

**MINUTES – Approved  
April 12, 2023**

**BUDGET COMMITTEE  
MENTAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD**

FEBRUARY 8, 2023 ♦ 4:00 PM - 5:00 PM  
1400 EMELINE AVE, ROOMS 206-207, SANTA CRUZ  
Microsoft Teams Meeting (831) 454-2222, Conference 281 207 487#

**Present:** Antonio Rivas (joined at 4:43pm), Jeffrey Arlt, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig  
**Staff:** Jane Batoon-Kurovski

- I. Roll Call. Meeting called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Jeffrey Arlt.
- II. Public Comments
  - Richard Gallo from Access CA – stated that he reviewed the 22/23 budget and found \$100K of MHSA money was used but doesn't recall if this went through the MHAB. Richard said he will send an email to the MHAB requesting documentation to verify that this did go through the MHAB as required under the Mental Health Services Act.
- III. Adoption of AB361 – Resolution Authorizing Teleconference Meetings  
Not applicable. The termination of AB361 is effective February 28, 2023.
- IV. Approve January 11, 2023 Minutes  
Motion/Second: Michael Neidig / Laura Chatham  
Not present: Antonio Rivas (joined at 4:43pm)  
Motion passed.
- V. Meetings with legislators or representatives in the County
  - Jeffrey went to the Pajaro Valley Health District Board meeting on 01/25/23. During public comment time Jeffrey notified them about the MHSOAC \$3 million MPath grant for the creation of MPath units.
  - Laura went to Watsonville Community Hospital and spoke with Chief Operations Officer (COO) Matko Vranjes. Intent was to ask him to apply for the MPath Program however Laura stated that they don't have an idea where money is coming from moving forward. The COO has two grant writers, one for Adults and one for Children's programs, but didn't think they could apply on time. MPath is when an individual goes into the emergency room and has been 5150'd or in a mental health admittance. Instead of staying in the emergency room, they go to the MPath unit which has an open floor design. There will be no more actions on this grant due to the timing and due date.
  - Board discussed how they can be made aware of major grants that are available and how they should have discussions with the BOS to be informed about the financing, how things are paid for, understand the calendars, grant process, etc.

VI. Review of Presentation

- Emailed 65 people twice and provided links to presentation. Eleven attendees joined the meeting including the Board, Supervisor Cummings, Andrea Tolaio, and members of the public.
- Presentation focused on program rather than financial process.
- Items to consider for future presentations - expand public outreach before the presentation, visit different boards around the county to make people aware, and possibly get a social media presence to use as a communication tool.

VII. Any Recommendations to the MHAB?

None.

VIII. New Business/Next Steps

- Jeffrey will identify existing crisis response programs and each committee member will contact one of them with the specific question of getting a budget report or financial statement on their first year of operations that shows where they are getting reimbursements from. The goal of that is to work with Karen and then Supervisor Felipe Hernandez to make sure he is well informed about the improvement of these crisis services (the call center, mobile crisis, and expansion of the receiving center).
- Antonio will attend the monthly Watsonville Community Hospital board meetings, and recommended that Watsonville Community Hospital give a presentation to the MHAB to provide an overview of what they do and what they plan on doing in the future.

IX. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 5:02 p.m.