

**CCC ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING  
MONTHLY DRAFT MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 22, 2023**

**This meeting was held in-person and via Zoom “hybrid” in accordance with AB 2449.**

**Members Present:** Logan Campbell, Talia Moore E.D.D., Rhiannon Shires Psy.D., Michael Ward, Azi Carter, Robert Frey

**Members Absent:** Antwon Cloird (R), Guita Bahramipour (E), Cynthia Chavez (E), Jonathan Ciampi (R), Victor Ortiz (R), Mark Howard Ph.D. (R), Candace Cowing (R)

**Staff Present:** Fatima Matal Sol, AODS Program Chief; Patricia Rogers, Program Manager; Jessica Recinos, Prevention Coordinator

**Other Attendees:** John Dante, Jennifer Qualick, District II Staff Representative, Kira Gunter, Indigo Project; Ardavan Davaran, Indigo Project; Kristen Smith, Danielle Aubin, Arwa Asif, Anonymous

| <u>TOPIC</u>                                                                                                                                           | <u>ISSUE/CONCLUSION</u>                                                                                                        | <u>ACTION/RECOMMENDATION</u>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| I. <u>CALL TO ORDER</u>                                                                                                                                | The meeting was called to order by Dr. Moore.<br><br>New Brown Act guidelines for hybrid meetings were reviewed and discussed. | <b>DR. MOORE CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 4:06 PM.</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| II. <u>REVIEW AND ADOPT THE AGENDA</u>                                                                                                                 | Dr. Moore opened the floor to review the March 22, 2023, agenda as presented.                                                  | <b>LOGAN CAMPBELL MMS BY DR. MOORE TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED. MOTION APPROVED.</b><br><b>AYES:</b> Logan Campbell, Talia Moore E.D.D., Michael Ward, Azi Carter, Robert Frey<br><b>NOES:</b> None.<br><b>ABSENT:</b> Antwon Cloird (R), Guita Bahramipour (E), Cynthia Chavez (E), Jonathan Ciampi (R), Victor Ortiz (R), Rhiannon Shires Psy.D (Late), Mark Howard Ph. D (R), Candace Cowing (R)<br><b>ABSTAIN:</b> None.                                |
| III. <u>REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF DRAFT MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 22, 2023, MEETING</u>                                                                         | Dr. Moore opened the floor to approve the February 22, 2023, Board Draft Monthly Meeting and Annual Retreat Minutes.           | <b>LOGAN CAMPBELL MMS BY DR. MOORE TO ADOPT BOTH RETREAT AND FEBRUARY MONTHLY MINUTES AS PRESENTED. MOTION APPROVED.</b><br><b>AYES:</b> Logan Campbell, Talia Moore E.D.D., Michael Ward, Azi Carter, Robert Frey<br><b>NOES:</b> None.<br><b>ABSENT:</b> Antwon Cloird (R), Guita Bahramipour (E), Cynthia Chavez (E), Jonathan Ciampi (R), Victor Ortiz (R), Rhiannon Shires Psy.D (Late), Mark Howard Ph. D (R), Candace Cowing (R)<br><b>ABSTAIN:</b> None. |
| IV. <u>PUBLIC COMMENT</u><br>The public and Board members may comment on any agenda item of public interest within the jurisdiction of the Alcohol and | Kristen Smith expressed excitement in learning what was being said in this meeting                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |

Other Drugs Advisory Board.  
(Maximum three minutes per  
speaker).

**V. Staff Report and  
Updates**

Fatima Matal Sol, AOD  
Program Chief

With prior approval from Chair Moore, Fatima yielded her staff report time to Kira Gunter and Ardavan Davaran of the Indigo Project to present on Bridge Housing (BHousing) which is a very important new initiative from the Department of Health Care Services (DHCS). This Initiative involves a proposal about housing, which is one of the priorities of the Board. Indigo's presentation was aimed at obtaining Board's input for the proposal.

**COPIES OF THE WRITTEN  
STAFF REPORT WERE MADE  
AVAILABLE.**

Kira Gunter introduced the new BHousing Initiative and stated that every County was allocated a non-competitive Request For Application (RFA) money for BHousing. Contra Costa County has over 20 million that would need to be spent between July 2023 and June 2027. The purpose of this grant is to house people with significant behavioral health challenges including substance use. Some of the requirements include:

**THE BRIDGE HOUSING  
APPLICATION IS DUE ON  
APRIL 28, 2023.**

- The beneficiary must meet Medi-Cal specialty mental health eligibility criteria.
- Care Court (Care ACT eligible) participant must be prioritized for BHousing.
- BHousing can range from short-term such as a motel voucher for two-years with an option of a one-year extension. It is primarily to pay for the cost of operations and support. BHousing is not for capital investment.
- Kira stated Contra Costa applied for the third round of Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP). Unlike BHCIP, this initiative is short term to get us up and running for all those projects.
- 75% of the money (over \$15 Million) must be spent on operations, such as rental assistance, emergency motel voucher, rental payment, etc. For example, it can help someone who has an emergency utility payment, moving out/in and/or needs furniture. It can also be used for landlord outreach and mitigation. The remaining 25% can be spent on other categories such as actual housing development for units, outreach, and engagement as well as others.
- The housing development infrastructure can be done but large capital projects are not allowed. Kira said that units must have a per person limit of \$75,000 and projects must come online within 12 months. She stated that practically speaking, this means the

Bridge Housing Presentation by Indigo in lieu of Staff Report.  
Contd.

county will not be looking to buy their own housing, but they could do an RFI and give incentive money, such as down payment assistance, for people in need.

