

CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

Monthly Meeting

December 9, 2010

Minutes – Draft for Approval 2.24.11

\* No recording available, minutes incomplete

Commissioner edits approved and included

Please note, --- = missing words

1. **CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 by Acting Chair Pasquini. Introductions were made around the room.

Commissioners Present:

Evelyn Centeno District II  
Peggy Kennedy, District III  
Dave Kahler, District IV  
McKindley-Alvarez, District I  
Colette O’Keeffe, MD, District IV  
Floyd Overby, MD, District II  
Teresa Pasquini, District I, Vice Chair  
Annis Pereyra, District II  
William Wong, District V  
Sam Yoshioka, District IV

Attendees:

Ralph Hoffmann, NAMI, MHCC, MindFreedom  
Janet Marshall Wilson, MHCC  
Connie Steers, MHCC  
Nancy Birchland  
Helen Geddes, Crestwood  
Quentisha Davis  
Ted Rodgers  
Virginia Graham  
Geet Gobind  
Sandy Kleffman, Contra Costa Times  
Deputy Chief Paula Hernandez  
Brian Lindblom, Co Chair Juvenile Justice Commission  
Peter Mantas  
Chela Bush

Commissioners Excused:

Peter Bagarozzo, District V

Staff:

Linda Cipolla, Staff to MHC  
Susan Medlin, MHA  
Suzanne Tavano, MHA  
Dorothy Sansoe, CAO  
Donna Wigand, MHA  
Jennifer Tuipulotu OCE

Commissioners Absent:

Supv. Gayle Uilkema, District II

1. **CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS**

The meeting was called to order at 4:36 by Acting Chair Pasquini. Introductions were made around the room.

Chair Pasquini explained about Public Comment section:

As we discussed at our Planning Meeting on Monday, we will be changing the way we handle public comments on agenda items. For those items we will hear reports, hear opening comments from Commissioners, hear public comments on the item, close public comments, and hear any final comments from Commissioners before taking any action. This will mirror the BOS process, assist efficiency, and eliminate crosstalk that has been occurring at our recent meetings.

## 2. PUBLIC COMMENT

Helen Geddes: (Chair Pasquini read the public comment card)  
“Inquiring regarding the task force for MHCC”

In response, Acting Chair Pasquini said that the issue was referred to the Quality of Care workgroup in the last monthly meeting.

Commissioner Kahler:

He said there is a woman (Sheila) coming to the meeting who hadn't arrived yet who he had previously spoken to. Her son has a rap sheet. He is the perfect example of the system having complete inability to do anything appropriate... He asked permission that she be able to make a public comment later, once she arrives at the meeting. Dorothy Sansoe confirmed it is procedurally acceptable.

Commissioner Yoshioka:

Commented on the agenda item of October 14<sup>th</sup> and stated he wasn't in attendance nor was he there for the special meeting on 25<sup>th</sup>. He thinks there was a variance from his understanding of the nomination process. It's unusual for the chair during nominations to nominate someone. He has not witnessed that while on other boards, because the chair is neutral. He spoke about the issue around an election tie. It's the first time he's come across when the chair had a huge impact on the election process. He also spoke about the nomination process closing a month in advance. Someone was locked out of the vice chair position. He referred to a different board and described that when the committee voted, the election was closed only after letting the people on the board to nominate or be interested in positions. In that case there was a month to think about it the nominations. He also mentioned that it was unfortunate when the nomination process goes through, there is a divide and it doesn't allow for consensus building.

Acting Chair Pasquini responded that she appreciated Commissioner Yoshioka's concerns and she heard what he was saying. She knows that our process was very different the year before when we nominated a neutral person (Commissioner Anne Reed) to conduct the nomination process. She hopes that in the upcoming year after the discussion at the IOC meeting on 12/6 and hopefully with the approval of the new By-Laws early in the new year, there won't be any confusion going forward. She said she was happy with the results.

Peter Mantas (verbatim per his document):

Dear Mental Health Commissioners and Members of the Public:

Dorothy Sansoe presented a letter at the November 9, 2010 MHC meeting. This letter included significant errors if not lies.

The October 25th meeting packet was posted on the MHC website which included one page that inadvertently included three client last names. To the general public the last names alone can't identify the client. However, once I was made aware of this issue on October 27, 2010, I immediately removed the reference and on October 27, 2010 at 5:48 pm I sent the document to Cindy and Linda to post ASAP. Uncharacteristically, I didn't get a response from either of them and on November 4, 2010, I resent the request.

Mental Health Administration and County Administrator's Office conveniently forgets the fact that this is a statute mandated board. They continue to meddle with the Commission's business and its leadership.

County Administrator's Office continues to make their decisions a moving target. This is especially true when Dorothy and Health Services need our help they are willing to advise us one way and then when it

doesn't suit their purpose they advise us another. That is what Dorothy did at your last meeting with respect to adding an emergency item.

As to the HIPAA issue... I spoke to the County Patient Privacy Officer and he confirmed that HIPAA does not apply to the MHC and what was presented was not in violation of any laws. Furthermore the MHC is a party to HIPAA.

However the MH Deputy Director and company continue to spread misinformation and lies.

Nothing that was presented at the October 25th meeting was problematic. You are being misled to create fear, uncertainty and doubt which ultimately causes division and inaction. The choice is yours whether you chose to educate yourself and put a stop to this or fall victim to the tactics as our predecessors and become ineffective as a statute mandated body.

Furthermore this body's independence is threatened... MHC staff was told to screen calls and emails and not to act on my directions while I was still Chair. They were also given other priorities so as to not allow me to complete my work as this Commission's Chair. Are you willing to accept this? If not... Did you ask staff if they were instructed to screen calls and emails? If yes, by whom and when?

At this point the buzzer went off signaling the three minutes for public comment had ended. Acting Chair Pasquini asked Peter Mantas to please wrap up his comments.

