



# NORTH SOUND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES ORGANIZATION

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES

August 12,  
2021

### Board of Directors Members present:

- Jill Johnson, County Commissioner; Island County, Board Chair
- Peter Browning, County Commissioner; Skagit County
- Cammy Hart-Anderson, Snohomish County Human Services; designated alternate for Dave Somers, Snohomish County Executive
- Rud Browne, County Council Member; Whatcom County
- Sarah Hinman, Skagit County Public Health; designated alternate for Peter Browning
- Heidi Beazizo, Sr. Legislative Analyst, Snohomish County; designated alternate for Jared Mead, Snohomish County Council
- Cindy Wolf, County Council Member; San Juan County
- Barbara LaBrash, Human Services Manager, San Juan County; designated alternate for Cindy Wolf, County Council Member
- Sam Low, County Council Member, Snohomish County
- Jackie Mitchell, Behavioral Health Program Specialist, Whatcom County; designated alternate for Satpal Sidhu
- Duncan West, Chair; North Sound BH-ASO Advisory Board Chair

### North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization (ASO) staff present:

- Joe Valentine, Executive Director; North Sound BH-ASO
- Darrell Heiner, Accounting Specialist; North Sound BH-ASO
- Joanie Williams, Clerk of the Board; North Sound BH-ASO

### Guests present:

No guests were present

### Call to Order and Introductions – Chair Johnson

Chair Johnson was having technical issues with her computer and asked Cindy Wolf to chair the meeting, to which she complied. The Clerk of the Board (Joanie Williams) read the names of the meeting participants via the MS Teams platform.

### Revisions to the Agenda – Chair

The Chair asked if there were any revisions to the agenda, there were none mentioned

### Approval of the June 10, 2021, Minutes, Motion #21-33 – Chair

Peter Browning moved the motion for approval, Sam Low seconded, all-in favor, no abstentions, motion #21-33 carried

## Comments & Announcements from the Chair

Jill Johnson noted that the Stabilization Center is open, fully operational and at capacity.

## Reports from Members

Members gave reports from their respective counties, which included the impacts and concerns regarding HB 1310 and recent impacts of COVID

## Comments from the Public

There were no comments from the public

## Report from the Advisory Board

Duncan West (Advisory Board Chair) gave the report from the Advisory Board

## Report from the Executive Director

- Update on Recovery Navigator Program [James Dixon]

James Dixon gave an update on the Recovery Navigator Program. He answered questions from Board Members.

Joe Valentine gave the report from the Executive Director which included the following topics:

- COVID FEDERAL BLOCK GRANT PLAN
- OTHER 2021-2022 STATE BUDGET ALLOCATIONS [NEW PROGRAMS]
- WORKFORCE SHORTAGES UPDATE
- CRISIS SERVICES [old]
- IMPACT OF NEW LEGISLATION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSE TO BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CRISES
- UPDATE ON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH FACILITIES

## Report from the Finance Officer

Joe Valentine gave the report from the Finance Officer. He answered questions from Board Members

## Report from the Governance Operations Committee

*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 Executive Committee 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

### Motion #21-34

- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from June 1, 2021, through June 30, 2021, in the amount of \$1,344,746.19.
  - Payroll for the month of June in the amount of \$151,890.76 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$60,363.24.
- To review and approve the North Sound Behavioral Health Administrative Services Organization claims paid from July 1, 2021, through July 31, 2021, in the amount of \$3,884,636.04.
  - Payroll for the month of June in the amount of \$147,764.60 and associated employer benefits in the amount of \$70,615.93.
- Review and approve budget adjustment.

Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Peter Browning seconded, all-in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion #21-34 carried.



**Action Items*****For Board Approval*****Michele Osborne & Associates****Summary:**

In April 2021 the ASO released a Request for Qualifications for a consultant to work with the ASO on Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI). Only one bid was submitted, however, this consulting firm has worked with the ASO previously on a Family Youth System Partner Round table (FYSPRT) project.

The scope of the work will be an examination of internal policies, practices, and culture. The consultant will also work with the ASO to develop a process and the tools to review our external provider network to ensure their policies, practices and culture are non-discriminatory and anti-racist as well. The project is fluid, working at a pace for individual and organization reflection and action over an 18-month period.

