



COMMONWEALTH of VIRGINIA
STATE BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

STATE BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

**Regular Meeting
MEETING MINUTES**

9:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 8, 2021

*This meeting was held in person
without a physical quorum present (no business was conducted),
with electronic or phone connection available. A recording of the meeting is available.*

Members Present	<u>Physically present:</u> Elizabeth Hilscher, Chair; Rebecca Graser, Vice Chair; Kendall Lee; and Christopher Olivo. <u>Electronically present:</u> Varun Choudhary; Moira Mazzi; and Sandra Price-Stroble.
Members Absent	Paige Cash; Jerome Hughes.
Staff Present	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Amy Addington, Financial and Policy Analyst, Finance Division.Eric Billings, Deputy Director of Fiscal and Grants Management.Ramona Howell, Federal Grants Manager, Office of Fiscal Services and Grants Management.Lisa Jobe-Shields, Assistant Commissioner, Community Services, Division of Community Behavioral HealthAlison Land, Commissioner.Josie Mace, Legislative Affairs Manager.Nina Marino, Director, Office of Child and Family Services.Meghan McGuire, Chief Public Relations Officer.Susan Puglisi, Regulatory Research Specialist, Office of Regulatory Affairs.Ruth Anne Walker, Director, Office of Regulatory Affairs, and State Board Liaison.
Guests Present	Invited guests: Jennifer Faison, Executive Director, Virginia Association of Community Services Boards.

	<p>Other Citizens Electronically Present: Court Campbell; L. Cantrell; Sue Bergmann; Terri Gibbs; T. Haperman; Joshua Johnson; Elizabeth Lee; Kate Masters; Jason Pryor; Nicole (?); Scott Reiner; Katherine Rice; Pattie Schreeman; Aaron Smith; George Worthington; Kristin Zagar; unknown (804.---.522).</p>
Call to Order and Introductions	<p>At 9:30 a.m., Elizabeth Hilscher, Chair, called the meeting to order and welcomed everyone. Ms. Hilscher noted that with the end of the Governor's State of Emergency, the meeting was held under the established requirements of Virginia's Freedom of Information Act. <i>A quorum of five members was not physically present; therefore, no business was conducted. The meeting continued for informational purposes only.</i> The public was able to participate electronically, by phone, or physically present.</p> <p>The meeting packet of information was located on Virginia's Town Hall. Members and staff introduced themselves.</p>
Approval of Agenda	<i>Due to a lack of a quorum, the agenda was not adopted.</i>
Approval of Draft Minutes	<i>Due to a lack of a quorum, the regular minutes from September 29, 2021, were not adopted.</i>
Public Comment	<p>At 9:35 a.m., Ms. Hilscher stated a period for public comment was included on the draft agenda, and that an opportunity was available for anyone wishing to give verbal or written comments needed to email by 5 p.m. on December 8, 2021. No comments were received, and no one in attendance wished to give comment.</p>
Regulatory Actions	<p>A. Update: Regulatory Actions At 9:40 a.m., Ruth Anne Walker reviewed the matrix on page 20.</p> <p>B. Initiate Periodic Reviews: <i>Due to a lack of a quorum, the two regulatory items were not acted upon. An additional meeting was planned for January 7, 2022, to initiate periodic reviews of Regulations for Children's Residential Facilities, 12VAC35-46; and Operation of the Individual and Family Support Program, 12 VAC 35-230. [Note: Due to inclement weather the January meeting was canceled; the periodic reviews will be initiated at the meeting on March 30, 2022.]</i></p>