Peter Mantas was angry and said that Commissioner Yoshioka "took a whole lot longer and you let him go over three minutes."

Annis who had been using the timer said that Commissioner Yoshioka had stayed within the three minutes.

Peter Mantas raised his voice and continued reading despite the Acting Chair's repeated efforts to get him to stop. Peter told her that he had earned the respect to complete his comment and that she was being disrespectful to him. This continued to occur through the next following sentences and he read the second item without interruption.

I know for a fact that beyond Linda, others around the table knew that this was going on. The question is will they admit it in public? Are they willing to act to remedy?

I suggest that an agenda item is introduced at the next meeting to get to the bottom of MHA and CAO interference with the business of the MHC and direction given to staff by the Mental Health Commission's Chair.

I also suggest that an additional agenda item is introduced to discuss publishing the agenda packets and materials distributed at the meeting to the website for full disclosure. This was done to allow the public to keep fully informed on MHC's actions and information. CAO's actions are contradictory to transparency and accountability of the MHC and the MH Division. The reasoning behind this decision by the Sr. Deputy CAO is a bunch of proverbial BS.

Nancy Birchland inquired into status and progression of the task force regarding MHCC.

Acting Chair said it's been referred to Quality of Care workgroup and will be worked on in 2011.

Commissioner Pereyra (verbatim per her document):

Currently, when a Contra Costa County resident is sent to a care facility placement in another county, that client's Medi-Cal gets reassigned to the new county. For example, Contra Costa is now using available beds at Crestwood in Vallejo for Board and Care placements for our residents. These consumers then become residents of Solano County, not Contra Costa.

Problems arise when one of these consumers needs hospitalization, or if they attempt to return to Contra Costa. Their Medi-Cal belongs to Solano, and Contra Costa can't bill Medi-Cal for their care. One of my family members was a resident of Our House, placed there and paid for by Contra Costa County. Hospitalization was required, but this person was placed in a hospital that Contra Costa does not contract with, Fremont Hospital. Even after a Temporary Conservatorship was filed by Contra Costa, the hospital refuses to interact with the treatment team from our county, even to the point of refusing to accept medication history from our family, or from the county.

Janet Marshall Wilson raised this issue in November at one of our meetings. Even as a Patient's Rights Advocate for consumers in Contra Costa, she has not been able to protect consumer's rights at Fremont Hospital. My family member was one of the consumers who were attempting to contact Janet with complaints about this facility.

My family member has been at Fremont Hospital for 45 days, and is close to the end of his Medi-Care inpatient psych days lifetime allotment. He is on the same medication that put him there – a medication that has previously been deemed to be detrimental. He is exhibiting the same behavioral issues that forced hospitalization, and because there has been no change in meds, no IMD will accept him for transfer. The hospital will not cooperate with Contra Costa County or make any changes, and this family member is truly in limbo, stuck while his rights and civil liberties are violated, his spirits deteriorate, and hope dissipates. Most especially, he is receiving poor psychiatric care.

This is a quality of care issue, continuity of care issue and most certainly is a civil liberties issue. It is an issue that affects both consumers and their families. It is another example of a systemic failure that has my family member in the Catch 22 of mental health as nothing is being done by Fremont Hospital to make him better and there is no place left for him to go. That is, until his billable days are consumed, and then he is certain to be shown the door.

Quentisha Davis:

She apologized to all in attendance in the last monthly meeting for the side chatter and for leaving early because she was upset. She respects and understands the bureaucracy. She recognized the Commission is not paid and they hold office because they care.

She said she was offended and hurt and almost didn't return (to the meetings) because --- to put someone on stage with so much time. She said it was "hurtful and wrong" and felt like a power play. She said she understands relationship and politics and that should never happen here. It is wrong.

Ms. Davis referenced hearing rumors about "who befriends who". The rumor in the community... have three minutes of public comment versus the thirty minutes given to Brenda Crawford. She referenced Ms. Crawford's "charge" to drop in at the centers. Ms. Davis said she thinks you should interview the workers rather than drop in (in order to understand what is really happening). She stated, "These things are happening" (abuse). She said Rome wasn't built in a day but we have to do something. She said there is a movement happening in Sacramento that is recognizing workplace abuse is a reality and that we will see more complaints regarding Brenda Crawford in the future. She said "it's unacceptable. I encourage all commissioners to speak up and support folks."

Ralph Hoffmann:

Chair read his public statement suggesting a course in anger management for issues that make them angry.

Brian Lindblom (Co-chair of Juvenile Justice Commission):

He read an excerpt from the JJC Annual Report (verbatim per his document):

Mental health services continue to be inadequate again this year in the institutions. Many minors in custody have a history of physical, sexual or mental abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, gang involvement, prostitution, truancy and neglect. There is an opportunity to work with minors that are incarcerated in a controlled environment, yet no resources seem to be available through Children's Mental Health to make this happen. It was hoped that assistance thru MHSA PEI (Mental Health Service Act - Prevention and Early Intervention) would help address this crisis but these funds have gone to other interests. The Commission believes that one on one counseling and therapy can and will make a difference in the future of the "juvenile at risk population". Children's Mental Health has been unresponsive in the Commissions' request for information regarding this area of treatment, choosing instead to ignore their mental health responsibilities. The Commission requests the Board of Supervisors to assist them in contacting the Health Services Department for Children's Mental Health to secure enhanced funding for the population at OAYRF and Juvenile Hall. This population is in desperate need of higher level of services. Brian said he would make sure all commissioners have a copy of his statement.

Commissioner O'Keeffe:

As a "parliamentarian issue" she brought up that consumers are not given adequate time to speak. She had previously objected and her objections were pushed aside. She hopes this does not get pushed aside going forward.

