



Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda

September 14th, 2023

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

Members Present via Zoom:

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

Guests Present:

- 1. Call to Order and Introductions** – Chair
- 2. Tribal Acknowledgement** – Chair
[Tribal Behavioral Health](http://tribalbehavioralhealth.org) | [North Sound BH-ASO \(nsbhaso.org\)](http://northsoundbhaso.org)
- 3. Revisions to the Agenda** – Chair
- 4. Approval of the August 10th, 2023, Minutes, Motion #23-46** – Chair.....
.....Attachment
- 5. Comments & Announcements from the Chair**
- 6. Reports from Members**
- 7. Comments from the Public**
- 8. Report from the Advisory Board** (Available at Meeting) Attachment
- 9. Report from the Finance Officer** (Available at Meeting) Attachment
- 10. Report from the Governance Operations Committee**

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 (Available at Meeting)Attachment

Motion #23-47

To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from August 1st, 2023, through August 31st, 2023, in the amount of \$.

Payroll for the month of August in the amount of \$ and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$.

11. Action Items

For Board Approval

Conquer

Conquer was the successful bidder for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Request for Proposals (RFP) in the North Sound Region. Conquer will provide AOT services in Snohomish County. The annual funding is \$902,994.

Motion #23-48

North Sound BH-ASO-Conquer Addiction-ICN-23 to provide AOT services in Snohomish County. The contract term is August 1, 2023, through July 31, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on August 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Touchstone Behavioral Health

Touchstone Behavioral Health is a provider of youth services in Whatcom County. This contract is for youth outpatient services. The contract is a Fee for Service Contract.

Motion #23-49

North Sound BH-ASO-Touchstone Behavioral Health-ICN-23 to provide youth outpatient services in Whatcom County. The contract term is September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on September 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Evergreen Recovery Centers

ERC is requesting funding to start up Substance Use and Mental Health Outpatient services in Skagit County. The request for one-time startup funds in the amount of \$42,000.

Motion #23-50

North Sound BH-ASO-ERC-ICN-23 Amendment 2 for the purpose of providing \$42,000 in one-time start-up funds for establishing outpatient services in Skagit County. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Professional Service Contracts

The following contracts are being presented for approval. These contracts are being renewed on a Federal Grant from Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) an agency of U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The services provided are Medication Assisted Treatment and Opioid outreach to east and west Skagit County.

Mount Baker Presbyterian Church (MBPC)

The MBPC has been a partner in our opioid outreach program and our Federal Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) grant for Medication Assisted Treatment in east Skagit County. MBPC conducts outreach and engagement in the Concrete area and will be expanding into Sedro Woolley. The annual budget total is \$125,000, \$30,000 of HRSA grant funds and an increase of \$95,000 in Federal Block Grant Funds.

Motion #23-51

North Sound BH-ASO-MBPC-PSC-23 to provide outreach and engagement to individuals struggling with their substance use and/or mental health. The contract term is September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Lifeline Connections

Lifeline provides Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) and Nurse Care Managers. The annual funding for this contract is \$89,500.

Motion #23-52

North Sound BH-ASO-Lifeline Connections-PSC-23 for the purpose of providing MAT services in east and west Skagit County. The contract term is September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

NW ESD 189

The NW ESD provides a prevention specialist in the Coupeville School District. The annual funding for this contract is \$87,734.

Motion #23-53

North Sound BH-ASO-NW ESD 189-PSC-23 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.

Compass Health

Compass Health provides a Mental Health Professional as a co-responder with the Skagit Sheriff's Department in east Skagit County. The annual for funding for this contract is \$178,000, \$89,000 in HRSA funds and \$89,000 in Federal Block Grant Funds.

Motion #23-54

North Sound BH-ASO-Compass Health-PSC-23 for the purpose of providing a mental health professional as a co-responder with the Sheriff's Department in east Skagit County. The contract term is September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

12. Introduction Items

Health Care Authority (HCA)

This is the continuing contract for Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH). This is an outreach program targeting individuals with a serious mental illness who are unhoused. The annual funding for this service is \$219,026.

