



Board of Directors

Meeting Agenda

April 11th, 2024

Board of Directors Members Present in Person:

Members Present via MS Teams:

**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 | North Sound BH-ASO \(nsbhaso.org\)](https://www.nsbhaso.org)
- 3. Revisions to the Agenda** – Chair
- 4. Approval of the March 14th, 2024, Minutes, Motion #24-13** – Chair.... Attachment
- 5. Comments & Announcements from the Chair** - Chair
- 6. Reports from Members** - Chair
- 7. Comments from the Public** - Chair
- 8. Report from the Advisory Board** (Available at Meeting) Attachment
Kara Allen, Advisory Board Chair
- 9. Report from the Finance Officer** (Available at Meeting) Attachment
Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director
- 10. 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 (Available at Meeting)Attachment
Motion #24-14

To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from March 1st. 2024, through March 31st, 2024 in the amount of \$4,293,917.03.

Payroll for the month of March in the amount of \$196,835.30 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$98,161.63.

11. Action Items – Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director

For Board Approval

Health Care Authority (HCA)

HCA is renewing their expansion contract for Housing and Recovery through Peer Services (HARPS) for an annual amount of \$109,996. This funding is specifically for a Substance Use Disorder Peer on the HARPS team.

Motion #24-15

- To approve HCA-NS BH-ASO-K6751 Amendment 1 for the purpose of extending the contract for one year with funding in the amount of \$109,996. The term of the contract is March 15, 2023, through March 14, 2025.

Lifeline Connections

This is the downstream contract for the SUD Peer on the Lifeline Connections HARPS team. The funding of \$109,996 pays for the full-time SUD Peer on the Lifeline HARPS team.

Motion #24-16

- To approve NS BH-ASO-Lifeline Connections- FBG-23 Amendment 2 for the purpose of providing \$109,996 in HARPS Extension funds. 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.

Jail Transition Services

Proviso reserve funds are being allocated to jail transition programs for one-time expenditures. Total funds available: \$183,768 of Jail Transition and \$66,628 will be allocated from General Funds-State reserves.

- Island County \$21,000
- Skagit County \$127,500

- o Whatcom County \$101,896

Motion #24-17

- NS BH-ASO-Island County-ICN-23 Amendment 4 to provide additional funds for jail transition services under this contract. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.
- NS BH-ASO-Skagit County-Interlocal-23 Amendment 3 to provide additional funds for jail transition services under this contract. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.
- NS BH-ASO-Whatcom County-ICN-23 Amendment 3 to provide additional funding for jail transition services under this contract. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 30, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Dedicated Cannabis Account

Proviso reserve funds are being allocated to Snohomish County Human Services. Total funds available: \$287,275 in Dedicate Cannabis Account and \$32,725 will be allocated in General Fund-State reserves.

- Snohomish County \$320,000

Motion #24-18

- NS BH-ASO-Snohomish County-ICCN-23 Amendment 4 to provide the funding Dedicated Cannabis Account services under this contract. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Opioid Outreach

Community Action of Skagit County provides opioid outreach in Skagit County and will receive an increase of \$66,086 annually. The funding will add an additional outreach specialist to the team. The funding is ARPA Substance Abuse Block Grant funds, sustainability of the position will be evaluated during the next 12-months.

Motion #24-19

- NS BH-ASO-CASC-ICN-23 Amendment 3 to provide additional funding for Opioid Outreach services under this contract. The contract term is January 1, 2023, through December 31, 2025, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Consejo Counseling and Referral Service

Consejo requested one-time funds for BIPOC recruitment costs in the amount of \$50,000 and support for an annual youth behavioral health and leadership conference, taking place later this spring. Skagit County Public Health is providing additional support. The amount for conference support is \$5,000. The fund allocation is from General Fund-State reserves.

Motion #24-20

- NS BH-ASO-Consejo-ICN-21-23 Amendment 2 to provide funding for recruitment and a regional youth conference 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.