- Kira reiterated that while this is a quick 5-week turnaround period, they will be reengaging with the BHCIP Steering Committee housing partners and other different stakeholder groups such as the Behavioral Healthcare Partnership, the Mental Health Commission, and the Office of Consumer Empowerment.
- Kira opened the floor for comments and suggestions regarding the BHousing Initiative. She indicated that they will then share that information to the technical service provider to see that if anything we are proposing can be funded through BHousing as well as researching what allocations fit in the budget between the 75% and 25%.

Logan asked if the Indigo project will facilitate the Bridge Housing initiative for the whole county. Kira stated yes, and they are contracted with the County Behavioral Health to facilitate the process and write the proposal.

Logan asked if the participants need to have both mental health and substance abuse issues, be severe cases of one or the other. Kira restated that they must meet specialty Mental Health criteria but not sure if they must have both. Kira stated she will double check with the technical service provider.

Kira thanked Logan for his input and question and stated that there was an earlier conversation with the County regarding people who may have struggled and may potentially need other services such as case management to try to keep them stable in housing.

Dr. Moore asked Kira about what the process is for organizations as far as how the money will be dispersed, and wanted to know steps on what happens when someone needs housing. Kira stated that all of that still needs to be developed. She shared that they do not need to know the location but just the strategy of how the money would be spent. Part of what is being developed is the process of which money is given to agencies.

John Dante presented on his work as a Sober Living Environment (SLE) owner. He shared that he had 5 houses, of which two were shut down when COVID hit. He felt as though it would be quite hard to open them back up because it is very hard to get people into the houses. He said that sobriety comes in different levels and forms.

**LOGAN REQUESTED FOR  
POWERPOINT TO BE SHARED  
WITH MEMBERS.**

**VI. Learning Life's Lessons  
Sober Living  
Environment (SLE) –  
John Dante, SLE Owner**

Presentation Cont.

He added that the understanding of sobriety is different from the point when you start treatment to when you have experienced it. John explained the business and operations aspects of an SLE including his revokable license which allows him to be in the same SLE house. He shared that his SLE residents are considered family, and the residents must have the willingness to work towards their recovery.

STAFF TO NOTIFY OF DATE.

## **VII. COMMITTEE HIGHLIGHTS**

### **Executive Committee**

Dr. Talia Moore, Chair

- ACCEPT Candace Cowing, At-Large Alternate, Resignation
- ACCEPT Mark Howard, At-Large Alternate, Resignation

Dr. Moore accepted Candace and Mark's resignation and noted that AODS staff has already submitted the paperwork to the Board of Supervisors. It may take a while but some of those have been scheduled for April 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023. She mentioned that recognition of Board members who served on the Board will follow at a later date.

### **Community Awareness**

Cynthia Chavez, Chair

No report at this time.

### **Program and Services**

Logan Campbell, Chair

Logan summarized the highlights of the last meetings in which the Committee reviewed the action plan and identified 3 to 4 areas of focus. The Committee also identified key presenters including:

1. Jail treatment and Recommendations
2. Support 4 Recovery – Updates on Hispanic / Outreach and Recovery (Bi Bett)
3. Support Services I.e., Transportation to treatment.

## **VIII. Old Business**

Review Goals for 2023 Action Plan – Talia Moore E.D.D., Chair

Dr. Moore stated there was nothing to report at this time.

Recovery Housing Updates: - Staff

Fatima asked if further clarification was needed in addition to what was included in the Staff Report. Logan asked about the two complaints, whether or not they were considered operational or regarding the facility. Fatima explained that there has been a total of four (4) grievances. She said it is important to note that we are getting more grievances from houses as opposed to treatment. Fatima added that they were operational, not about the houses. Fatima said that two of the grievances were resolved and two are still going through investigation.

Measure X – Update

There is no update at this time. John shared that his application was denied which he appealed. Logan inquired about the two Board members who were recommended. Fatima explained that staff is yet to receive the final decision from the Board of Supervisors. When she receives any information, it will be shared with the board.

California BH Infrastructure Program Update – Staff

No update to report at this time.

**IX. Liaison Reports**  
**Contra Costa Council on**  
**Homelessness – Vacant**

Dr. Moore stated that there is no specific Board member who can report. Logan shared he could report about two cities but not the county as a whole. He continued that the City of Concord developed a system to effectively use \$2 million dollars from the American Rescue Act to combat homelessness and those unhoused. With regards to Martinez, he met with the Police Department and City Council, which decided to make a full time CORE position. He stated that Jennifer from the County, who works for H3, will be coming up with a plan that will address Martinez's poverty. They are also still working on how to best spend \$85,000 amongst groups that can best support CORE in Martinez.