The continuing contract for 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. The annual funding for these services is \$117, 207.

Motion #XX-XX (introduction)

HCA-North Sound BH-ASO-PATH-23 for the purpose of funding PATH services in Snohomish County. The contract term is October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024.

Motion #XX-XX (introduction)

HCA-North Sound BH-ASO-K6453-23 for the purpose of providing peer pathfinder services in Whatcom County. The term of the contract is September 30, 2023, through September 29, 2024.

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 of grant funding and \$73,000 in State funds for case management services for a total of \$292,034.

Motion #XX-XX (introduction)

North Sound BH-ASO-Bridgeways-PATH-23 for the purpose of providing PATH outreach and case management services in Snohomish County. The term of this agreement is October 1, 2023, through September 30, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Lifeline Connections

Lifeline Connections is the provider of Peer Pathfinder Services. The annual funding for this contract is \$117, 207.

Motion #XX-XX (introduction)

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

- 13. DRAFT Report from the Executive Director** Attachments Available at Meeting
- o Annual BOD Member Response/RCW 43.160.040/Conflicts of Interest—Code of Ethics

14. Adjourn

Next Meeting: October 12th, 2023



Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda

August 10th, 2023

Board of Directors Members Present in Person:

- **Peter Browning**, Commissioner;
Skagit County, Board Chair
- **Barry Buchanan**, County Council;
Whatcom County
- **George Kosovich**, Public Health,
Skagit County; designated
alternate for Peter Browning,
Commissioner
-

Members Present via Zoom:

- **Darcy Cheesman**, Legislative Aid,
Snohomish County; designated
alternate for Sam Low, County Council
- **Perry Mowery**, Behavioral Health
Supervisor, designated alternate for
Satpal Sidhu, County Executive;
Whatcom County
- **Cynthia Foley**, Sr. Legislative Analyst,
Snohomish County; designated
alternate from Strom Peterson, County
Council
- **Jami Mitchell**, Human Services
Manager, San Juan County; designated
alternate for Jane Fuller, County
Council
- **Nicole Gorle**, Legislative Analyst,
Snohomish County; designated
alternate for Nate Nehring, County
Council
- **Carola Schmid**, Human Services,
Snohomish County; designated
alternate for Dave Somers, County
Executive
- **Pat O'Maley Lanphear**, North Sound
BH-ASO Advisory Board Chair

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

- **Darrell Heiner**, Senior Accountant, North
Sound BH-ASO
- **Margaret Rojas**, Assistant Executive
Director, North Sound BH-ASO

- o **Michael McAuley**, Clinical Director, North Sound BH-ASO
- o **Eric Gross**, Human Resources Specialist, North Sound BH-ASO
- o **Maria Arreola**, Senior Administrative Assistant, North Sound BH-ASO
- o **Joanie Wenzl**, Administrative Manager/Clerk of the Board, North Sound BH-ASO

Guests Present:

- o There were no guests present

Call to Order and Introductions – Chair

The Chair called the meeting to order and initiated introductions.

Tribal Acknowledgement: Chair

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

The Chair read the Tribal Acknowledgement

Revisions to the Agenda – Chair

The Chair asked if there were any revisions to the agenda. None were mentioned.

Approval of the June 8th, 2023, Minutes, Motion #23-40 – Chair

Note: There was no meeting in July due to summer break

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Perry Mowery seconded, all in favor Motion #23-40 carried.

Comments & Announcements from the Chair

- o Update on ASO Executive Director Selection

JanRose Ottaway Martin was selected as the new North Sound BH-ASO Executive Director replacing Joe Valentine. She will be starting work at the ASO on September 18th.

Reports from Board Members

The Board members gave updates from their respective counties regarding behavioral health and substance use disorder (SUD) happenings.