12. DRAFT Report from the Executive Director Attachment
JanRose Ottaway Martin, Executive Director

13. Adjourn - Chair

Next Meeting: May 9th, 2024



Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

March 14th, 2024

Board of Directors Members Present in Person:

- **Barry Buchanan**, County Council; Whatcom County
- **Peter Browning**, Commissioner; Skagit County, North Sound BH-ASO Board Chair
- **Cammy Hart-Anderson**, Human Services, Designated Alternate for Dave Somers, County Executive; Snohomish County
- **Sam Low**, County Council; Snohomish County

Members Present via MS Teams:

- **Nicole Gorle**, Legislative Analyst, Designated Alternate for Nate Nehring, County Council; Snohomish County
- **Jami Mitchell**, Human Services Manager, Designated Alternate for Jane Fuller, County Council; San Juan County
- **Cynthia Foley**, Sr. Legislative Analyst, Designated Alternate for Strom Peterson, County Council; Snohomish County
- **George Kosovich**, Public Health, Designated Alternate for Peter Browning, Commissioner; Skagit County
- **Kara Allen**, Advisory Board Chair
- **Perry Mowery**, Behavioral Health Supervisor, Designated Alternate to Satpal Sidhu, County Executive; Whatcom County
- **Lynda Austin**, Human Services, Designated Alternate for Commissioner Jill Johnson; Island County
- **Cindy Wolf**, Council Member; San Juan County

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

- **JanRose Ottaway-Martin**, Executive Director
- **Margaret Rojas**, Assistant Executive Director
- **Darrell Heiner**, Senior Accountant
- **Charles DeElena**, Business Improvement Manager/Compliance Officer
- **Joanie Wenzl**, Administrative Manager, Clerk of the Board

Guests Present:

No guests were 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 revisions to the agenda, none were requested.

Approval of the February 8th, 2024, Minutes, Motion #24-08 – Chair

Sam Low moved the motion for approval, Perry Mowery seconded, all in favor, motion carried, no abstentions motion #24-08 carried.

Comments & Announcements from the Chair

Chair: This morning was the kickoff meeting for the SWISS sub-committee. Participants will be working closely with NS BH-ASO. Meetings will begin in April.

The Chair added that a resolution was drafted regarding the fentanyl crisis.

Reports from Members – Chair

The counties gave behavioral health updates from their respective counties.

Comments from the Public – Chair

There were no comments from the public.

NS BH-ASO Annual Compliance Report

Charles DeElena, Compliance Officer

Charles gave the ASO's Annual Compliance Report, discussion followed.

The State's Research and Data Analysis (RDA) Department was mentioned by JanRose regarding providing a state level compliance report (to see how the NS BH-ASO is doing with compliance issues compared to other regions in the state).

Report from the Advisory Board

Kara Allen, Advisory Board Chair

The Report from the Advisory Board was given. It was noted that the AB Retreat is scheduled for June 4th.

Report from the Finance Officer

Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director

The Report from the Finance Officer was given. Discussion followed.

Report from the Governance Operations Committee – Chair

Barry Buchanan nominated Council Person Cindy Wolf as the Board Vice Chair, Peter Browning seconded, all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, all in favor. Council Person Wolf accepted the nomination.

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Consent Agenda – Chair

Motion #24-09

- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from February 1stth, 2024 through February 29th, 2024, in the amount of \$2,990,839.01.
- Payroll for the month of February in the amount of \$196,835.30 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$99,640.40.

Cammy Hart-Anderson moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, none opposed, all in favor, motion #24-09 carried.

Action Items – Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director

For Board Approval

Signatory Authority

This motion will authorize the Executive Director, JanRose Ottaway Martin as a signatory on behalf of the North Sound BH-ASO. Other authorized signors remain the same: Margaret Rojas, Deputy Director/ HR Manager, Darren Martin, IS/IT Manager, Michael McAuley, Clinical Director.

Motion #24-10

- To approve adding JanRose Ottaway Martin, Executive Director, as signing authority (replacing Joe Valentine) on North Sound BH-ASO's accounts at Skagit County Auditors' office and the accounts at Banner Bank for: Petty Cash, Advanced Travel, and the employee Flexible Spending Account. The North Sound BH-ASO signatories shall have authorization privileges for disbursements over Perry Cash, Advance Travel, Flexible Spending accounts, vouchers, payroll and investing.

Peter Browning moved the motion for approval, Sam Low seconded, all were in favor, no abstentions, motion #24-10 carried

Didgwalic Wellness Center

Didgwalic Wellness Center was the successful bidder for the expansion of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) in Skagit County, specifically east county. This service will be available to all

individuals regardless of their ability to pay. Didgwalic will bill Medicaid, Indican Health providers and private insurance. The annual allocation is \$50,000.

Motion #24-11

- To approve North Sound BH-ASO-Didgwalic Wellness Center-ICN-24 for the purpose of providing Medication Assisted Treatment in eastern Skagit County. The contract term is March 1, 2024, through June 30, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2024, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Peter Browning moved the motion for approval, Sam Low seconded, all-in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion #24-11 carried.