	<p>C. Response to Periodic Review: ‘Overhaul’ of <i>Rules and Regulations for Licensing Providers by the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services</i> [12VAC35-105] (“Licensing Regulations”) to Service Specific Chapters.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Status Update <p>At 9:45 a.m., Susan Puglisi reported on the status of the drafting project overall. She has been reviewing comments on the general, residential, and home/non-center based draft chapters and developing responses to those comments.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. Overview: General Chapter <p>Ms. Puglisi provided a detailed explanation of the ‘overhaul’ draft general chapter that applies to all providers and the following service specific chapters: residential, center based, home/non-center based, case management, and crisis.</p>
Commissioner’s Report	<p>At 10:10 a.m., Commissioner Allison Land updated board members on a number of agency matters and initiatives.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. State hospital bed census. 2. Finding solutions for patients with dementia. 3. Partnerships for children and adolescents for mental health services, and also for the adult population needing mental health services. She also spoke about lessons learned regarding private provider partnerships for services. 4. Details about the workforce shortages, and strategies to retain staff long-term. 5. Rebalancing of the behavioral health system including Project BRAVO, crisis services, implementation of the Marcus Alert, and preventing substance use disorders. 6. DOJ challenges and strategies.
Pandemic Impacts on Children and Adolescents	<p>At 11:35 a.m., Nina Marino presented to members on the current national emergency in youth mental health due to COVID 19. The presentation including information on vulnerable populations, lack of internet access for telehealth, reduction in visitation and efforts to strengthen family ties for youth in foster care due to lack of virtual technology and in person visits, increases in child abuse, and challenges with remote learning and return to school.</p> <p>Almost 90% of providers reported seeing more patients that are presenting with behavioral health symptoms since June 2020; including 52.05% who reported seeing patients with behavioral issues that were not previously present</p> <p>The majority of patient behavioral health symptoms reported by providers were anxiety, depression, suicidality, ADHD,</p>

	<p>and eating disorders. (Virginia American Academy of Pediatrics Survey 2021) National data shows the same trends.</p> <p>Services in Virginia for Early Intervention showed a reduction in the number of children served in state fiscal year 2021; however, the number is increasing and now exceeds the pre-COVID child count in November 2019. This is due in part to a 12.5% temporary rate increase for services.</p> <p>There has been a multi-leveled response to the crisis through the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2021, the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, and DBHDS Office of Child and Family Services initiatives.</p>
Update: STEP-VA. Implemented Steps and Next Steps; Shoring Up Virginia's Crisis System	Lisa Jobe-Shields updated the board on STEP-VA, including an overview of funding and an implementation timeline, and focus areas for upcoming year. Specifics were provided on the crisis system transformation using the Crisis Now model, and how that intersects with the Marcus Alert and Project BRAVO.
BREAK for Lunch, 30 minutes	At 12:03 p.m., Ms. Hilscher suspended the meeting for a 30 minute lunch break, reconvening at 12:30 p.m.
2022 General Assembly Update	Josie Mace summarized legislative preparations to date, and indicated legislative activity is expected regarding state hospital census and custody during the TDO process; community services; operational efficiency; and forensic services.
Committee Reports	<p><i>At 12:50 p.m., Ms. Hilscher reported that due to the lack of a quorum in both committees, no business was conducted.</i></p> <p>A. Policy Development and Evaluation <i>Due to a lack of a quorum, there was no formal report.</i> Rebecca Graser, Board Vice Chair and Committee Chair, stated that the members discussed the agenda for the next meeting: State Board Policy 1034(SYS)05-1: Partnership Agreement (a presentation was received in September) and State Board Policy 1030(SYS)90-3: Consistent Collection and Utilization of Data in State Facilities and Community Services Boards (a presentation is expected at the next meeting).</p>

	<p>All board policies are posted on the agency web site: https://dbhds.virginia.gov/about-dbhds/Boards-Councils/state-board-of-BHDS/bhds-policies.</p> <p>B. Planning and Budget <i>Due to a lack of a quorum, there was no formal report.</i></p>
Update: Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB)	<p>At 1:00 p.m., Jennifer Faison, VACSB Executive Director, reported on the association's priorities going into the 2022 Session of the General Assembly, including workforce shortages as the top priority. There is a four-prong strategy to address that priority: bonuses, critical supervision by licensed clinicians, loan repayment for professionals in the behavioral health field, and educational scholarships.</p> <p>There were other budget priorities. CSB call centers to support the Marcus Alert initiative were up on December 1, 2022. The integration of the data platform has had some challenges, but that is to be expected and all were working toward resolution.</p> <p>The service system for individuals for developmental disabilities must stay at the forefront of priorities even in the midst of the significant changes coming online or planned for the behavioral health service system.</p> <p>Dr. Choudhary emphasized agreement with the statement about not neglecting DD services, particularly the Medicaid Waiver waitlist, and also services for those on the autism spectrum. Ms. Mazzi thanked Ms. Faison for the advocacy work she does, and feels everything stated as priorities and strategies is 'spot on.'</p>
Board Member Spotlight (New)	<p>At 1:33 p.m., Moira Mazzi gave background to the board on what drove her involvement in mental health issues. She serves on the board as a family member of an individual who has or is receiving services, namely, her brother who is three years older than she. He was diagnosed with schizophrenia at 21 years old. A younger half-brother was diagnosed with schizoaffective disorder, and unfortunately, he committed suicide five years ago. A couple other family members also committed suicide. Therefore, it really hits home when hearing of the funding and service needs, especially for those who, like her brothers, were not aware they were ill and not actively seeking treatment. The impact on the family and household can be significant and very disruptive as families try to get help for loved ones.</p>

