



September 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**Board of Directors Members Present  
in Person:**

- **Barry Buchanan**, County Council, Whatcom County
- **Cammy Hart-Anderson**, Human Services, Designated Alternate for Dave Somers, County Executive; Snohomish County
- **Jill Johnson**, Commissioner, Island County
- **George Kosovich**, Community Services Division Manager, Designated Alternate for Peter Browning, Commissioner, Skagit County

**Members Present via MS Teams:**

- **Cindy Wolf**, Council Member; San Juan County
- **Cynthia Foley**, Sr. Legislative Analyst, Designated Alternate for Strom Peterson, County Council; Snohomish County
- **Nicole Gorle**, Legislative Analyst, Designated Alternate for Nate Nehring, County Council; Snohomish County
- **Jami Mitchell**, Human Services Manager, Designated Alternate for Cindy Wolf, County Council; San Juan County
- **George Kosovich**, Skagit County Public Health, Designated Alternate for Peter Browning, Commissioner, Skagit County
- **Malora Christensen**, Response System Division Manager, Designated Alternate for Satpal Sidhu, County Executive; Whatcom County
- **Darcy Cheesman**, Legislative Aid, Designated Alternate for Sam Low, County Council; Snohomish County
- **Kara Allen**, Advisory Board Chair

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

- **Michael McAuley**, Clinical Director
- **Margaret Rojas**, Assistant Director
- **Darrell Heiner**, Senior Accountant
- **Kim Nakatani**, Accountant
- **Charles DeElena**, Business Improvement Manager/Compliance Officer
- **Maria Arreola**, Sr. Administrative Assistant
- **Joanie Wenzl**, Administrative Manager, Clerk of the Board

**Guests Present:**

Lori Fleming, Snohomish County Rual Behavioral Health Consortium

**Call to Order and Introductions – Chair**

The Chair called the meeting to order and initiated introductions.

It was noted that JanRose Ottaway-Martin (NS BH-ASO Executive Director) is on vacation today and Margaret Rojas, (NS BH-ASO Assistant Executive Director will be speaking in her absence).

**Tribal Acknowledgement – Chair**

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

The Chair read the Tribal Acknowledgement.

**Revisions to the Agenda – Chair**

No revisions to the agenda were requested.

**Approval of the August 8th, 2024, Minutes, Motion #24-38 – Chair**

Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Cammy Hart-Anderson seconded the motion, Barry Buchanan abstained, as he was on vacation during the August Board meeting, all others were in favor, none opposed, motion #24-38 carried.

**Comments & Announcements from the Chair – Chair**

The Chair said he is glad to see everyone today.

**Reports from Members – Chair**

The Board members gave updates regarding the behavioral health efforts and successes that are taking place in their respective counties.

**Comments from the Public – Chair**

There were no comments from the public

**Report from the Advisory Board**

Kara Allen, Advisory Board Chair

Kara gave the report from the Advisory Board’s September meeting.

**Report from the Finance Officer**

Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director

Margaret gave the Report from the Finance Officer.

**Report from the Governance Operations Committee – Chair**

During the Governance and Operations Meeting, the Warrants were reviewed and approved to be forwarded to the full board.

*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 #24-39**

- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from August 1st, through August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024, in the amount of \$5,765,840.04.
- Payroll for the month of August in the amount of \$199,056.82 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$97,653.37.

Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Cammy Hart-Anderson seconded, all in favor, no abstentions, motion #24-39 carried.

**Action Items – Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director**

**For Board Approval**

**Proviso 86-Behavioral Health Housing and Services**

- An additional \$738,833.00 was allocated in the ASO July HCA amendment. This doubles our annual allotment for Proviso 86 funds. These funds are intended for rental assistance

and/or behavioral health services for individuals involved with the criminal justice system. Effective date of funding availability is July 1, 2024.

- The following motion is the downstream contracts allocating the additional Proviso 86 behavioral health rental assistance and services in four counties, San Juan County is served by Compass Health with HARPS rental assistance funds.
  - Bridgeways Proviso 86 rental assistance and services in Snohomish County.
    - July addition of Proviso 86 funds \$45,000.00
    - Total Proviso 86 12-month allocation \$206,000.00.
  - Compass Health Proviso 86 rental assistance/services Snohomish County.
    - July addition of Proviso 86 funds \$45,000.00
    - Total Proviso 86 12-month allocation \$195,000.00.
  - Lifeline Connections Proviso 86 rental assistance and services in Skagit and Whatcom County.
    - July addition of Proviso 86 funds \$45,000.00
    - Total Proviso 86 12-month allocation \$227,935.00.
  - Lake Whatcom Center Proviso 86 rental assistance and services in Whatcom County.
    - July addition of Proviso 86 funds \$120,000.00
    - Total Proviso 86 12-month allocation \$270,000.00.
  - Opportunity Council rental assistance and services in Whatcom County.
    - July addition of proviso 86 funds \$120,000.00
    - Total Proviso 86 12-month allocation \$276,000.00
  - Pioneer Human Services Proviso 86 rental assistance and services in Island County.
    - July addition of Proviso 86 funds \$120,000.00
    - Total Proviso 86 12-month allocation \$302,935.00.