**Tobacco Prevention Program – Azi**  
**Carter**

Azi would like to thank Logan for helping to expedite participation in Martinez to move forward on creating ordinances on Tobacco Retail Licensing and other portions of Tobacco Prevention advocacy.

**AZI SHARED DOCUMENTS VIA  
ZOOM CHAT.**

Azi discussed how the Tobacco Prevention Program will be conducting store observation at all Brentwood and Oakley Tobacco retailers starting in March of 2023 and shared that she will also be conducting Store Assessments to get more experience. Azi shared that at the last Tobacco Prevention Coalition meeting, they had a Round Table discussion around Proposition 31 which banned menthol cigarettes.

**Mental Health Commission –**  
**Dr. Shires**

Dr. Shires shared that they are doing a lot of work including Gov. Newsom's proposed general obligation bond for the 2024 ballot designed to create thousands of new communities' behavioral health beds and State of the art residential settings to house and support Californians with mental health illness and substance use disorders. Dr. Shires explained that the Mental Health Commission has three different committees: the Justice, Quality of Care, and the Finance Committee. She said that the Justice Committee focuses on the large number of people in jail who have nowhere to go and really need to be moved from incarceration into substance abuse or mental health facilities to address their issues, except currently there is nowhere to put them. Dr Shires shared a presentation on the Wellness Center and Skills Program which is something she is passionate about. She highlighted that some of the accomplishments include: school based mental health collaboratives, partnership with the Trevor Project, Suicide Prevention coalition, Partnership with Contra Costa

County, technical assistance to wellness clubs and centers, professional development to school districts, Mental Health First Aid trainings, linkages and collaborations provided between community-based organizations and school districts.

Dr. Shires began discussing project implementation which began on January 1<sup>st</sup>. Semi-annual progress reports will begin June 30<sup>th</sup>. Currently, the MH Administration has tentatively budgeted for about \$5 million in projects, and we can qualify for an additional \$3 million to spend. The question is what additional projects we can quickly develop to include in our project plans.

MEDS Coalition – Vacant

Patricia stated that the MEDS Coalition is one of the AOD Prevention Providers under Bay Area Community Resources (BACR) which is funded by Block Grant funding. The coalition has been providing educational presentations to the community throughout the county. AODS is very proud of the work they are doing. As of today, we have received a high volume of Opioids prevention and Narcan training requests. During the month of March, the CCC MEDS Coalition has held Narcan trainings to Substance Abuse Counselors, Local School Faculty, Mental Health Volunteers, Library staff, and local Boy Scouts, etc. across the county.

Community Reports

FLYER SHARED WITH  
PACKET.

THE DEADLINE TO SUBMIT  
THESE NOMINATIONS IS  
FRIDAY, APRIL 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2023.

**X. New Business**

- People Who Make A Difference (PWMAD) 2023 – Cynthia Chavez

Clean Slate Event on April 28, 2023.

In Cynthia's absence, Logan stated that everyone should have received PWMAD nomination forms and added that once a year, the AODAB acknowledges both volunteer and non-volunteer individual/groups that specifically contribute to reduce substance use in our communities. Anybody can submit nominations, then Community Awareness will review and then present to the Board.

- **Alcohol License:** Arwa Asif, Bay Area Community Resources (BACR)  
CDLP22-02066. Transfer license type in El Sobrante from Type 20 to Type 21

Jessica stated that Arwa reached out the Sheriff's Office for crime statistics. Statistics were shown that were specific to the food mart and the restaurant.

CLDP22-02049. Land Use Permit to modify and/or remove certain conditions at restaurant in El Sobrante

Dr. Moore stated that when she drove by the location, there was not a lot of foot traffic. She did not find a problem. When speaking to neighbors, they also did not have a problem with either.

DR. MOORE INDICATED THAT  
SHE WOULD SHARE  
RESIDENTS' COMMENTS.

Dr. Moore stated that she drove by both sites and stated that Up and Under is now an outside sports bar pub. When speaking to community members,

New Business. Contd.

she stated that they are in support and do not find a problem with either license application.

**BOARD MEMBERS DID NOT  
OPPOSE TO EITHER  
ALCOHOL LICENSE.**

- **Cannabis License  
Initiatives – None**

There were no licenses

**I. PUBLIC COMMENT**

THE PUBLIC AND BOARD MEMBERS  
MAY COMMENT ON ANY AGENDA  
ITEM OF PUBLIC INTEREST WITHIN  
THE JURISDICTION OF THE  
ALCOHOL AND OTHER DRUGS  
ADVISORY BOARD. (MAXIMUM OF  
THREE MINUTES PER SPEAKER).

Dr. Moore shared they have openings on the Board as of recently. She shared that if anyone is interested, or knows anyone who might be, that they are welcome.

**II. ADJOURN**

Dr. Moore adjourned the meeting.

**THE MEETING WAS  
ADJOURNED AT 6:06 PM.**