City of Mount Vernon Co-Responder Program

We are providing an additional \$40,000 in funding, \$20,000 is a carryover from their previous contract cycle and \$20,000 in ongoing cost for an increase in wages for this contract period.

Motion # 24-12

- To approve NS BH-ASO-City of Mount Vernon-Interlocal-23 Amendment 2 to provide funding for the integrated co-responder team with the City of Mount Vernon Police Department The contract term is July 1, 2022, through December 31, 2024, with an automatic one-year renewal on January 1, 2025, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

Cammy Hart-Anderson moved the motion for approval, Sam Low seconded, all-in favor, no abstentions, motion #24-12 carried.

Introduction Items – Margaret Rojas, Assistant Director
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Report from the Executive Director

JanRose Ottaway Martin, Executive Director

JanRose gave the Report from the Executive Director. Topics included:

- Update on the Board Retreat
The Board retreat will take place on June 13th at NW ESD 189 in Anacortes. The Retreat Agenda will be reviewed during the April Board meeting.
- ITA Courts in WA State
- Proviso Language
- Crisis Stabilization serviced – Delegation
- Skagit County
- Opioid Abatement Council

Adjourn – The chair adjourned the meeting before 3:00p.m.

Next Meeting: April 11th, 2024

Weekly Crisis Metrics Report: See attached.

Senate Bill 6251 and preliminary planning for stakeholder groups:

-Link: [6251-S2.PL.pdf \(wa.gov\)](#)

Senate Bill 6251 formalizes the role for the BHASOs in WA state in the 988 implementation. The bill specifically calls on BHASOs in coordinate system partners and stakeholders to establish clear regional protocols including expectations, understandings, lines of communication, and strategies for optimizing crisis response in the regional service area. The protocols must describe how crisis response partners will share information consistent with data-sharing requirements under RCW 71.24.890 including real-time information sharing between 988 contact hubs, regional crisis lines, or their successors, to create a seamless delivery system that is person-centered. Those protocols would then be submitted for approval. Protocols would then be updated as needed and, at minimum, every three years. North Sound will commence with identifying and creating initial stakeholder groups which could include regional crisis lines, 988 contact hubs, certified public safety telecommunicators, local governments, tribal governments, first responders, co-response teams, mobile rapid response crisis teams, hospitals, organizations representing persons with lived experience, and behavioral health agencies. We expect this to be a sizeable body of work and to result in an intense period of regional coordination among traditional, and potentially newer, partners for the ASO.

Preliminary planning for Endorsed MRRCT/CBCT:

We have continued our work with the Health Care Authority (HCA) on the Endorsement Standards for Mobile Rapid Response Crisis Teams (MRRCT) and Community Based Crisis Teams (CBCT). Two separate conversations are happening—one on the Endorsement Standards and one to assist Milliman Actuaries in establishing rates. The conversations are complicated in there may be many options for regions to explore, rate setting processes need to know what is being designed, and providers are having difficulty proceeding with initial planning for teams not yet knowing what the rates are. We are reaching out to entities that are interested in pursuing the Endorsement Standards, to understand what their desired programs may look like to try to provide that feedback to Milliman for rate setting. Per HCA contracts currently, it seems that they are trying to shift the name of all current Behavioral Health Agency-managed Mobile Crisis Teams to MRRCT in the future, but agencies will need to determine if they want to seek the Endorsement Standards to receive higher reimbursements (but meet much higher programmatic requirements). Currently, North Sound does have some start up funds for these efforts, but agencies are hesitant to start designing until further information is available about what the expectations are. HCA may also have grants available shortly for the purchase of vehicles for these Endorsed teams.

Youth Navigator Team:

North Sound ASO will receive funding in our next HCA contract to fund a Youth Navigator team. North Sound ASO is in the process of identifying whether this will be a body of work that we contract out or, as a regional resource, maintain within the BHASO. Both options are allowed through our HCA contract. We will bring more information in coming months, but are excited for this youth-targeted intervention which will hopefully assist communities and individuals in understanding treatment options for youth struggling with behavioral health issues in our region. We will provide a presentation to Advisory Board once we have more information on this new and exciting program.

Update on Managed Care Organizations Negotiations:

We are currently finalizing two of our MCO contracts and continue to negotiate some final aspects of the other three MCO contracts.