



**GOVERNING BOARD**

Bud Blake, Chair

Thurston County District Three

Terri Jeffreys, Co-chair

Mason County District Three

Cathy Wolfe, Commissioner

Thurston County District One

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**Governing Board - Minutes for June 9, 2016**  
**Mason County Commissioners Chambers**  
**411 North 5<sup>th</sup> Street, Shelton**

**1) 3:00 p.m. Call Meeting to Order**

In Attendance: Bud Blake, Commissioner; Cathy Wolfe, Commissioner; Terri Jeffreys, Commissioner; Tom Stuebner, Public Health and Social Services Department Director; Mark Freedman, BHO Administrator; Joe Avalos, BHO Chief Operating Officer; and Tina Gehrig, Clerk of the BHO Board

Chair Blake called the meeting to order at 3:00pm.

Vice-Chair Jeffreys moved to approve the meeting agenda. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Vice-Chair Jeffreys moved to approve the May 12, 2016 meeting minutes. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**2) Opportunity for the Public to Address the Board** – No public comment was given.

**3) Advisory Board Candidates**

- a. Two potential candidates for the Thurston Mason BHO Advisory Board were present and they briefly described their background. Both individuals have been interviewed by the Mason County Commissioners and their applications will be forwarded to the Thurston Mason BHO Advisory Board for consideration. Both candidates would represent Mason County well.

**4) Action Items**

- a. Approval of the resolution amending the ongoing meeting time and establishing an agenda setting meeting time for the Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Governing Board

The recommendation to change the meeting time is due to a conflict with the Cascade Pacific Action Alliance meeting. Quarterly meetings will continue to be held in Mason County and will be considered Special Meetings.

**Vice-Chair Jeffreys moved to approve the resolution amending the regular meeting time and establishing an agenda setting meeting for the Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Organization Governing Board.**

**Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

- b. Approval to renew the existing Professional Service Contract between Xpio Group Health, LLC and now with Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Organization (BHO) to continue the consultation and conversion project of the BHO's current Management Information System (MIS) product.

TMBHO currently contracts with Xpio for Management Information Systems to assist with the data conversion, file import and validation, electronic health records, policies/procedures/training, etc. and development of an external BHO website.

**Vice-Chair Jeffreys moved to approve the Professional Service Contract between Xpio Group Health, LLC and Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Organization for consultation and conversion services of the BHO's new Management Information System software from July 01, 2016 through December 31, 2016, for a total maximum consideration not to exceed \$100,000, and authorize the Administrator of Thurston Mason Behavioral Health Organization to execute the contract as well as future amendments that do not change the approved dollar amount or duration by 15%.**

**Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried.**

## **5) Presentations**

- a. **ESD 113 – True North Student Assistance**

Erin Riffe, Director, Behavioral Health and Student Support introduced herself and gave a brief overview of the services currently being provided by ESD in Mason County. True North provides comprehensive Student Assistance Programs, including prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support services. Thurston Mason BHO provides funding for school-based behavioral health therapeutic services throughout the county. ESD has several fund sources including: Division of Behavioral Health and Recovery, Federal Grants, Mason County, North Mason School District

Other projects include:

- 1) Project AWARE (Advancing Wellness and Resilience in Education) which increases awareness of mental health issues among school-based youth, training in mental health for

school personnel. Project AWARE is a federal grant funded through Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction.

- 2) Student Assistance Programs (SAP) at Olympic Middle School, Oakland Bay Junior High, Shelton High School and the North Mason School District. ESD 113 has an agreement with ESD 114 to serve youth in the North Mason who due to proximity are closer to services and because ESD 114 is not a licensed provider.
- 3) Youth mental health first aid trainings for school and community members, and
- 4) Good Behavior Games for Shelton School Districts' elementary schools and Canal, Pioneer, and Southside SD.
- 5) Networks for Life Suicide prevention training,
- 6) Miss Washington Scholarship Organization,
- 7) Nurse Family Partnership which provides lock boxes for parents to lock up items that should be out of reach, and
- 8) Youth Mental Health 1<sup>st</sup> Aid which has trained 200 individuals including school, community, and transit center staff and drivers

Several staff that provide the services gave brief overviews of the services that they provide in the schools. All programs work very collaboratively with school personnel and provide for a seamless comprehensive system of care including early intervention. Staff are always striving to improve the referral process and educate school staff on appropriate referrals. To accommodate the large Spanish speaking population at Oakland Bay Junior High, staff will receive some training in Spanish.