Chela Bush:

She said she is from Pinole and her son is about 20 years old with a history of being in and out of jail. He's been on meth and was diagnosed as schizophrenic. He currently sleeps in his van. She said she desperately needs help. She doesn't want to call the cops and because they don't know how to treat people with his condition and they "jack him up" and then a couple of weeks later he's back out on the street. He won't volunteer himself so she doesn't know what to do to help him; there are a lot of men like him.

Chair Pasquini thanked her and said she took the first step which was meeting Commissioner Kahler at a NAMI meeting. She recommended talking to Mental Health Director, and encouraged her to return again and provide an update to the Commissioners. Pasquini said she is a West County Rep and is happy to talk to her and would provide her contact information to Sheila.

### 3 ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annual Consumer Christmas Party on Friday, December 10<sup>th</sup> - 11:00am to 3:00pm. Held at the Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive, Pleasant Hill.  
(call Karen @ 925.521.1230 ext. 205 for more information)

A reminder that annual training for advisory bodies has been pushed into February. We will be receiving reminders.

Commissioner O'Keeffe: asked if the training was mandatory. When Acting Chair replied, "no", she said she would go anyway.

Acting Chair Pasquini reminded the Commissioners and staff from Monday's planning meeting that most people were happy. The comments had been received and all would be shared. The best case/worst case scenarios are in the handout to hopefully frame the meeting. Lastly is a note from Judith MacBrine the facilitator. Pasquini read from Judith's note: "The meeting on Monday set a good start AND it will be really important that you hold people to:

- Using consensus building to hear concerns and create quality decisions that everyone can get behind (and no one will block)
- Leaning into "what's working" on the Commission
- Making the atmosphere be safe to speak - this will be your number one criteria of success for MHC meetings
- Use the skills and behaviors that you've said will make you flourish and have you operate well when things get hard

Although we left things on a positive note, there are still harsh voices that are part of the MHC system. That's okay. They can inform you **and** don't let them derail you. Keep having the meetings be focused and safe and building on what you created together Monday."

Acting Chair Pasquini spoke about the need for everyone to feel safe in the meetings. She commented on the extended system issues of safety of all including consumers and staff based on the recent deaths(killings/murders?) at Napa State Hospital and our own County Jail.

Chair Pasquini gave kudos to County Hospital. She was at the joint commission all staff report last week. She sat in several meetings during the week, as a member of the Executive Operations team. County Hospital received the highest praise, especially the psychiatric units and pharmacy departments got kudos This is the result of the hard work from the transparent safety and improvement projects that have been ongoing for the past several months. She has been privileged to participate as a family member, along with Commissioner Kahler, who coaxed her into process. Please remember that people are working very hard in the system. Her son is waiting for a bed. He didn't get to celebrate various holidays. We are all here to make things better. Please move forward respectfully

#### 4. **CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

October 25<sup>th</sup>, 2010 MHC Meeting Minutes with proposed changes from former Chair.

Commissioner Wong moved to accept minutes as modified by former Chair Peter Mantas. Commissioner Pereyra seconded and then retracted once the motion was clarified. Commissioner Overby then seconded to approve the minutes with Former Chair's changes.

#### **Discussion:**

Commissioner O'Keeffe:

She said the font was microscopic, and was totally inaccessible so she could not approve the minutes because she could not read them. She asked that the font be larger in future, as an ADA accommodation (*Americans with Disabilities Act.*)

Acting Chair Pasquini:

Explained the document in the packet included Track Changes so the former Chair's edits are visible. She said she trusted the Executive Assistant listened to the tape several times and so she relied on Linda for capturing an accurate report of the meeting, and that she had no memory word by word. She did not support accepting the minutes with changes from the former Chair. She would prefer to accept the original minutes.

Commissioner Pereyra:

Asked if the minutes were word for word dialog from tape or rewritten, meaning was it changed per intention or transcription.

Public comment from Peter Mantas:

He said every chair from the past could review and change the minutes and to make corrections if words are missing. He said there are characterizations. All comments are either clarifications or intentions from when he listened to the recording. He said anyone can go back and listen to what was said and that if they trusted him before, he is surprised they can't trust him now. He repeated the Chair has always had the opportunity to make these edits. He said he hoped they would approve the minutes and not spend a lot of time debating.

Commissioner O'Keeffe.

Asked to table the motion until the font is larger to discuss the matter at the next meeting. With approval on procedure, she motioned to table approval of minutes.

Commissioner Pereyra seconded. She also said she had to get a magnifying glass in order to read the minutes.

### **CONSIDER TABLING APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Motion made to table approval of the October 25, 2010 Special Meeting minutes until document can be read with larger font. (M-O'Keeffe,/S-Pereyra/Failed, 3-1-6; Y-O'Keeffe, Pereyra, Wong, N-Centeno, Kahler, Kennedy, McKindley-Alvarez, Overby, A- Pasquini)

### **MOTION TO APPROVE MINUTES WITH CHANGES**

- **ACTION: Motion made to approve October 25, 2010 Special Meeting minutes with changes from Former Chair. (M-Wong/S-Overby/Passed, 6-1-3; Y-Centeno, Kahler, Kennedy, McKindley-Alvarez, Overby, Wong /N- Pasquini, A Pereyra, O'Keeffe)Yoshioka not present at 10/25/10 meeting**

### **5. GOVERNANCE/PROCEDURAL ISSUES:**

- A. CONSIDER Monthly Meeting Date Change in 2011 due to MH Director's scheduling conflict.**

Acting Chair Pasquini explained that the Commission had moved the monthly meeting date to accommodate Supervisor Piepho, and now need to move the date back to the 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday so the Mental health Director can attend (next meeting will be January 27<sup>th</sup>).

Commissioner Pereyra commented that it will require two changes for Thanksgiving and Christmas.