Jane Fuller introduced Jami Mitchell (who replaced Barbara LaBrash).

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public.

Report from the Advisory Board (AB)-AB Chair

The Advisory Board Chair (Pat O'Maley Lanphear) gave a summary of the recent AB meeting activities and referenced the monthly brief that is provided to the Board Members.

Jane Fuller, Jami Mitchell, and Peter Browning spoke about the open seats on the AB and their intention to assist in recruiting members in their respective counties.

Report from the Finance Officer-Margaret Rojas/Darrell Heiner

Margaret Rojas and Darrell Heiner gave an overview of the Report from the Finance Officer.

Report from the Governance Operations Committee-Chair

The Chair asked BOD members about updates on the spending plans for the opioid settlement funds that are being dispersed. The chair added that each month there will be check-ins on the topic and that the Opioid Abatement Council meetings will begin soon.

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

Due to the Board of Directors having no meeting in July, there are two months of claims paid along with payroll and associated employer benefits below.

Motion #23-41

- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from June 1st, through June 30th, in the amount of \$4,014,336.30.
- Payroll for the month of June in the amount of \$185,175.16 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$86,071.95.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Jane Fuller seconded, all were in favor, motion #23-41 carried

Motion #23-42

- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from July 1st, through July 31st, in the amount of \$3,977,431.05.
- Payroll for the month of July in the amount of \$211,759.33 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$87,453.02.

Jane Fuller moved the motion for approval, Barry Buchanan seconded. All were in favor. Motion #23-42 carried.

Action Items

For Board Approval

Snohomish County Human Services

Snohomish County has requested an increase to their annual budget in the amount of \$900,000 to align with actual costs for 24/7 mobile crisis outreach teams and crisis follow up services post interventions.

One-time Dedicated Cannabis Account (DCA) funds in the amount of \$150,000 are being added from a reserve of unspent DCA funds.

Motion #23-43

- North Sound BH-ASO-Snohomish County-ICCN-23 Amendment 1 to provide additional funds for the mobile crisis outreach teams and one-time funding for Dedicated Cannabis Account. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Jane Fuller seconded, all were in favor, motion #23-43 carried.

Volunteers of America (VOA)

VOA has requested additional funds to align with costs of providing 24/7 North Sound Regional Crisis Line services. The annual increase to their contract is \$443,740.

Motion #23-44

- North Sound BH-ASO-VOA-ICCN-23 Amendment 1 to provide additional funds for the North Sound Regional Crisis Line. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2023, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Jane Fuller moved the motion for approval, Barry Buchanan seconded, all in favor, motion #23-44 carried.

Tulip Tribes-Family Haven

Family Haven is a longstanding Federal Block Grant (FBG) provider in the region. The services are an outreach and engagement to at-risk youth on the reservation. The intent is to reengage the youth in school, behavioral health services and their tribal culture. The annual budget for this contract is \$74,850.

Motion #23-45

- North Sound BH-ASO-Tulip Tribes Family Haven-FBG-23 to provide funding to continue services for at-risk youth. The contract term is July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Barry Buchanan moved the motion for approval, Perry Mowery seconded, all in favor, motion #23-45 carried.

Introduction Items

Conquer Addiction

Conquer addiction was the successful bidder for the Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Request for Proposals (RFP) in the North Sound Region. Conquer will provide AOT services in Snohomish County. The annual funding is \$902,994.

Motion# XX-XX (Introduction)

North Sound BH-ASO-Conquer Addiction-ICN-23 to provide AOT services in Snohomish County. The contract term is August 1, 2023, through July 31, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on August 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Touchstone Behavioral Health

Touchstone Behavioral Health is a provider of youth services in Whatcom County. This contract is for outpatient services and youth 23-hour crisis stabilization services. The contract is a Fee for Service Contract.