**Motion #21-35**

- NS BH-ASO-Osborne & Assoc.-PSC-21 for the provision of DEI consultation work. The effective date of the contract is October 1, 2021, with a maximum consideration of \$147,000.

Peter Browning moved the motion for approval, Rud Browne seconded, all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion #21-35 carried

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**North Sound BH-ASO FTE****Summary:**

The 2021 legislative session has recognized the growing need for additional behavioral health programs by bringing innovative programs to our communities. One such program is the regional Community Behavioral Rental Assistance (CBRA) grant from Department of Commerce; this program requires coordination and oversight of the rental assistance program. Additionally, with the expansion of Federal Block Grant funds and several proviso services, we see a need to create this position. Ideally the position would be filled by October 1, 2021.

North Sound BH-ASO is requesting approval one FTE to coordinate and oversee the CBRA program, FBG expansion and proviso services.

**Motion #21-36**

- Approve one FTE position to develop and oversee the CBRA, FBG and proviso programs in the North Sound Region.

Motion #21-36 tabled

***For Ratification*****Consejo Counseling and Referral Services****Summary:**

Consejo is a Behavioral Health Agency located in King County. They reached out to the ASO about providing telehealth services in our region. With the workforce shortages and limited access to services, engaging Consejo as a telehealth provider will provide additional access to services in the region. Eventually Consejo will have a physical presence in the region. This is a Fee for Service (FFS) contract.

**Motion #21-37**

- NS BH-ASO-Consejo-ICN-21 for the provision of telehealth services in the North Sound Region. This contract is encounter based; payments are made on services submitted through an electronic record. The contract term is July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2022, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.
- *Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Cammy Hart Anderson seconded, all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion #21-37 carried*

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**Department of Commerce-Community Behavioral Health Rental Assistance (CBRA)****Summary:**

An allocation of \$1,366,830.00 is provided for rental assistance to eligible households who meet criteria. Criteria is-

- Have a documented behavioral health condition,
- Eligible for a long-term supports program, i.e., HARPS, Foundation Community Supports, DSHS Aging & long-term supports, etc. and,
- Have a need for long-term housing support with no other payment alternative

The downstream contracts will be with Lifeline Connections our HARPS provider and housing agencies in the region. We will be reaching out to the housing agencies identified by Department of Commerce.

**Motion #21-38**

- Department of Commerce-North Sound BH-ASO-CBRA-21 for the provision of funding in the amount of \$1,366,830 for behavioral health rental assistance. The term of the Grant Agreement is July 1, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

*Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Rud Browne seconded, all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion #21-38 carried.*

*Following discussion, it was noted that the ASO will send a letter to Providers asking them if there was additional flexibility, what would that look like*

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**Mental Health Block Grant****Summary:**

Tulalip Tribes is a provider of outreach services and traditional healing services for the at-risk youth. This contract was inadvertently left off the June Board of Director's agenda.

**Motion #21-39**

- North Sound BH-ASO-Tulalip Tribes Family Haven-19-22 for the provision of funds to continue the at-risk youth outreach project. The funding for a one-year period is \$74,850. The contract term is July 1, 2019, through June 30, 2022, with an automatic one-year renewal on July 1, 2022, based on continued compliance with the terms of the contract.

*Jill Johnson moved the motion for approval, Rud Browne seconded, all in favor, none opposed, no abstentions, motion #21-39 carried*

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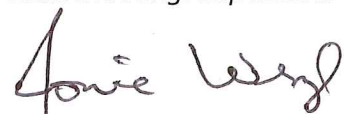
**Introduction Items**

- 2021 – 2022 Federal Block Grant Plan
- 2021 – 2023 COVID Federal Block Grant Plan

Joe Valentine spoke about the Federal Block Grant Plan and the COVID Federal Block Grant Plan. He noted that an early draft will be sent out to the Board for input.

**Adjourn 3:05 p.m.**

*Next meeting: September 9, 2021*



Respectfully Submitted,

Joanie Williams  
Clerk of the Board

APPROVED