report.

6. Presentation

Evidence-Based Practices: Lynda Kaufmann, Mental Health Advisory Board Member  
Presentation is to educate people on where to find more information.

- SAMHSA created new section called Evidence-Based Practices Resource Center <https://www.samhsa.gov/ebp-resource-center>. Website has a lot of information on evidence-based practices.
- The Cochrane Library [www.cochranelibrary.com](http://www.cochranelibrary.com) on mental health has a lot of research compiled. You can download specific reviews and see the quality of the evidence-based practices. There are different variations of the quality of reports that you are getting, how things are duplicated, all specific around behavioral health services, some on substance use, and some are combined. Some reviews are using research that are well done from 1964, and some poorly done research as recently as 2013.

7. Unfinished Business

a. Potential merger with the Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission

All Board Members to email Recorder any questions and concerns regarding the potential merger. Recorder will compile all questions and concerns and bring to the next meeting for Board discussion.

b. 2018 Data Notebook

All Board Members to email questions, comments and responses to Recorder for additional discussion and clarification at the next Board meeting.

c. Advocacy for Housing in Neighborhoods – discussion to be held at the next meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Rebekah Mills. Second by Kate Avraham. Meeting adjourned at 4:48 p.m.