Motion #XX-XX (Introduction)

- North Sound BH-ASO-Touchstone Behavioral Health-ICN-23 to provide youth outpatient services and youth crisis stabilization services in Whatcom County. The contract term is September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on September 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Mount Baker Presbyterian Church (MBPC)

The MBPC has been a partner in our opioid outreach program and our Federal HRSA grant for Medication Assisted Treatment in east Skagit County. MBPC conducts outreach and engagement in the Concrete area and will be expanding into Sedro Woolley. The annual budget total is \$125,000 an increase of \$95,000.

Motion #XX-XX (Introduction)

North Sound BH-ASO-PSC-23 to provide outreach and engagement to individuals struggling with their substance use and/or mental health. The contract term is September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on September 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

The Introduction Items above were reviewed and it was noted that they will come back to the Board next month for action.

Report from the Director

Margaret Rojas said that Jan Rose Ottaway accepted the ASO's Executive Director position and will begin work on September 18th.

Margaret introduced the ASO's new HR Specialist, Eric Gross. Eric spoke to his background and said he is pleased to be part of the important work that the ASO performs.

Margaret gave an overview of the Director's Report which included the following topics:

- New Executive Director
- Commercial Insurance Plans
- Opioid Abatement Council
- 86(a) Proviso Submission
- Western State Hospital & the Pechman Ruling
- Recovery Navigator Program (RNP) Restricted Funds
- Substance Abuse Block Grant (SABG) Reduction
- Medical Director Retirement
- BHSCC Network Adequacy Workgroup
- Crisis Services Update

Adjourn: 2:28 p.m.

Next Meeting: September 14th, 2023

Health Care Authority (HCA) TEAMonitoring

HCA conducted the annual TEAMonitoring, we did extremely well in all categories, with a few technical findings. Our Final Report will be available on October 1, 2023, and our Corrective Action Plan is due on November 22, 2023.

Opioid Abatement Council

North Sound has scheduled the first meeting of the OAC, the meeting is scheduled for October 5, 2023, from 1PM-2PM.

Western State Hospital & the Pechman Ruling Update (Attachment I)

Since our last update 22 counties, including Skagit, Snohomish, Island & Whatcom, have filed and injunction in Pierce County. Currently we do not know the status of the lawsuit. In the meantime, Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) has acquired Cascade Hospital, which closed in July, it's our understanding they will be ramping up beds over the next few months, the facility has the capacity of 100+ beds.

DSHS has sent out information to the courts and DCR agencies instructing the DCR agencies that they will be required to go into the jails to conduct an ITA evaluation. The attachment provides guidance to the ASOs on the process and acknowledging the added burden to our DCR system. So far, Snohomish County DCRs are the only team to date called out to provide the evaluations in jail. Placement for the individuals remains a difficult task until more beds open.

Touchstone Behavioral Health

A 23-hour youth relief center facility in Whatcom County has been built. The provider, Touchstone, is currently negotiating with the Managed Care Organizations. North Sound will be entering a contract with Touchstone for youth outpatient services but will not be adding the 23-relief center until we credential the facility in Everson. We believe this service is a needed addition to the continuum of care in the North Sound region and are hopeful it is successful.

ASO Funding

The ASOs and lobbyist Brad Banks are preparing for the next legislative session. Because it's a supplemental session we do not anticipate much change to our funding allocations. We are developing strategies to discuss different funding mechanisms, such as direct payment, building more flexibility into our funding allotments and enhancing our role as a funder, i.e., Co-Responder programs. The discussion is in the beginning stages, we do not anticipate any changes this session.

988/Regional Crisis Lines (RCL) Alignment (Attachment II)

The ASO Administrators have come up with three priorities to have effective alignment of the 988 and RCLs. For now, Department of Health and Health Care Authority are amenable to the two lines coexisting for the near future.

Crisis Services Update (Attachment III)

- Attached is the crisis dashboard, services appear stable with no fluctuations to note. The county specific data is attached as well.

DRAFT