### **MOTION TO MOVE MONTHLY MHC MEETINGS TO FOURTH THURSDAY**

- **ACTION: Motion made to move monthly meetings to fourth Thursday: (M-Yoshioka/S-McKindley-Alvarez, /Passed, unanimous, 10-0-0; Y-Centeno, Kahler, Kennedy McKindley-Alvarez, O'Keeffe, Overby, Pasquini, Pereyra, Wong, Yoshioka)**

The Mental Health Director thanked everyone for changing the meeting date.

Peter Mantas:

He said he needed to leave and thanked Acting Chair Pasquini for her work as the Acting chair during his illness. He said she has always been an inspiration even though there has been friction in the last few months. She has helped him in his role as Chair and he asked for a round of applause to which the attendees clapped. He then left the room.

- B. **CONSIDER** approving Executive Committee members: Chairs of Workgroups-Commissioner Pasquini(Cap Facilities), Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez(Quality of Care), and Commissioner Kennedy(Diversity and Recruitment). This Committee will exist pending approval of new MHC By-Laws by BOS.

Acting Chair Pasquini explained that the current By-Laws require an Executive Committee but that there is (currently) only an Acting Chair with no Vice Chair. After our new By-Laws are approved, there will be a clearer process for defining/selecting an Executive Committee. The By-Laws were reviewed by the IOC on Monday and will be forwarded to the Board. For them (the Commission) to continue a workplan (in the meantime) she would like to have an Executive Committee to formalize the process and approve a format of having the Commission approve all committees. In the past it was (only) the Chair, Vice Chair and Chairs of standing committees. Right now she and Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez and Commissioner Kennedy are the Chairs of the workgroups.

Commissioner Wong made a motion to appoint Commissioners McKindley-Alvarez, Pasquini and Kennedy as the Executive Committee (EC) until the By-Laws pass in the next month.

**Discussion:**

Commissioner Centeno questioned the By-Laws which are pending.

Acting Chair explained that the EC is a formality. The Commission will not meet until end of January unless there is a special meeting.

A woman asked for the proposed EC member's names and Acting Chair Pasquini repeated them. Pasquini explained that she won't be Acting Chair going forward but strongly recommended that the workgroup meetings be noticed. Any EC meetings would be noticed and the Public would be able to attend.

Commissioner Centeno said her problem was that the Chairs of the workgroups are also the people on the committee so she doesn't approve.

Acting Chair agreed with her concern and explained that after the By-Laws are adopted that will change.

**MOTION TO APPROVE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

- **ACTION: Motion made to approve Executive Committee members: Kennedy, McKindley-Alvarez, Pasquini (M-Wong, /S-Kahler, /Passed, unanimous 10-0-0; Y-Centeno, Kahler, Kennedy, O'Keeffe, Overby, McKindley-Alvarez, Pasquini, Pereyra, Wong, Yoshioka)**

- C. **CONSIDER** referral process for accepting agenda items – All future agenda planning will be conducted by Executive Committee to include Commissioner input through workgroup process, a formalized written referral process and collaboration with MH Director. To include discussion of formal process for adding new and emergency items to agendas that were not included in Annual Plan.

Acting Chair Pasquini stated that this item began with a review of the 2010 workplan, and a recognition that we were not able to accomplish goals for the year. There were a lot of factors that occurred; The Local 1 Survey, IOC referrals, and several concerns from consumers and MHCC came up and carried through the



rest of the year. There will always be emergency items. She asked that they consider a process that will allow them to determine whether they need to add an item to the agenda.

Commissioner Centeno motioned to establish. Commissioner Pereyra seconded.

**Discussion:**

Commissioner O’Keeffe said part of the job is oversight so she is uneasy with the collaborative requirement with the MH Director, having the appearance of her permission requested on agenda items.

Acting Chair referred to the WI code, and explained the chair is mandated to work with the MH Director.

Commissioner O’Keeffe was concerned about agendas.

Commissioner Wong said he didn’t know how this could be accomplished without working with the MHA and said, it’s not like one person will overtake the Commission. He asked for a description of an emergency item and added that an agenda item can always be added up to 72 hours before it’s noticed.

Acting Chair said there can be agenda items that are not identified on the Commission workplan. They had identified four or five focus areas for the year (On Monday). They will take those items and also consider mandates which weren’t included in the Monday Planning Meeting. Items will come up in 2011 that don’t currently fit the workplan, so rather than the chair determining what should be on the agenda, let the Executive Committee Decide.

Acting Chair referred to the form that the Quality of Care workgroup designed that was in the packet. She also requested permission to use the CPAW form and asked for approval from Sherry Bradley; ---- the planning committee and facilitation. It’s been very helpful with their process for ----.

Commissioner Wong said four or five workgroups is good. Whether it is --- brand new and requested to be put on the agenda they need to put it on.

Dorothy Sansoe said the Chair or Executive Committee has to measure that allotted time and item context are reasonable for the agenda.

Commissioner Wong said that was reasonable.

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez said she thought we were using the agenda referral forms and that it is a more inclusive process for Commissioners to the EC so that there is a direct link. It’s useful not just for items to be added but also for all people who want to add a topic on the agenda; they could fill out the form and we could provide feedback or put it on an agenda.

Commissioner Yoshioka said he feels it’s a bureaucracy whereby the EC receives agenda items from the committee. He was concerned about the public and that they shouldn’t have to go through the committees. An additional point he questioned was having a chair and vice chair chairing the committee, that it is a duplication. He felt the chair and vice chair shouldn’t be chairing committees.

Acting Chair said they’d already approved the EC. If the workgroups change in 2011 they could re-consider; but they just took a vote so they were talking about the form.

Commissioner Yoshioka said no, it's about who fills the --- by the nature of the chair, vice chair, and ---

Commissioner Kennedy said she agreed they should share the wealth. The decision made at the planning meeting was to move from workgroup to standing committee and going through that process will hopefully happen sooner than later.