	<p>Due to her family experience, after college she chose to become a mental health tech in a hospital. She thought it was a good fit because she treated everyone as a family member. She returned from NM to help her brother who continued to struggle. Later, she became a school teacher, and has been teaching in Virginia and Washington, DC, for about 15 years. With the return from the pandemic, she has seen an increase of the following in students: stress, anxiety, fighting, and procrastination with work (hard to focus from stress).</p> <p>She has a side job where she babysits for a family of four children under four years old, and two of the children are twins that have developmental delays due to being born early. This was her first direct exposure to the level of support individuals and a family in that situation needs to navigate care for the children with DD, and the impact on the family as a whole family.</p> <p>Across her life with her brother, with whom she is close, to witnessing the impact of the pandemic on her students, and seeing the family support two young children with DD, it gives her a lot of passion to continue to advocate for the individuals needing services and their families.</p> <p>Ms. Mazzi has two children, both in college. One is a freshman at Dickenson College and one is a junior at St. John's College. She enjoys cycling and dancing, a lot of Netflix shows, cooking, and reading. Also, her two cats and three dogs keep her busy. She is happy to report her brother has been feeling much better in recent months and is an example of hope for others.</p>
Biannual Federal Grant Update	At 1:45 p.m., Eric Billings and Ramona Howell summarized information on federal funds by state fiscal year and the percentage of change between 2020 and 2021. They also reviewed other grant updates on those: currently under consideration (none), being actively pursued (none), received in the prior six months, ending in FY2021-22, and expired.
Miscellaneous	<p>A. Annual Executive Summary Ms. Hilscher directed members to the draft. Ms. Walker explained edits, and invited feedback.</p> <p>B. Liaison Updates Ms. Price-Stroble has observed the Region 1 CSB executive director electronic meetings, and hoped the board could visit</p>

	<p>the Harrisonburg-Rockingham CSB new building at some point.</p> <p>C. Meeting Planning</p> <p>Ms. Walker would look for a date for early January to initiate the two periodic reviews that were not acted on at this meeting due to the lack of a quorum. A tentative date was set for Friday, January 7, 2022, at 10:30 a.m., followed by a Policy and Evaluation Committee meeting at 11 a.m. [These meetings were canceled due to inclement weather.]</p> <p>Board members reviewed a draft 2022 Planned State Board Meeting Topics chart with priority topics in red.</p>
Other Business	There was no other discussion.
Adjournment	Ms. Hilscher thanked all members of the board, and adjourned the meeting at 2:20 p.m.

2022 MEETING SCHEDULE

DATE	Location
March 30 (Wed)	<i>Central Office, DBHDS Richmond</i>
July 13 (Wed)	<i>Central Office, DBHDS Richmond</i>
Sept 28 (Wed)	<i>TBD</i>
December 7 (Wed)	<i>Central Office, DBHDS Richmond</i>

CONCURRENT COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Wednesday, December 8, 2021 8:30 a.m. – 9:25 a.m.
DBHDS Central Office, 13th Floor Large Conference Room, Jefferson Building
1220 Bank Street, Richmond, VA

STATE BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES Planning and Budget Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

December 8, 2021

*This meeting was held in person
without a physical quorum present (no business was conducted),
with electronic or phone connection available. A recording of the meeting is available.*

Members Present: Elizabeth Hilscher, Board and Committee Chair; Christopher Olivo.

Members Absent: E. Paige Cash; Jerome Hughes.

Staff Present: Amy Addington; Susan Puglisi; Ruth Anne Walker.

I. Call to Order

A quorum of three members was not physically present; therefore, no business was conducted. The meeting was held for informational purposes only.