**Motion #24-40**

NS BH-ASO-Bridgeways-CBRA-23 Amendment 3 for the provision of additional Proviso 86 funds for rental assistance and services in Snohomish County. The contract term is July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NS BH-ASO-Compass Health-CBRA-23 Amendment 3 for the provision of additional Proviso 86 funds for rental assistance and services in Snohomish County. The contract term is July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NS BH-ASO-Lifeline Connections-FBG-23 Amendment 5 for the provision of additional Proviso 86 funds for rental assistance and services in Skagit and Whatcom County. The contract term is July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NS BH-ASO-Lake Whatcom Center-CBRA-23 Amendment 3 for the provision of additional proviso 86 funds for rental assistance and services in Whatcom County. The contract term is July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NS BH-ASO-Opportunity Council-CBRA-23 Amendment 3 for the provision of additional Proviso 86 funds for rental assistance and services in Whatcom County. The contract term is July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NS BH-ASO-Pioneer Human Services-CBRA-23 Amendment 3 for the provision of additional Proviso 86 funds for rental assistance and services in Island County. The contract term is July 1, 2024, through June 30, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, motion #24-40 carried.

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### **ARPA Federal Block Grant**

- The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Federal Grant award will expire on September 30, 2024.
  - The program has expanded services in Skagit & Island Counties.
    - Expansion of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in Concrete and Oak Harbor
      - Lifeline Connections \$60,000.00 for MAT services
    - Expansion of our Opioid Outreach teams in east Skagit County
      - Mount Baker Presbyterian Church \$235,000.00 for Opioid Outreach
    - Supporting a prevention specialist in the Coupeville School District
      - NW ESD 189 \$25,000.00 for School Prevention
    - Funding a Co-Responder with Skagit Sheriff's Office
      - Skagit County Public Health \$150,907.00 for Co-Responder Services
- San Juan County Recovery Café Peer Support
  - Lopez Island Family Resource Center-Heart & Soul Café \$28,260.00
- Juvenile Treatment Services
  - Snohomish County Superior Court \$51,000.00 for expansion of services for juveniles and families referred to Snohomish County probation.

### **Motion #24-41**

NS BH-ASO-Lopez Island Heart and Soul-PSC-23 Amendment 1 to provide additional funding for the Recovery Café on Lopez Island. The term of this agreement is November 1, 2023, with a new expiration date of June 30, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NS BH-ASO-Lifeline Connections-ICN-23 Amendment 5 to provide the funding for MAT 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.

NS BH-ASO-Mount Baker Presbyterian Church-ICN-23 Amendment 1 to provide funding for Opioid Outreach services under this contract. The contract term is September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on September 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NS BH-ASO-Skagit County-Interlocal-23 Amendment 5 to provide the funding for Co-Responder 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.

NS BH-ASO-NW ESD 189-PSC-23 Amendment 1 for the purpose of providing a prevention specialist in the Coupeville School District. The contract term is September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NS BH-ASO-Snohomish County Superior Court-ICN-23 Amendment 4 to provide additional funding to continue 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.

Cammy Hart-Anderson moved the motion for approval, Jill Johnson seconded, all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion #24-41 carried.

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### **Program for Assertive Community Treatment (PACT)**

- Compass Health has two (2) PACT teams, in Skagit & Snohomish counties serving up to 150 individuals. The need continues to expand for these services. Compass Health is requesting seven (7) additional rotating slots, currently they have (8) eight slots. The slots are reserved for individuals moving on and off Medicaid due to reoccurring spend downs. The cost of the additional PACT slots is up to \$358,548.96 annually, for a total of \$768,319.20 annually for 15 rotating slots.

### **Motion #24-42**

NS BH-ASO-Compass Health-ICCN-23 Amendment 5 to provide funding to add additional PACT service funds 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.

Peter Browning moved the motion for approval, Jill Johnson seconded, all in favor, no abstentions, none opposed, motion #24-42 carried.

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### **Introduction Items**

Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director

### **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 annual funding for this service is \$219,026.00. North Sound provides a mandatory match annually of \$73,000.00.

- 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. The annual funding for these services is \$131,480.00.
- Additional ARPA Peer Pathfinder funds are included in the amount of \$71,020.00 annually to specifically work with individuals exiting correctional facilities who have a serious mental illness or co-occurring conditions in Whatcom County.

**Motion #**

HCA-North Sound BH-ASO-PATH-24 for the purpose of funding PATH services in Snohomish County. The contract term is October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

**Motion #**

HCA-North Sound BH-ASO-Peer Path Finder-24 for the purpose of providing peer pathfinder services in Whatcom County. The term of the contract is October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025.

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

**Bridgeways**

- Bridgeways is the provider of PATH services in Snohomish County. The annual funding amount is \$219,026.00 of grant funding and \$73,000.00 in matching State funds for case management services for a total of \$292,026.00

**Motion #**

North Sound BH-ASO-Bridgeways-PATH-24 for the purpose of providing PATH outreach and case management services in Snohomish County. The term of this agreement is October 1, 2024, through September 30, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

**Lifeline Connections**

- Lifeline Connections is the provider of Peer Pathfinder Services in Whatcom County. The total annual funding for this service is \$202,500.00

**Motion #**

NS BH-ASO-Lifeline Connections-FBG-23 Amendment 4 to provide funding to the Peer Path Finder services under this contract. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract

Margaret Rojas gave an overview of the Introduction Items, there were no questions.

**Discussion Items**

Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director

- The NS BH-ASO Compensation Study has been added to the October Agenda for discussion with the full board
- Capital Requests will be added to the October Agenda for a discussion with the full board

An overview was given by Margaret Rojas regarding the discussion items that will be discussed next month during the October Board Meeting.

She added that the ASO's Proposed Budget will be prepared next month.

### **Report from the Director**

Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director

Margaret gave the Report from the Director

**Adjourn** – Chair adjourned the meeting at 2:26 p.m.

*Next Meeting:* October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

*Joanie Wenzl*

Joanie Wenzl  
Clerk of the Board