Commissioner Centeno mentioned that when approving this motion. That question is moot and wait until ---

Commissioner Wong said the hardest issue for the Executive Committee would be a complaint and about someone (personnel issue) that should be referred to staff. He said, "You can't put it on an agenda if it is a complaint."

Commissioner Centeno said she expects the Executive Committee to have a ---

Acting Chair Pasquini said heard Centeno's concern, and explained the intention of the referral form is to not have just one person setting the agenda.

Commissioner Wong said you're trying to make sure the --- are. There is a fine line regarding established complaint and when to bring it here to the MHC meeting.

Acting Chair Pasquini said I think the form will help this process. There will be more than one ---

Commissioner Centeno made a motion and Commissioner Pereyra seconded

Dorothy Sansoe pointed out there are two forms with which to approve.

Acting Chair Pasquini asked that they consider an amendment to approve in concept and bring back in January.

#### **CONSIDER REFERRAL PROCESS FOR ACCEPTING AGENDA ITEMS**

- **ACTION: Motion made to approve referral process with template in concept (M-Centeno, /S- Pereyra, Approved 8-2-0; Y-Centeno, Kahler, Kennedy, McKindley-Alvarez, Overby, Pasquini, Pereyra, Wong, A-O'Keeffe, Yoshioka)**

D. **ANNOUNCE** process change for public comments on Agenda Items Commission will hear public comments on all agenda items and then closing public comments to hear Commissioner Comments. This will eliminate cross talk, assist efficiency and mirrors the process of the BOS.

Acting Chair read Item D aloud which reiterated her opening comments regarding public comment.

Commissioner Wong asked whether commissioners would be subject to the 3 minute limit as well (as public comment).

Acting Chair responded with, "no."

E. **REVIEW** 2010 MHC Task List Tracking Form. **CONSIDER** ongoing usage and/or streamlining form.

Acting Chair Pasquini explained the history of this tracking form: that there were a lot of activities and motions and hard work performed and motions being passed and then they would fall off the radar and not be tracked. Peter Mantas created this form as a way of tracking Commission activities and actions to be used as part of annual report which was a draft proposal from Monday's meeting. She said the Task List has gotten lengthy, and believes it's been used as a weapon which is not her intent. She said she thought they (the Commission) needed accountability. That would be her intent for using it (the task list). She hadn't looked at the 2010 Task List and wouldn't be able to guide it. Her hope was to collapse the completed items so they don't have so much paper. That was the intent of the agenda item.

Commissioner Kennedy said she didn't think the list format was conducive to reading and that they have spent too much time saying the right thing on the list. She was "all for streamlining and finding a more effective way to accomplish this."

Commissioner O'Keeffe added that the list should have a larger font and not have dark grey in the background.

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez suggested two forms: an annual report created in same format in which items could be dropped in, and (as such) could be used as on-going list; also have a tracking form to be discussed. So there would be a (tracking list) combination of both/and.

Commissioner Overby said he couldn't read the form because there are so many (items) that say pending.

Acting Chair Pasquini said she thought some of those items were in debate.

Commissioner Wong noted that the chart is a lot of "to do" things. He recommended that it is fine and also requested that when the task list is accepted, it would be good to refer it to various staff.

Acting Chair said she would like to consider Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez's recommendation. The annual report is an activity that weighs heavily on the shoulders of the Chair and would not need to be created at end year if used for tracking throughout the year. She also acknowledged that Peter did a good job drafting it.

Commissioner Pereyra asked Acting Chair if she'd like a motion to accept Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez's suggestion to use two documents. The Executive Committee could create a report in progress and bring back to the full Commission. Commissioner Overby seconded.

Commissioner Centeno had a different motion.

Commissioner Kennedy said so much of this stuff she had no idea because she just came onto the Commission. There are a lot of things that should have happened or did happen and she questioned how to take the information. She didn't want to dismiss it. She thought they needed to wrap their minds around it to streamline it and make it more user-friendly.

Commissioner Centeno said she'd been looking at the list and noticed items from year 09 still pending. She wanted to put a motion to the Executive Committee that all tasks from 09 should either complete status or be

taken out of tracking list. She liked Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez's motion and didn't think her suggestion was competing.

Acting Chair said they needed to finish up with the first motion.

Commissioner Wong said they don't need a motion to have a set of activities to bring them up to date (procedurally), and that they could go ahead and do that

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez said, "And so it is, the form will be created."

Commissioner Pereyra withdrew her motion and was in agreement for the Executive Committee to create, recreate, and update the lists.

Commissioner Centeno said she would like the Executive Committee (EC) to work on the 09 tasks on the list for three months to decide whether to close or toss.

Commissioner Pereyra said she didn't think anything should get tossed, because these (tasks) could come back.

Acting Chair Pasquini explained they would not shred anything, but rather, collapse (hide the data).

Commissioner Centeno said, "Make the decision."

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez said she didn't disagree, and explained they (EC) could quickly review in collaboration with MHA. It should not take that long and they would say whatever they couldn't figure out.

**REVIEW** 2010 MHC Task List Tracking Form. **CONSIDER** ongoing usage and/or streamlining form.

- **ACTION:** Motion made to allow Executive Committee to confirm and edit status of outstanding tasks and bring back to Commission in January. (M-Centeno/S-McKindley-Alvarez/Passed 8-1-0; Y-Centeno, Kahler, Kennedy, McKindley-Alvarez, Overby, Pasquini, Wong, Yoshioka, A-O'Keeffe)

#### F. **UPDATE** Future Agenda Items.

Acting Chair explained this was not an action item so she would push it to EC meeting. It is all just process that needs to get fixed. She then exclaimed the meeting was five minutes ahead of time!

