



Solano County

675 Texas Street
Fairfield, California 94533
www.solanocounty.com

Legislation Text

File #: 18-342, **Version:** 1

Approve the reappointment of Melanie Norris to the Mental Health Advisory Board for a term to expire May 22, 2021

Published Notice Required? Yes ☐ No ☒
Public Hearing Required? Yes ☐ No ☒

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION:

The Department of Health and Social Services (H&SS) requests that the Board approve the reappointment of Melanie Norris to serve on the Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) for a term to expire May 22, 2021.

SUMMARY/DISCUSSION:

Welfare and Institutions code 5604-5604.5 specifies that the governing body of each County shall appoint a mental health board consisting of at least 10 members. The Solano County MHAB has been in existence since August 11, 1977 and consists of a diverse 7 membership roster including one position filled by a member of the Board, currently held by Supervisor Brown. Fifty percent of the MHAB's members are required to be direct mental health service consumers or family members of consumers who reflect the ethnic and cultural diversity of Solano County.

On April 7, 2015, the Board approved the appointment of Melanie Norris to the Solano County Mental Health Advisory Board (MHAB) and during her first three-year term, Ms. Norris attended monthly MHAB meetings and was an active voting member in advising the governing body and the local mental health director as to aspects of the local mental health program. With an extensive background in research, administration and coordination, Ms. Norris continues to bring a diverse and knowledgeable voice to the discussions of the MHAB and wishes to continue to serve as a member for another service term.

Ms. Norris is the parent of a consumer of mental health services and is a tireless advocate for the mental health system and its consumers. This reappointment helps to fill and establish an active membership for the MHAB and ensure continued participation. This appointment submitted for the Board's approval is recommended by the Department, the Behavioral Health Deputy Director and the existing members of the MHAB.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

The cost of preparing this item is included in H&SS' FY2017/18 Adopted Budget.

ALTERNATIVES:

The Board may choose not to approve this appointment. This is not recommended as H&SS and the MHAB approved and determined that Ms. Norris qualifies and has a desire to serve the County and its mental health consumers in this capacity.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The current members of the MHAB support the appointment of Melanie Norris to serve on the Mental Health Advisory Board.

CAO RECOMMENDATION:

APPROVE DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION