

**Minutes for the Executive Committee of the Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse (ABADA)  
and Alaska Mental Health Board (AMHB)**

**12/14/21**

**ABADA**

Lee Breinig - NP  
Anthony Cravalho - P  
Diane Fielden - P  
Renee Schofield - P

**AMHB**

Monique Andrews – P  
Sharon Clark - P  
Brenda Moore - P  
Carlene Tautfest – NP

**Other Board members present**

Karen Malcolm-Smith

**Staff**

Bev Schoonover  
Kevin Holian  
Val Cooday

- **Roll Call and New Executive Committee Members Welcome**
  - Sharon Clark, Alaska Mental Health Board Chair  
Renee Schofield, Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse Chair  
Read Mission Statement  
Roll Call – Kevin Holian
  
- **Staff and Committee Reports**
  - Executive Director Report – Beverly Schoonover
    - The directors report included brief program and staff updates.
    - December API Governing Board meeting was reviewed, including a recent CMS inspection and plan of corrective action. There are no pending concerns about API’s response to the findings.
  
- **Old Business**
  - PCG Medicaid Report – Update
    - The final PCG report on recommended Medicaid reform strategies and savings initiatives was shared.
    - There will be a one-time eligibility review for current recipients at the end of the federal public health emergency, and some Medicaid recipients may lose their

health coverage. The state has a requirement to confirm eligibility, but AMHB/ABADA did ask DHSS to consider rolling out these reviews over time if allowed.

- The proposed global Medicaid spending cap is a concern for behavioral health providers. This process might require another 1115 Medicaid Demonstration Waiver but that is still to be determined.
- Advisory Council on Opioid Remediation – Update
  - The first meeting was held December 10<sup>th</sup>. There was an excellent presentation by DBH and OSMAP on the current status of the opioid epidemic in Alaska.
  - AMHB/ABADA staff will be attending these public meetings and providing DPH staff support as needed.
  - Staff will also forward future meeting information to the Board.
- **New Business**
  - AMHB/ABADA Legislative Priorities Review
    - The Executive Committee reviewed the AMHB ABADA Focus Areas for 2021 to update the list for 2022.
    - New focus priorities were proposed and discussed, including adding language about ambulatory withdrawal services, identifying gaps in the behavioral health system of care, and emphasizing the need for additional behavioral health services in rural communities.
  - ED Position Description Review and Approval
    - As suggested by DHSS, the Executive Director’s position description should be updated to include oversight of the Statewide Suicide Prevention Council. The draft position description update was sent to the Chairs for review and board members can request a copy of the draft if they are interested.
- **Other Business**
  - **Review Proposed Agenda for February Meeting**
    - Draft agenda items presented and Executive Committee did not add any additional presentations.
  - **Other Topics?**

#### Upcoming Meeting Dates

- Full AMHB/ABADA Board Meeting February 8-10th, 2022
- Next EC meeting pending poll on availability January 11, 2022