- 6 **MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT** – Mental Health Director Wigand  
**HEAR** report on Intern selection, Supervision, and training process in all county and contract programs.  
**HEAR** update on Juvenile Hall investigation.  
**CONSIDER** and **DISCUSS** report and any recommended actions by Commission

Acting Chair Pasquini introduced the item saying the Mental Health director would report on the intern selection and training process and provide an update on the investigation. She opened the floor reading a statement: "We have spent a lot of commission time this past year on reports of supervision concerns of the

Intern/Employee who has now been arrested and charged with possession of child pornography and as the CC Times article in your packet states, 46 counts of molestation.

The decision to place this item on our agenda today was made after communications among Carole, Peggy, Mental Health Director Wigand, Deputy Mental Health Director Tavano and I. The Mental Health Director and I spoke last Friday and the MH Director stated that this topic should not be swept under the carpet. I understand that there will be restrictions on comments due to legal constraints.”

The Mental Health Director:

Added that in addition to those reports she also had a report from Sacramento. She noted that Sandy Kleffman from the Contra Costa Times was in attendance. She referred to the document from the last packet and said that there was confusion about the word ‘intern’ and ‘trainee’ and that she could explain with a broad brushstroke.

Deputy Mental Health Director:

In referencing documentation from last month, one thing they are changing is provider services coordinator (as of) today --- which will be correct. I think there’s been some misunderstanding. The term ‘Intern’ had been used for many degrees. We were clear between a prac, pre or post degree student. It varies by discipline, licensed clinical social workers, etc. all disciplines have different --- for stats. Some require practice and others don’t. We could redistribute the document (that contains a description of the various levels and requirements). The list goes up to post doctorate (level). There is a separate page that delineates, social workers, students and trainees. I’m not sure what to say unless someone has something to say specifically.

MH Director:

The article is in the packet(handout). As you know when there is an ongoing investigation you can’t give the details. I can’t do that and won’t. Like many of you I feel a sense of tragedy. There are multiple investigations, some of which is outlined in the article. The FBI and several local police departments are involved. I am very sorry I can’t reveal any details of those investigations.

Deputy MH Director:

We can’t speak about the investigation. The Deputy Chief is here from probation. All staff is taking this seriously. Since the charges have been filed (I have spent many hours on this issue). I spent a morning at Juvenile Hall. Other administrators from probation met with the Youth Program. In the meeting they were asked about their concerns and were given an opportunity to speak with the Chief or --- or herself. It came up earlier about Juvenile Hall. We have six clinicians but now we are down to three clinicians, and are looking. A lot of those kids are hooked into it and they want to continue treatment. Suzanne turned to Deputy Hernandez and offered her the floor. Acting Chair told her that she had not opened public comments yet.

Acting Chair:

For procedural purposes will do that for public comments. We will open to commissioners first.

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez:

I would like to have more clarification to process that the selection --- not contract agencies, and you may not have that right now. When it first arose.--- issue around process of intern. Not clear on position just that he (the intern) wasn’t licensed. It could happen anywhere and he was a tenured employee. How do we monitor this?

MH Director:

That would be a long answer and you specified Childrens, but I wonder if you mean all county staff?

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez:

This (incident) is specific to Children but I think all are vulnerable.

MH Director:

I would want to give a presentation which I'm happy to do next time.

Commissioner Kennedy:

I'd like to hear about what safeguards can be or are already built into systems to keep this from happening again.

MH Director:

There are safe guards. Unfortunately things can happen. Everybody is checked (at the beginning of their employment with finger printing and a background check). If the person has no police record, you won't find anything. There is no failsafe process to keep this from ever happening again. But there are steps we can take.

Commissioner Wong:

Addressed his comment to Contra Costa Times Reporter Sandy Kleffman who was in attendance, referring to the paragraph in the article (from the packet)

*"According to current and former co-workers who contacted Bay Area News Group upon hearing the news of Jewell's arrest, this is not the first time his behavior has raised concern. In July 2009, accusations that he was using his work computer to browse a prostitution website were brought to his supervisors, but no disciplinary action was taken."*

Wong said a typical reader can conclude (from the article) that no disciplinary action was taken. I conclude that from the initial (accusation and outcome), staff did not tell co-workers what occurred. (*see edit w/addition below*)

There is a missing comment by Commissioner Wong that this was not a MHC issue, and that it should be dealt with by Personnel. His comment was made in reference to the CC Times report that Jewell's arrest was not the first time his behavior had raised concerns. The Times reported that "In July 2009, accusations that he was using his work computer to browse a prostitution website were brought to his supervisors..." My perspective was that any issue that impacts the delivery of services to the mentally ill falls under the Commission. There should have been very severe consequence for any employee found using a county computer in this manner, but most especially in an environment that had been entrusted with the care of such a vulnerable population.

Acting Chair:

Asked attendees to keep in mind the reporter didn't write the article. She asked everyone to please be mindful of our need to be respectful to all public attendees.

Commissioner Centeno:

Asked the MH Director how it is possible for county staff to be assigned work to meet clients without supervision and without being licensed. She wondered if that was allowed.

MH Director:

There are many staff members who are not licensed. For example there are consumer providers who are case managers who interact with consumers, and they are supervised.

Commissioner Centeno: Said the issue with the intern sounds like there was no supervision.

MH Director

Listed a variety of staff, some work with family members and are not licensed. ALL unlicensed staff are unsupervised.

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez:

I want to make a note, in reading the report from the Juvenile Justice Commission. For a child to be in Juvenile Hall their life experience has put them in this place. What type of specific training (is in place) that is different (from the typical training) because this is a different population (with different needs and life experiences). So the --- will look different...

Acting Chair:

Discussion about a future agenda item.

