



Board of Directors

Hybrid Meeting Agenda

October 13th, 2022

Board of Directors Members Present:

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

Guests Present:

1. **Call to Order and Introductions** – Chair
2. **Revisions to the Agenda** – Chair
3. **Approval of the September 8th, 2022, Minutes, Motion #22-52**– Chair.....
Attachment
4. **Comments & Announcements from the Chair**
5. **Reports from Members**
6. **Comments from the Public**
7. **Brad Banks, Update on Legislative Priorities**
8. **Report from the Advisory Board** ([Available at Meeting](#)) Attachment
9. **Annual Compliance Training, Charles DeElena** ([Available at Meeting](#)).... Attachment
10. **Report from the Finance Officer** ([Available at Meeting](#)) Attachment
11. **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 #22-53

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

12. Action Items

For Board Approval

Summary

During the September 8th Board Meeting, **Motion # 22-49** was tabled. Discussion will take place during the 10/13/22 Governance & Operations Meeting

Summary

Cumming Management Group

Cumming Management Group and Percival Health Advisors are embarking on the next phases of the Behavioral Health Needs Assessment. Phase I included Project Mobilization and Initial Workplan in the amount of \$12,000.

The next phases will consist of:

- Market & Strategic Priorities
- Demographics, Volume Projections & Gap Analysis
- Final Report

Motion #22-54

- North Sound BH-ASO-Cumming Management Group-22 Amendment 1 for the purpose of moving forward with phase two (2) and three (3) of the Needs Assessment. The funding for phases two and three is \$51,000 for a total on this contract of \$63,000.

Summary

Compass Health-Child Youth Mobile Crisis Outreach Team

Compass Health was the successful bidder for the team. There will be two teams, one serving Skagit & Whatcom Counties and one team serving Snohomish County. The startup funding for the program is \$494,463.30

Motion #22-55

- North Sound BH-ASO-Compass Health-ICCN-19-22 Amendment 10 for the purpose of providing the funding and program requirements for the new Child Youth Mobile Crisis Outreach Teams. The contract term is July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2023, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2023, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Summary:

HRSA Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) SAMHSA Grant

The contracts listed below are participating in the HRSA Grant MAT services in Skagit and Island Counties. This is a renewable three (3) year Federal Grant.

NW Educational Service District (NW ESD) 189

Motion #22-56

- North Sound BH-ASO-NS WED 189-PSC-22 for the purpose of providing a student assistance/prevention intervention specialist in the Coupeville School District. The maximum consideration on this contract is \$87,834 for a 12-month period.

Compass Health

Motion #22-57

- North Sound BH-ASO-Compass Health-PSC-22 for the purpose of providing a Behavioral Health imbedded with Law Enforcement in East Skagit County. The maximum consideration on this contract is \$89,000 for a 12-month period.

Lifeline Connections

Motion #22-58

- North Sound BH-ASO-Lifeline Connections -PSC-22 for the purpose of providing a Nursing Care Manager. The maximum consideration on this contract is \$89,500 for a 12-month period.

Mount Baker Presbyterian Church (MBPC)

Motion #22-59

- North Sound BH-ASO-MBPC-PSC-22 for the purpose of providing and half time Recovery Support Specialist in East Skagit County. The maximum consideration on this contract is \$30,000 for a 12-month period.

Summary:

Holman Recovery Center

Holman Recovery Center is a substance use disorder (SUD) residential service provider in the North Sound Region. Holman Recovery Center was credentialed by North Sound BH-ASO in April 2022.

Motion #22-60

- North Sound BH-ASO-ICN-22 for the provision of SUD residential services. This is a fee for service contract with a term of January 1, 2023, through January 1, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

13. Report from the Executive Director ([Attachments available at meeting](#))

14. Adjourn

Next Meeting: November 10th, 2022



Board of Directors

Hybrid Meeting Agenda

September 8th, 2022

Board of Directors Members Present:

- **Cindy Wolf**, Council Member, San Juan County; Vice Chair
- **Cammy Hart-Anderson**, Snohomish County Human Services; designated alternate for Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive
- **Pat O'Maley Lanphear**, North Sound BH-ASO Advisory Board, Vice Chair
- **Jill Johnson**, Commissioner, Island County
- **Sam Low**, County Council; Snohomish County
- **Perry Mowery**, Behavioral Health Supervisor, Whatcom County; designated alternate for Satpal Sidhu
- **Kathy Kershner**, Whatcom County Council
- **George Kosovich, Public Health**, Skagit County, designated alternate for Peter Browning, Commissioner

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

- **Joe Valentine**, Executive Director, North Sound BH-ASO
- **Darrell Heiner**, Senior Accountant, North Sound BH-ASO
- **Charles DeElena, Business Improvement Manager, Compliance Officer**, North Sound BH-ASO
- **Joanie Wenzl**, Clerk of the Board, North Sound BH-ASO

Guests Present:

Michelle Osborne, Nora Karena, Toni Belcher; Consultants; Diversity, Racial Equity, and Inclusion (DREI)

Call to Order and Introductions – Chair

Cindy Wolf, Vice-Chair, chaired the meeting for Peter Browning who was unavailable to attend the meeting today.