Next year a pilot program funded through TMBHO as a result of the CPAA partnership will provide for a full time mental health counselor to provide screenings in the Pioneer School District.

**b. Northwest Resources**

Northwest Resources began providing services about 19 years as a private pay, DUI agency. As they became a provider of publically funded, i.e., primarily ADATSA services, they saw a very clear need for homeless persons who were in treatment and the struggle they had once they completed treatment or as they were in treatment, they were still living in the exact same environment. NW Resources is now receiving funding for homeless case management through Treatment Sales Tax funding to assist clients with housing issues once they've entered treatment services.

NW Resources recently opened a 16 bed inpatient facility for publically funded male individuals in Shelton.

They also recently received their mental health licensure so will begin to focus on bringing mental health services into the inpatient facility. About 70% are co-occurring disorder clients

with anxiety, depression, PTSD that historically don't receive mental health services due to a low acuity.

NW Resource believes that chemical dependency is a brain disease and highly regards the use of nutrition in treatment to assist clients with their brain chemistry. For the first time ever, the agency is experiencing a staff and space shortage and is unable to meet the needs as quickly as they traditionally have.

## **6) Updates**

- Budget transfer from RSN to BHO – This has been a long process, but it is getting close to resolution. An Interlocal agreement will be developed between Thurston County and TMBHO for treatment sales tax funding. The funds that previously under the RSN will move to the BHO. An Interlocal agreement will also be developed to facilitate the move of millage funds as well. Discussion is pending re: the status of the developmental disabilities millage funding.
- Triage Facility Update – Staff have met with the staff who will be operating the triage facility. A ribbon cutting ceremony is in the planning stage. Training to law enforcement, hospitals, court, etc. is also being developed.
- State Behavioral Health Conference – June 22-24 in Yakima. This is primarily for clients and treatment providers. The BHO offers scholarships for Advisory Board members and clients to attend the training.
- Commissioner Jeffrey's inquired about the request from the Chief of Shelton Police who is interested in having the ability to distribute Naloxone when needed. The Thurston County Syringe Exchange has been distributing a limited supply that they received. The City of Olympia has also expressed interest in law enforcement having access as well. Further discussion needs to occur re: who has prescriptive authority and the availability of the drug.
- Joe Avalos thanked True North and NW Resources for the great working relationships that they have had with the County to grow with the now, BHO and providing ongoing good service.
- BHO Care Managers – Amy Martin & Jason Bean-Mortinson were introduced and briefly described their job duties. Jason's duties include: program, service, and contract development, establishing the residential network and relationships for TMBHO, providing technical assistance and referral for treatment providers. Jason has about 15 years' experience in adult and youth outpatient, residential, and withdrawal management services, and most recently was employed at DBHR.

Amy Martin is a CDP and MHP and most recently was employed at DBHR as well. Amy primarily processes mental health authorizations for new or continued care. About 200 requests are received daily. Based on client needs, there are 4 levels of care. Amy also participates in the local planning of the behavioral health pilot project through the Cascade Pacific Action Alliance (CPAA) and works with prioritizing authorizations for Western State Hospital and discharge planning.

- Cascade Rising Earthquake Drills – As these drills have been occurring local, the need for mental health services was emphasized as well as being prepared and ready to expand services.
- Moving to the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday the next TMBHO meeting will be July 21 at 1pm.

**7) Adjournment**

Vice Chair Jeffreys moved to adjourn the meeting of June 9, 2016. Commissioner Wolfe seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting adjourned at 4:34.

THURSTON MASON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH GOVERNING BOARD

Thurston County, Washington

ATTEST:

  
BUD BLAKE, Chair

  
Tina Gehrig, Clerk of the Board

Date: 7/28/16

  
TERRI JEFFREYS, Vice Chair

  
CATHY WOLFE, Commissioner