



North Sound Behavioral Health
Administrative Services Organization

Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

October 9th, 2025

Board of Directors Members Present in Person:

- Barry Buchanan; Board Chair, County Council Member; Whatcom County
- George Kosovich, Community Services Manager, Designated Alternate to Peter Browning, Commissioner; Skagit County

Members Present via MS Teams:

- Jami Mitchell, Human Services Manager, Designated Alternate to Justin Paulsen, County Council Member; San Juan County
- Carola Schmid, Designated Crisis Responder, Designated Alternate to Dave Somers, County Executive; Snohomish County
- Darcy Cheesman, Legislative Aid, Designated Alternate to Sam Low, County Council Member; Snohomish County
- Malora Christensen

North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (North Sound BH-ASO) Staff Present:

- JanRose Ottaway Martin, Executive Director
- Lindsay Lopes, Deputy Director
- Kim, Nakatani, Senior Accountant
- Michael McAuley, Clinical Director
- Charles DeElena, Compliance Officer/Business Improvement Manager
- Maria Arreola, Sr. Administrative Assistant
- Joanie Wenzl, Admin. Manager/Clerk of the Board

Guests Present:

- Travis Dutton, Washington State Association of Counties

Call to Order and Introductions – Chair

The Chair called the meeting to order and had members and ASO staff introduce themselves.

Tribal Acknowledgement – Chair

[Tribal Behavioral Health | North Sound BH-ASO \(nsbhaso.org\)](http://Tribal Behavioral Health | North Sound BH-ASO (nsbhaso.org))

The Chair read the Tribal Acknowledgment and reminded the board members that Monday is Indigenous Peoples' Day

Revisions to the Agenda – Chair

No revisions requested

Approval of the September 11th, 2025, Minutes, Motion #25-43 – Chair

Peter Browning moved the motion for approval, Malora Christensen seconded, all in favor, none opposed, Motion #25-43 carried.

Comments & Announcements from the Chair – Chair

There were no comments and/or announcements from the Chair

Reports from Members – Chair

The members gave updates on the behavioral health happenings in their respective counties. Some spoke about their county's annual budget. Another county spoke about the success of the recent Legislative Summit.

Comments from the Public – Chair

There were no comments from the public

Report from the Finance Officer

Kimberly Nakatani, Sr. Accountant

Kimberly gave the Report from the Finance Officer

Report from the Governance Operations Committee - Chair

All matters listed with the Consent Agenda have been distributed to each Member for reading and study, are considered to be routine, and will be enacted by one action of the Board of Directors with no separate discussion. If separate discussion is desired, the item may be removed from the Consent Agenda and placed on the Regular Agenda by request of a Member.

Consent Agenda - Chair

Motion #25-44

- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from September 1st, 2025, through September 30th, 2025, in the amount of \$4,447,255.15.
- Payroll for the month of September in the amount of \$244,934.70 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$107,049.34.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, Motion #25-44 carried

Action Items – Lindsay Lopes, Deputy Director

For Board Approval

Health Care Authority (HCA)

- Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH)
 - This is an outreach program targeting individuals with a serious mental illness who are unhoused in Snohomish County. The current annual funding (10/1/2025 – 9/30/2026) for this service is \$207,459.00. North Sound provides a mandatory match annually of \$69,153.00.
- Peer Pathfinder Homeless Outreach Programs
 - Funding is used to support outreach and engagement services for those who are, or who are risk of homelessness and have or are suspected to have an Opiate Use Disorder and/or stimulant use disorder in Whatcom County.
 - North Sound BH-ASO has not yet received our contract for the next funding cycle (10/1/2025 – 9/30/2026), however, HCA has indicated that they anticipate the award amount to be the same or slightly higher. The current annual funding (10/1/2024 – 9/30/2025) for these services is \$131,480.00.

Motion #25-45

HCA-North Sound BH-ASO-PATH for the purpose of funding PATH services in Snohomish County. The contract term is October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, Motion #25-45 carried

Motion #25-46

HCA-North Sound BH-ASO-Peer Path Finder for the purpose of providing peer pathfinder services in Whatcom County. The contract term is October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026.

- The following two contracts are the downstream contracts for PATH and Peer Pathfinder services.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, Motion #25-46 carried.

Bridgeways

- Bridgeways is the provider of PATH services in Snohomish County. The annual funding amount is \$207,459.00 of grant funding and \$69,153.00 in matching State funds for case management services for a total of \$276,612.00.

Motion #25-47

North Sound BH-ASO-Bridgeways-PATH-24 AMD 1 for the purpose of providing PATH outreach and case management services in Snohomish County. The term of the funding is October 1, 2025, through September 30, 2026, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, motion #25-47 carried

Lifeline Connections

- Lifeline Connections is the provider of Peer Pathfinder Services in Whatcom County. The final contract amount is anticipated to be consistent with or slightly higher than the current contracted amount of \$131,480.00.

Motion #25-48

NS BH-ASO-Lifeline Connections-FBG-23 Amendment 8 to provide funding to the Peer Path Finder services under this contract. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2026, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract. The final contracted amount will be adjusted, if necessary, upon receipt of the executed agreement with HCA*.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, motion #25-48 carried.

Compass Health

- Compass Health has received approval from Health Care Authority (HCA) for two endorsed Mobile Rapid Response Crisis Teams (MRRCT) - one serving Whatcom County and one serving Snohomish County, effective October 1, 2025, for each.
- Endorsed teams meet standards for staffing, training, and transportation ensuring they maintain the capacity to respond quickly and effectively to the most acute calls received by 988 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.
- North Sound BH-ASO is working to determine the final budgets for each team based on information recently provided by HCA. Total funding will be received from HCA and the Managed Care Organization (MCOs), with provider reimbursement based on a compilation of several payment modalities.

Motion #25-49

NORTH_SOUND_BH-ASO_COMPASS_HEALTH_ICCN_2023 AMD 10 to provide ongoing funding for the Snohomish County Endorsed Mobile Rapid Response Crisis Teams (MRRCT) not to exceed the amount of \$652,150.98

NORTH_SOUND_BH-ASO_COMPASS_HEALTH_ICCN_2023 AMD 10 to provide ongoing funding for the Whatcom County Endorsed Mobile Rapid Response Crisis Teams (MRRCT) not to exceed the amount of \$506,682.99.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, Motion #25-49 carried

Sea Mar

- Sea Mar has been approved to open a 23-hour Crisis Stabilization Facility in Snohomish County, effective October 1, 2025.
- 23-hour crisis stabilization facilities provide short-term, intensive behavioral health support to individuals experiencing behavioral health crisis, offering rapid assessment, stabilization, and connection to ongoing care.
- North Sound BH-ASO received funding from the Health Care Authority (HCA) for this facility.

Motion #25-50

NORTH SOUND BH-ASO-SEAMAR COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS-ICN-23 AMD 2 to provide start-up funding in the amount of \$779,498.00 for the Crisis Stabilization Facility, effective October 1, 2025.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, Motion #25-50 carried

Report from the Executive Director

JanRose Ottaway Martin, Executive Director

JanRose gave the Executive Director's Report and spoke on the following topics:

- Draft NS BH-ASO's Strategic Plan: A vote will take place in November or December
- ASO's 2026 Budget and Amendment
- Legislative Summit/Future Sessions
- Endorsed Teams Update
- Crisis Metrics

Discussion followed on some of the topics above.

Adjourn – Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:16 p.m.

Next Meeting: November 13th, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanie Wenzl

Joanie Wenzl
Clerk of the Board