Revisions to the Agenda – Chair

Chair Wolf asked if there were any revision to the agenda. There was a suggestion to talk about the Opioid Summit.

WSAC had a briefing yesterday regarding Opioid monies. Discussion and questions took place regarding how the money will flow. It was noted that the Regional Prosecuting Attorneys (PAs) will be meeting soon via a regional call to further discuss the process.

Approval of the August 11th, 2022, Minutes, Motion #22-45 – Chair.... Attachment

Sam Low asked that his name be added to last month's meeting minutes, as he was in attendance and the adding of his name was missed.

The Clerk of the Board will add his name.

Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Cammy Hart-Anderson seconded, none opposed, no abstentions, all in favor, motion #22-45 carried, as amended.

Comments & Announcements from the Chair

The Vice Chair made comments on the WSAC Meeting and there was continued discussion.

Reports from Members

The Board Members gave updates on their respective county's behavioral health happenings.

Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public

DREI Update

Michell, Nora, and Toni (DREI consultants) gave an update to the Board members regarding the status of their DREI work with the ASO. A question-and-answer session followed.

Report from the Advisory Board

Pat O'Maley Lanphear, Advisory Board Chair, gave the brief from the Advisory Board's most recent meeting and referenced the brief provided to Board members.

Report from the Finance Officer

- Conflict of Interest /Auditor Requirement

The Conflict-of-Interest form was briefly discussed and the reference to the RCW requirement, as well as it being audited each year for compliance. It was noted that Clerk of the Board will be sending them out to members for them to fill out and return.

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 AgendaAttachment

Motion #22-46

- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from August 1st, through August 31st, 2022, in the amount of \$1,944,743.26.
- Payroll for the month of August in the amount of \$169,731.86 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$72,694.76.

Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Cammy Hart Anderson seconded, none opposed, no abstentions, all in favor, motion #22-46 carried

Action Items

For Board Approval

Personnel

Summary:

Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) Coordinator

Health Care Authority has funded a Full Time Equivalent (FTE) to coordinate the AOT program in the North Sound region. Assisted Outpatient Treatment is an order for Less Restrictive Alternative Treatment, this position will coordinate with local courts, behavioral health providers and Health Care Authority. The HCA funding available for this position is \$140,000 annually.

▪ **Motion #22-47**

To approve 1.0 FTE for an AOT Coordinator position.

Jill Johnson asked that it be noted that she will approve if the position is an in-office position. Discussion followed.

Sam Low moved the motion for approval, Jill Johnson seconded, none opposed, no abstentions, all in favor, motion #22-47 carried

Summary:

Accountant

During our succession planning process, we decided it would be prudent to add an accounting position to the 2023 ASO budget. With increases in funding, the complexity of the funding and frequent reporting it is a high priority for the organization.

We are requesting authorization to post the position during the fourth quarter of 2022. Our current administrative budget has enough reserve to engage in recruitment and if necessary, up to two months of a wages and benefits.

▪ **Motion #22-48**

To approve 1.0 FTE for an Accountant position.

Jill Johnson noted that she will approve if the position is an in-office position. Discussion followed.

Sam Low moved the motion for approval, Jill Johnson seconded, none opposed, no abstentions, all in favor, motion # 22-48 carried

Summary:

Compensation

Compensation Works has recommended a 3.1% increase to current pay grid bringing it in line with the present labor market. The pay grid was last updated in 2016.

▪ **Motion #22-49**

To approve the 3.1% labor market adjustment to the current pay grid for implementation on January 1, 2023.

The BH-ASO Board Members tabled this motion. They would like the ASO to provide detailed information on each position individually.

They asked that the information be sent out to the Board Members prior to the Board Meeting. All were in favor of motion #22-49 being tabled.

Summary:

PEBB Resolution

Health Care Authority requires a Resolution of the Board of Directors authorizing the North Sound BH-ASO to apply for PEBB benefits.

▪ **Motion #22-50**.....Attachment

To approve Resolution 22-002 authorizing the North Sound BH-ASO to apply to the PEBB for medical benefits for year 2023.

Cammy Hart-Anderson moved the motion for approval, George Kosovich seconded, none opposed, no abstentions, all in favor, motion #22-50 carried

Summary:

Child/Youth Mobile Crisis Team

The Child/Youth Mobile Crisis Team RFQ evaluation team met on August 4th and is recommending the Compass Health as the successful bidder for serving Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom counties. The funding in the amendment provides start-up funds allocated by HCA for the two 11-person teams.

▪ **Motion #22-51**

North Sound BH-ASO-Compass Health-ICCN-Amendment 10 for the provision of a Child/Youth Mobile Crisis Team in Snohomish, Skagit and Whatcom counties. The six (6)-month allocation on this contract is \$1,094,299.25. The contract term is July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2023, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2023, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract

Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Sam Low seconded, none opposed, no abstentions, all in favor, motion #22-51 carried

Discussion Items

- Strategic Plan

The North Sound BH-ASO Strategic Plan was briefly discussed, and the attachment was referenced

Report from the Executive Director

The Report from the Executive Director was referenced as well as the corresponding documents:

- FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATING COMMITTEE
- NORTH SOUND E&T RIBBON CUTTING
- CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILY MOBILE CRISIS TEAMS
- CRISIS SERVICES UPDATE
- MOUNT VERNON CO-RESPONDER PROGRAM

Adjourn: 2:57 p.m.

