I. Roll Call – Quorum present. Meeting called to order at 3:16 p.m. by Secretary Jeffrey Arlt.

II. Public Comments
   - Public member stated that he was banned from MHCAN for one year for taking notes as it was against HIPAA. He also complained against staff as they recently closed the kitchen and staff meetings are no longer open to the public.
   - Rachel Sotos – asked what the relationship is between the MHAB and the National Association of Counties (NACo). She said there is a lot of unanimity about what might be recommended next steps for stronger policy in the counties and wondered if there’s any daylight between what Santa Cruz County is thinking and the National Association of Counties, and she is particularly concerned because there’s so much corporate sponsorship in relationships with the National Association of Counties.

III. Board Member Announcements
   - Supervisor Hernandez’ response to Rachel Sotos’ public comment: The Board of Supervisors are members of NACo. Zach Friend and Bruce McPherson currently attend the NACo meetings and said he will be attending the NACo conference in July. Supervisor Hernandez also stated that he will be attending general workshops with the CA State Association of Counties (CSAC), which is the sister organization of NACo.

IV. Business / Action Items
   A. Approve March 16, 2023 Minutes
      Motion/Second: Antonio Rivas / Laura Chatham
      Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Jeffrey Arlt, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig, Valerie Webb, Supervisor Hernandez
      Abstain: Celeste Gutierrez
      Absent: Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp (joined at 3:31pm); Stephen Busath, Xaloc Cabanes
      Motion did not pass due to absences. The March minutes will be placed on the June agenda for another vote.
B. Approve April 20, 2023 Minutes
Motion/Second: Michael Neidig / Antonio Rivas
Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Jeffrey Arlt, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig, Supervisor Hernandez
Abstain: Celeste Gutierrez, Valerie Webb
Absent: Hugh McCormick, Jennifer Wells Kaupp (joined at 3:31pm); Stephen Busath, Xaloc Cabanes
Motion did not pass due to absences. The April minutes will be placed on the June agenda for another vote.

C. Vote to support the MHSA Innovations Crisis Now Plan as presented.
Motion/Second: Antonio Rivas / Michael Neidig
Ayes: Antonio Rivas, Jeffrey Arlt, Jennifer Wells Kaupp, Laura Chatham, Michael Neidig, Valerie Webb, Supervisor Hernandez
Noes: Celeste Gutierrez
Absent: Hugh McCormick, Stephen Busath, Xaloc Cabanes
Motion passed.

V. Reports
A. Secretary’s Report
- No attendance issues.
- Reminder to board members to log in completed trainings in the spreadsheet.
- Training opportunity on a YouTube site called 5 Lanes. It is posted weekly and associated with Crisis Now.

B. Board of Supervisors Report – Supervisor Felipe Hernandez
- No report.

C. Behavioral Health Report - 2023 to 2026 MHSA INN Plan: Crisis Now
James Russell, Director of ACCESS and Crisis Services
James presented on the county’s Mental Health Service Act Innovation plan. He stated that Behavioral Health is seeking the MHAB’s approval to present this plan to the Board of Supervisors for their approval.

The presentation covered:
1. MHSA Innovations -background
2. Primary Purpose
3. Primary Problem – Crisis Continuum Barriers
4. Why Crisis Now? System Barriers and Crisis Now Strategic Solutions
5. What Santa Cruz County has now and what Santa Cruz County needs
6. Implementation Plan
7. Evaluation Plan
8. Budget

Click here to view the presentation slides.

Karen Kern added that Recovery Innovations International (RI International) is providing the project management of this multi-county project with Santa Cruz County and Calaveras County. They are working with the Mental Health Services Oversight & Accountability Commission who oversees and administers the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA). RI International will be working with the County and the Commission to understand how a Crisis Now model works in different types of jurisdictions. The goal is to ramp up services over three years. The County will start off with the mobile crisis response by expanding teams, looking at metrics, and refining the budget. The goal is to get the approval from the MHAB to bring this to the Board of Supervisors at the June 27th meeting.

The MHAB discussed and voted to support the MHSA Innovation Crisis Now Plan as presented (see Section IV.C).
D. Ad Hoc Committee Updates
   1. Budget
      Discussed changes to MHSA. There are concerns around Governor Newsom modernizing MHSA and moving funds into housing. Also, the Fee-for-Service reimbursement impacts services that is funded through MHSA.
   3. 988 – the committee completed their objective to support the rollout of 988 (July 16th is the one-year anniversary). There will be a report in June regarding the rollout of 988.
   4. Ideal Crisis System – the committee has an action item regarding the Sobering Center at 265 Water Street, which was approved by the BOS to rebuild it.
   5. Community / Publicity – no report.

E. Patients’ Rights Report – George Carvalho, Patients’ Rights Advocate
   George did not attend the meeting. April report was provided.

VI. Presentation: Building Hope and Safety, Santa Cruz Grant and Suicide Prevention Activities
   Carly Memoli, Program Director, Applied Crisis Training and Consulting, Inc.
   -This presentation is rescheduled to the August 17th Meeting.

VII. New Agenda Items
   1. Vote Member-At-Large: Marina Archer
      The MHAB received clarification that a Member-At-Large must be a former board member, therefore Marina Archer does not qualify to be a Member-At-Large. As a result, the board discussed updating the definition of a Member-At-Large in the bylaws at a future meeting.
   2. Discussion and vote on letter regarding Sweeps, camping and parking bans and clearing of the San Lorenzo Park Benchlands.
      The Board discussed the letter and agreed that it should include the Watsonville Sweep. The revised letter will be reviewed and discussed at next month’s meeting.

VIII. Future Agenda Items
   1. Member-At-Large revision in bylaws
   2. Discussion and vote on revised Sweeps Letter

IX. Adjournment
   Meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.