

**Chairperson:** Dr. Maria Perez  
**Vice-Chairperson:** Walter Lanier  
**Secretary:** Mary Neubauer  
**Senior Executive Assistant:** Jodi Mapp, 257-5202

**MILWAUKEE COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH BOARD  
BUDGET HEARING**

**Thursday, March 18, 2021 - 4:30 P.M.**  
**Teleconference Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Shirley Drake, Jon Lehrmann, Thomas Lutzow, Mary Neubauer, Maria Perez, Duncan Shrout, and Brenda Wesley

**EXCUSED:** Kathie Eilers, Rachel Forman, Sheri Johnson, Walter Lanier, and James Stevens

**SCHEDULED ITEMS:**

**1. Welcome.**

Chairwoman Perez welcomed everyone to the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board's March 18, 2021, remote/virtual Budget Hearing.

**2. Explanation of the Budget Public Comment Process.**

Matt Fortman, Fiscal Administrator, Department of Health and Human Services

Mr. Fortman stated today's public comment hearing is the first of many budget sessions in this very early stage of the budget process. The discussion will revolve around the 2022 Budget, which follows the fiscal calendar year. The Behavioral Health Division (BHD) is still waiting for the Budget Office to confirm the annual budget target, which is the amount of Milwaukee County tax levy supporting BHD services each year. BHD is expecting to see a lower amount than received in the previous year due to the ongoing pandemic. There is a statutory tax levy floor in the amount of \$53 million, which is an amount BHD must receive at the very least. The 2021 Budget was very close to the tax levy floor amount. There most likely won't be an increase but also not a substantial decrease.

The timeline going forward, once the target is received, includes working internally to meet the target and put together a sound budget based partially on some of the priorities and suggestions heard today; a Finance meeting on June 3, 2021, where the Preliminary Budget will be presented; a Finance Public Hearing on June 15, 2021, where the community can comment on the Preliminary Budget, and another public comment session on June 24, 2021. The Board, as a whole, will vote on the Budget on July 8, 2021.

Mr. Lappen explained the importance of conducting a public hearing on the budget so early in the year. Waiting for the June meetings to receive community input was not conducive to the process considering budget related decisions would already have been made by that

**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

	<p>time. The Board was encouraged to incorporate additional public comment opportunities, and therefore did so. Following this particular format allows the public's input to be considered when building the budget from scratch.</p> <p>Mr. Fortman indicated the ramifications of the recent federal relief bill, through which the County will be receiving funds, is still being determined. It is unclear what impact it will have on BHD. The Governor's budget also contains some very exciting behavioral health initiatives, but it is unclear how many of those proposals will make it through to the final adopted State budget.</p> <p>This item was informational.</p>
3.	<p><b>Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division 2022 Budget Discussion.</b></p> <p>The hearing opened for public comment. The following individuals appeared virtually and provided comments:</p> <p>Maria I. Nogueron Mariah Iverson, Milwaukee Mental Health Task Force Barbara Beckert, Disability Rights Wisconsin</p>
4.	<p><b>Adjournment.</b></p> <p>Chairwoman Perez thanked everyone for their participation and ordered the meeting adjourned.</p>
<p>This meeting was recorded. The official copy of these minutes and subject reports, along with the audio recording of this meeting, is available on the Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division/Mental Health Board web page.</p> <p>Length of meeting: 4:33 p.m. to 5:10 p.m.</p> <p>Adjourned,</p> <p><i>Jodi Mapp</i></p> <p><b>Jodi Mapp</b> Senior Executive Assistant Milwaukee County Mental Health Board</p>	

**SCHEDULED ITEMS (CONTINUED):**

**The next regular meeting for the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board is  
Thursday, April 22, 2021, @ 9:00 a.m. at the**

**Visit the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board Web Page at:  
<https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/About/Governance>**

The March 18, 2021, meeting minutes of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board are hereby submitted for approval at the next scheduled regular meeting of the Milwaukee County Mental Health Board.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary Neubauer". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a horizontal line.

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Mary Neubauer, Secretary  
Milwaukee County Mental Health Board