Deputy Chief Paula Hernandez

Apologized that the Chief was unable to be in attendance. When they were noticed about the agenda and saw the verbiage about Juvenile Hall they wanted a presence at the meeting. They were devastated, and immediately we have to look out for the children who are in our care, the children are working.--- (they have) lots of other questions, they have to have someone there (on site) on a regular basis, the kids can't do this because unfortunately they can't depend on --- this person is not with us right now. I don't have anything specific to add except to say we will be a part of this because the facility ---

Brian Lindblom:

Explained there are several types of interns.

MH Director:

Said they can't talk about specifics.

Brian Lindblom:

The paper says he was an intern – what type of intern?

MH Director:

He was a salaried employee, that's all I'm going to say.

Brian Lindblom:

What type of supervision occurred for this person, for instance checking with a supervisor every day, every week, or every month.

MH Director

It could be all of the above.

Brian Lindblom:

Is there documentation?

MH Director:

Again, I can't speak about the investigation.

Someone brought up that we hadn't celebrated Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez's birthday and Acting Chair said she had planned to do that at announcements but forgot. Peggy brought cupcakes to celebrate.

The room in unison said, Happy Birthday to future chair! (Carole)

Commissioner Pereyra:

Listen to Commissioner Wong's --- every place I've ever worked I know all the --- (sites have IT blocked access) to be in that type of website. All have a responsibility to report--- taken to an extremely high level, with consequences. Once the dust settles, --- calm committee what the policy is for any employee involved in service to the county. It should be black and white with no shades of grey in between. *(see rewrite below)*

"I had both a teaching credential and a medical license, and my responsibility under each was crystal clear. Every place I have ever worked, teaching or medical, the responsibility to report suspect behavior was very black and white, with failure to do so resulting in possible loss of license. Actions by any individual once reported were taken to an extremely high level with severe consequence. County policy on consequences should be black and white with no shades of grey in between. Computers for county use should have an individual employee log on and password so that improper use can be tracked back to the user.

Additionally, out in the business world, most specifically other local medical service providers, internet sites necessary for job performance were the only ones that an employee could access, and all others had access blocked by IT. It would not be possible for an employee to be browsing prostitution websites on a work computer.

I hope that both issues would be addressed in the future to assure that there is very clear county policy for any employee involved in service to the county. As a taxpayer, I do not wish to see my tax dollars spent to pay for an employee to use the internet."

The MH Director agreed.

Janet Marshall Wilson:

I share the dismay because I have been hearing about signing intern notes--- mental health clients in Juvenile Hall. I feel there has been an 'elephant' that's escaped, (I don't know if the) Commission's been aware, I know MHD has.

Acting Chair Pasquini:

The Commission discussion didn't have anything to do with molestation. The Former Chair, (agendized) complaints (from) Linda foster. All of those issues had been closed. Then the report came of this arrest. That is why I agree with you that as Chair I had to bring it back; I don't think we can brush this under the table. I share your concerns. I concur. I think that our Commission has been neglectful of Justice System oversight. I've said it before. I know Commissioner Kahler has expressed interest in resuming a Justice Systems Committee. I know he was on the committee---. (Because of full agendas) we can't do all items that are put before us. I was on that committee and it was powerful, we had the district attorney, public defender etc.

With the criminalization of the mentally ill, it is inexcusable to not have a place where we can consider these issues. I know the difference between a rumor and a fact. I've heard rumors that there were emails going back to July 2009 (about this issue). If that's true, that's concerning. I've heard it's a rumor, that the computer (in question) was shared. I would like to have a forum. Either a special meeting or committee



meeting to discuss with more time. Also my understanding is that the manager of this unit is not onsite, I'm concerned about how there is supervision of a site when the supervisor is not on site. Is that accurate? (She directed question to MH Director).

MH Director said, "no".

Deputy MH Director:

It's so complicated when you distinguish between interns and interns practicing--- (she listed various titles/positions)

MH Director:

When you say Supervisor of program---

So to answer at Juvenile center, Chris Adams and--- (third site) there were managers who didn't have (an office) in Juvenile Hall, and went back and forth but were (tasked) to oversee in Juvenile Hall. --- Trainee, practicums etc. (list of titles/positions).

Acting Chair

I would like to consider immediate site visits to Juvenile Hall and County Jail and if this should be tasked to a workgroup. I am unsure how site visit works at jail. In the past she had gone to one West County facility with an appointment and they couldn't get access.

Brian Lindblom:

Offered that one could contact the jail or the Captain of Detention Division.

Chief Deputy Hernandez:

Offered to arrange a site visit.

Commissioner Kennedy:

Said, given the strong interest, she would like to propose a standing justice committee, that all of them could attend. This would create an ongoing procedure rather than a couple of site visits taken out of context.

Commissioner Pereyra:

Can I motion that other site visits be approved by the Commission. Can I start a motion to have Cap/Fac to start a site visit and report back?

Acting Chair:

Yes, (it would be) the Cap/Fac workgroup

Commissioner Yoshioka:

This is not on the agenda.

Acting Chair:

It was on the agenda to discuss and take action.

Commissioner Centeno seconded.

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez:

Adding on to what Commissioner Kennedy said, I agree this is a big issue and I don't want to be reactionary. I would like to have a thought out plan before moving forward. I would like the full Commission to consider a plan before taking action. I am very sensitive about client care and want the Commission to be thoughtful about purpose before moving forward.

Acting Chair asked Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez if she had a proposal.

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez said she'd like another meeting to move forward and collaborate with the Juvenile Justice Commission.

Acting Chair:

Asked for a motion and second.

Commissioner Pereyra:

If this motion passes, the Cap/Fac workgroup could begin discussions.

Acting Chair:

Said with a friendly amendment, Cap/Fac would have a publically noticed meeting to make discussion. The Commission wouldn't go forward on this issue until that meeting. Commissioner Centeno seconded.

Commissioner Wong:

Asked that a member of Juvenile Justice be allowed in attendance.

