



Board of Directors

Meeting Minutes

February 8th, 2024

Board of Directors Members Present in Person:

- o **Barry Buchanan**, County Council; Whatcom County
- o **Peter Browning**, Commissioner; Skagit County, North Sound BH-ASO Board Chair
- o **George Kosovich**, Public Health, Designated Alternate for Peter Browning, Commissioner; Skagit County
- o **Anji Jorstad**, Human Services, Designated Alternate for Dave Somers, County Executive, 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
- **Darcy Cheesman**, Legislative Aid, Designated Alternate for Sam Low, County Council; Snohomish County
- **Cynthia Foley**, Sr. Legislative Analyst, Designated Alternate for Strom Peterson, County Council; Snohomish County
- **Kara Allen**, Advisory Board Chair
- **Chris Garden**, Advisory Board Vice-Chair
- **Malora Christensen**, Response Systems Division Manager, Designated Alternate for Satpal Sidhu, County Executive; Whatcom 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
- **Kimberly Nakatani**, Accountant
- **Maria Arreola**, Senior Admin Assistant
- **Michael McAuley**, Clinical Director
- **Charles DeElena**, Business Improvement Manager/Compliance Officer
- **Joanie Wenzl**, Administrative Manager, Clerk of the Board

Guests Present:

There were no guests present

Call to Order and Introductions – Chair

The Chair called the meeting to order and asked the board members to introduce themselves.

Tribal Acknowledgement – Chair

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

The chair read the Tribal Acknowledgement.

Revisions to the Agenda – Chair

The Chair asked if there were any revisions to the agenda. No revisions were requested.

Approval of the January 11th, 2024, Minutes, Motion #24-05 – Chair

Jami Mitchell noted the minutes from January needed amended. She represents San Juan, but the minutes show her as representing Snohomish County.

The Clerk of the Board will amend the minutes.

Peter moved a motion for approval of the January Minutes upon the edit listed above, all in favor, none opposed, motion #24-05 carried.

Comments & Announcements from the Chair

Whatcom has two resolutions regarding the fentanyl crisis. Barry will be going to Washington DC and will speak about the crisis.

Reports from Members

- Members gave behavioral health updates from their respective counties.
- Jami Mitchell noted that Jane Fuller is now the Chair for the San Juan County Council and asked that Cindy Wolf take her place on the NS BH-ASO Board of Directors. Jami Mitchell and Mark Tompkins are the designated alternates for Cindy Wolf.

Comments from the Public

There were no members from the public in attendance, so no comments were made.

Report from the Advisory Board

Kara Allen (Advisory Board Chair) gave the Report from the Advisory Board and upcoming activities to include their upcoming Legislative Forum, which is taking place at the McIntyre Hall in September. Brad Banks will be assisting (the ASO's lobbyist).

Report from the Finance Officer

Margaret Rojas and JanRose Ottaway Martin gave the report from the Finance Officer.

Report from the Governance Operations Committee

Vice Chair

The Chair spoke about the newly open Vice Chair position for 2024. The Board will re-run the election, he added.

Board Retreat

It was determined that June 13th would be the best day for the Retreat. The Clerk of the Board will send out the invitation.

It was also decided that one County Coordinator per county could participate in the Board Retreat.

JanRose will be part of the Agenda Planning Workgroup which will take place in March.

The Clerk of the Board will send out an email to see which members would like to take part in the agenda planning session.

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.

Motion #24-06

- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from January 1, 2024, through January 31, 2024, in the amount of \$5,887,585.13.
- Payroll for the month of January in the amount of \$196,921.90 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$95,364.24.

Peter Browning moved the motion for approval, Anji Jorstad seconded, all in favor, none opposed, all in favor, motion #24-06 carried.

Action Items

For Board Approval

Community Behavioral Health Rental Assistance - Proviso 86 Program Enhancement Funding

- The Proviso 86 funding was a competitive process with Health Care Authority (HCA) to provide funding for individuals involved in the criminal justice system who need behavioral health services and/or housing. The North Sound BH-ASO will receive \$739,000 annually for this project.
- HCA requested the ASO provide a match for the Proviso 86 funding, there was no indication of the level of match, we provided 33%, consistent with federal match requirements. Due to the funding requests coming in above the \$739,000 we used the match to increase two of the providers for equity in the allocations.

- The amendments below are allocating the funds to our Community Behavioral Health Rental Assistance Programs.
 - The allocations are as follows:
 - Snohomish County-Bridgeways \$161,000
 - Snohomish County-Compass Health-\$150,000
 - Island, Snohomish, Skagit & Whatcom County-Pioneer Human Services-\$61,000 + North Sound BH-ASO General Funds-State 33% match of \$121,935
 - Whatcom & Skagit County-Lifeline Connections-\$61,000 + North Sound BH-ASO General Funds-State 33% match of \$121,935
 - Whatcom County-Lake Whatcom Center-\$150,000
 - Whatcom County-Opportunity Council-\$156,000

Motion #24-07

- NS BH-ASO-Bridgeways-CBRA-23 Amendment 1 for the purpose of adding Proviso 86 funds to the CBRA rental assistance in Snohomish County. 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.
- NS BH-ASO-Compass Health-CBRA-23 Amendment 1 for the purpose of adding Proviso 86 funds to the CBRA rental assistance in Snohomish County. 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.
- NS BH-ASO-Lifeline Connections-CBRA-23 Amendment 1 for the purpose of adding Proviso 86 funds to the CBRA rental assistance in Skagit and Whatcom County. 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.
- NS BH-ASO-Lake Whatcom Center-CBRA-23 Amendment 1 for the purpose of adding Proviso 86 funds to the CBRA rental assistance in Whatcom County. 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.
- NS BH-ASO-Pioneer Human Services-CBRA-23 Amendment 1 for the purpose of adding Proviso 86 funds to the CBRA rental assistance in Island, Skagit, Snohomish, and Whatcom County. 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.

Peter Browning moved the motion for approval, Anji Jorstad seconded, all in favor, none opposed, motion #24-07 carried.

Introduction Items

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.

Motion# (next month)

City of Mount Vernon Co-Responder Program

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

Motion# (next month)

Margaret Rojas spoke about the Introduction Items and answered questions.

Report from the Executive Director

JanRose gave the Report from the Executive Director. She covered the topics below and answered questions.

- o Weekly Crisis Metrics Report
- o Update on the Skagit County Prosecuting Attorney’s Office (regarding court hearings)
- o Managed Care Organization (MCO) Contract Negotiations
- o Crisis Stabilization Services-Delegation
- o Behavioral Health Department of Commerce Applications
- o Lynwood Jail and 23-Hour Crisis Facility
- o Olympic Heritage

Adjourn: 2:30 p.m.

Next Meeting: March 14th, 2024

Respectfully Submitted,

Joanie Wenzl
Clerk of the Board