II. Welcome and Introductions

Ms. Hilscher welcomed all present, and acknowledged the staff present.

III. Adoption of Agenda

Due to a lack of a quorum, the agenda was not adopted.

IV. Adoption of Minutes, September 29, 2021

Due to a lack of a quorum, the regular minutes from September 29, 2021, were not adopted.

V. Standing Item: *Identification of services and support needs, critical issues, strategic responses, and resource requirements to be included in long-range plans; work with the department to obtain, review, and respond to public comments on draft plans; and monitor department progress in implementing long-range programs and plans.*

Due to a lack of a quorum, no updates were made regarding board meeting topics. Ms. Hilscher initiated a general discussion with Mr. Olivo, who is a teacher, around two recent articles (LA Times and NPR) regarding the Surgeon General ‘emerging youth mental health crisis,’ the overwhelming workforce needs to support children and youth, and the impacts of the pandemic.

- A. ~~Discussion of Identified Priorities (within the framework of required agency strategic planning and budget development processes):~~
 - a. ~~Review the priorities set at the Biennial Planning Meeting.~~
 - B. ~~Review of topic areas for board meetings through December 2022.~~

VI. Standing Item: *Ensure that the agency’s budget priorities and submission packages reflect State Board policies and shall, through the Board’s biennial planning retreat, review and comment on major funding issues affecting the behavioral health and*

developmental services system, in accordance with procedures established in POLICY 2010 (ADM ST BD) 10-1.

Office of Budget Development

These presentations were postponed; updates were provided in the full board meeting. Ruth Anne Walker suggested that she and the chair meet with staff from Finance, Grants, and Administration to review the purpose of the committee, that the reports get more granular in the committee and are not just repetitions of what is reported to the full board. For instance, having staff explain the differences between special and general funds, capital outlay, etc., while not getting too much in the weeds. Ms. Walker referenced the monthly financial report that is sent around internally, that an annual or biennial refresher might be helpful.

- A. ~~State Board Budget Quarterly Report.~~
- B. ~~Planned General Assembly Legislative and Budget Update in December.~~

VII. Semi Annual Federal Grant Report: *The department shall provide a semi-annual report of all federal grants currently under consideration as well as those being actively pursued. Additionally, the report will include all grants that have been submitted in the last six months. Finally, the reward status of all submitted grants will be outlined to the Board.*

Office of Budget Development

This presentation was postponed; updates were provided in the full board meeting.

- A. ~~December State Board Update.~~

VIII. Other Business

IX. Next Steps:

- A. Standing Item: *Provide updates on committee planning activities to the Board.*
- B. Next Meeting: March 30, 2022.

X. Adjournment

At 9:16 a.m., Ms. Hilscher adjourned the meeting.

STATE BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Policy and Evaluation Committee

DRAFT MINUTES

DECEMBER 8, 2021

8:30-9:25 AM

DHBDS, 8TH FLOOR NORTH SUITE CONFERENCE ROOM,
JEFFERSON BUILDING, 1220 BANK STREET, RICHMOND, VA 23219

*This meeting was held in person
without a physical quorum present (no business was conducted),
with electronic or phone connection available. A recording of the meeting is available.*

Members Present: Physically present - Rebecca Graser, Vice Chair and Committee Chair; Kendall Lee; electronically present - Varun Choudhary; Moira Mazzi; Sandra Price-Stroble.

Members Absent: None.

Staff: Josie Mace, Legislative Manager.

Guests: None.

I. Call to Order

A quorum of three members was not physically present; therefore, no business was conducted. The meeting was held for informational purposes only.

II. Welcome and Introductions (5 min)

Ms. Graser welcomed all members physically and electronically present, and staff present.

III. Review of 2021 Policy Review Plan and Presentation of Policies for Discussion (30 min)

Ms. Graser initiated a discussion of current policies in review.

IV. Next Meeting: March 30, 2022

V. Other Business

No new business could be addressed due to the lack of a physical quorum.

VI. Adjournment

Ms. Graser adjourned the meeting at 9:15 a.m.

All current policies of the State Board are on the agency web site at this address:

<https://www.dhbs.virginia.gov/about-dhds/Boards-Councils/state-board-of-BHDS/bhds-policies>