Next Meeting: October 13th, 2022

1. UPDATE ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES COORDINATING COMMITTEE

- In 2020, HCA and WSAC formed a “Behavioral Health Services Coordinating Committee” [BHSCC] to provide an opportunity for Counties and the State to improve communication and problem solving around behavioral health system issues. Both Jill Johnson and I represent the North Sound region.
- When county representative identified “network adequacy” as one of the top county concerns, a “network adequacy” sub-group was formed to provide input to the state on how to better define, measure and monitor network adequacy.
- Attached is an overview of a technical presentation HCA provided at the 2nd meeting of this sub-group. It outlines how the state has defined network adequacy in the past and challenges and opportunities in improving the measurement and monitoring of network adequacy to include a broader focus on actual “access to care” [attachment 1].
- Slides # 38-40 outline some of the options to consider in addressing availability of services.
- Attachment #2 are the notes from the 2nd meeting summarizing the action steps for future discussion.
- A follow up meeting of the BHSCC workgroup was held on October 6. The MCOs shared a copy of a network survey they conducted for the first quarter of 2022 and plan to conduct every quarter thereafter.
- WSAC has voted to include network adequacy as one of its top legislative priorities for the upcoming legislative session.

2. HCA-NSBHASO QUARTERLY CHECK IN MEETING

- The Quarterly “HCA-NSBHASO” check in meeting will be held on October 12. A verbal update will be provided at the October 13 Board of Directors meeting.

3. HB 1688 – BALANCED BILLING ACT

- The recently passed “Balanced billing Act”, HB 1688, includes the requirement for commercial health plans to reimburse providers for “emergency services” including behavioral health crisis services.
- North Sound BH-ASO staff are participating in a state workgroup to recommend what process would be put in place to bill and receive payment from commercial carriers.
- The administrative burden either for providers or the BH-ASOs of collecting individual coverage data and billing commercial carriers would be significant. We are urging the state to adopt a method that minimizes this administrative burden.

4. CONTINUATION OF COVID FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT FUNDING

- HCA has applied for a no-cost extension of the current COVID relief Federal Block grant enhancement funding through June 2023. These funds were originally authorized to only go through March 2023.
- HCA will be exploring internally about the possibility of allowing the BH-ASOs to shift some of the unspent proviso related COVID block grant funds into other contracts and programs to better utilize the overall COVID block grant funds.
- The North Sound ASO will also be assessing programs that were provided COVID block grant funds that have either not yet started up or are projected to underspend their allocations.

5. UPDATE ON FACILITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT

- A survey has been distributed to Counties, providers, and the MCOs to gather information on gaps and need for both inpatient and outpatient services.
- To date, over 36 responses have been received.
- We have sent a second request to the MCOs to share whatever information they can since they feel some of our data request included proprietary information.
- Once all the survey and MCO responses are received, the consultant, Percival Health, will combine it with the results of their own demographic research to develop preliminary findings.
- These will be reviewed and discussed with the County Coordinators, Advisory Board, and Board of Directors.

6. CRISIS SERVICES UPDATE

- The Weekly Crisis Capacity Indicator snapshot and Dashboard are attached [Attachments 3 and 4].
- There was a drop in calls and outreach services for a few weeks, but the volume of services has returned to the “mean” number for the year.
- Although calls are going to the 988 line as well, VOA reports that it has not really reduced the kinds of calls that traditionally go to the regional crisis line.

7. UPDATE ON THE “NORTH SOUND RURAL COMMUNITIES OPIOID RESPONSE PROGRAM” [HRSA GRANT AWARD]

- We’re entering the second year of the 3-year federal grant award from Health and Human Services for the Rural Communities Opioid Response program,
- We used the grant to provide Opioid Use Disorder services in Island and East Skagit County. Specifically, it is funding an IMPACT team, Recovery Specialist, and MAT services in East Skagit County and a Prevention Specialist and MAT services in Island County.
- During the second six months of the grant period [March-August 2022], the unduplicated number of persons contacted by grant funded positions have tripled:

- Total number of persons contacted: 393
- Persons referred to supportive services: 150
- Persons screened for substance use disorder (SUD): 47
- Persons diagnosed with SUD: 40
- Most of the contacts have taken place in East Skagit County but MAT services have also been provided in Oak Harbor and a Prevention Specialist is being funded within the Coupeville School District.
- On September 28, an open house for the new Mount Baker Presbyterian Church (MBPC) building in Concrete was held. This building is located at 44942 State Route 20 and includes private offices where our coalition partners such as the Lifeline Connections MAT provider, and Community Action outreach teams can provide services and collaborate. The building may also serve as a future support site with access to shower and laundry for those in need. The event was well-attended with coalition partners, as well as County Commissioner Ron Wesen and Skagit County Public Health representatives