Acting Chair:

Said she has offered to work collaboratively with the Juvenile Justice Commission.

Quentisha Davis:

Wondered if there is a community forum or healing space around this issue because it's been devastating for everyone. She wondered if people could come together and talk about how they engage in community.

**CONSIDER** and **DISCUSS** report and any recommended actions by Commission

- **ACTION: Motion made to \_\_\_\_\_ (M-\_\_\_\_\_, /S-Centeno/ Passed unanimous, 10-0-0; Y-Centeno, Kahler, Kennedy, Overby, O'Keeffe, McKindley-Alvarez, Pasquini, Pereyra, Wong, Yoshioka)**

Commissioner McKindley-Alvarez left the meeting.

MH Director:

The 3632 issue remains with the county --- to continue discussion of elimination of funding for kids and --- etc. 1 of --- counties filed legal action, This remains difficult. Treating all kids with current IEP Mandate to do that ended October 8<sup>th</sup>. They haven't received IDA money which would have paid for kids through the third week of November. Now we are doing this on the County dollar and will front money until December 31<sup>st</sup>, and that's it! --- Made that point with special education districts and will contract with us by January and have not gotten that from all.

The outgoing Governor has been having special sessions. One of the outgoing governor's plans is to shift mental health dollars to pay for food stamps and child care. Democrats in the legislature are saying they won't entertain this. There is good news and bad news.

The incoming Governor is already having special meetings. The concern from rumor and innuendo in Sacramento is per the incoming Governor, not raising taxes unless voted by residents of the state. He's going to call for a special election. One of the things on this (ballot) will be MHSA. It has to be overturned by initiative on the ballot. I don't want to withhold information.

She got an email during meeting and shared it by saying: by Wednesday December 22<sup>nd</sup> the county's administrative office would like input for the state and legislative platform to submit to the state and Feds about the county. it says: please include the legislative --- and interest by everybody by December 22<sup>nd</sup>. IF you are going to have a special meeting or EC meeting, I can get your input. I can take your goals and incorporate (into my report).

Deputy MH Director:

We have to keep eyes on realignment dollars, they are what we use to draw down medical costs and what we use at Juvenile Hall etc. and for the Mental Health System.

Commissioner Wong: --- actually finance

Ralph Hoffman:

Asked Donna in humor, if she understood where the word snafu originated (a wartime reference.)

MH Director replied that she knew exactly what snafu means.

Commissioner Kennedy:

It sounds like this is a good opportunity that we don't want to pass up. I would hate to miss this opportunity. I am wondering how we do that procedurally.

Acting Chair:

Regarding the possibility of a special meeting she might not be available. We can explore this but we will need a quorum for a special meeting.

Commissioner Pereyra:

Said if MSA is in jeopardy we'll need to crank our tail feathers to get funds from Sacramento and into the pipeline which needs to include the housing and the Capital Facilities from 20 Allen (MH Director: said this had been approved)

Acting Chair:

Our money is safe by approving the plan.

Commissioner Centeno:

Short answer from Mental Health Director: I heard you mentioned county office of Education, --- continue process of 3632.

Mental Health Director:

Joe --- has been at the meeting. It's not like Education is rolling in money.

7. **ADJOURN MEETING**  
**Motion made to adjourn meeting at 6:55pm Passed**

8.

#### FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

*Any Commissioner or member of the public may suggest items to be placed on future agendas.*

##### A. Suggestions for January Agenda

- i. Consider approving MHC Annual 2011 Plan
- ii. Hear and consider updates from IOC 11-22-10 meeting including By-Laws recommendations.
- iii. Comment on 2010 Annual Report DRAFT

##### B. List of Future Agenda Items:

1. Rose King Presentation on MHSA
2. Behavioral Court Presentation
3. Case Study
4. Presentation from The Clubhouse
5. Creative ways of utilizing MHSA funds
6. TAY and Adult's Workgroup
7. Conservatorship Issue
8. Presentation from Victor Montoya, Adult/Older Adult Program Chief
9. Presentation from Crestwood Pleasant Hill
10. Presentation on Healthcare Partnership and CCRMC Psych Leadership
11. Presentation on non-traditional mental health services under the current PEI MHSA programs

##### C. List of Future Action Items:

1. Develop MHC Fact Book to be used in review meetings with appointing Supervisors
2. Review Meetings with appointing Supervisors

*Any disclosable public records related to an open session item on a regular meeting agenda and distributed by the staff to a majority of the members of the Mental Health Commission less than 96 hours prior to that meeting are available for public inspection at 1340 Arnold Drive, Ste. 200, Martinez during normal business hours*

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY  
JUVENILE JUSTICE COMMISSION  
AND  
DELINQUENCY PREVENTION COMMISSION  
50 Douglas Drive, Suite 201  
Martinez, California 94553-8500  
(925) 313-4188**

Date: October 26, 2010

To: Honorable Mary Ann O'Malley, Presiding Superior Court Judge  
Honorable Lois M. Haight, Presiding Juvenile Court Judge  
Susan Bonilla, Chairperson, and Members of the CCC Board of Supervisors  
Philip Kader, Contra Costa County Chief Probation Officer  
Joe Valentine, Director of Employment and Human Services Department  
David Twa, County Administrator of Contra Costa County  
Dr. William B. Walker, Director, Contra Costa County Health Services Department  
Barbara Fenton, CSA Field Representative for Contra Costa County Probation Department

From: Brian Lindblom and Lois Weyermann, Co-Chairpersons, Contra Costa County Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Commission

Subject: Annual Report Fiscal Year 2009-2010

---

Section 229 of the Welfare and Institutions Code mandates that each county have a Juvenile Justice Commission to inquire into the administration of juvenile court law. The code also allows each county to have a Delinquency Prevention Commission at the discretion of the Board of Supervisors. Contra Costa County has such a Commission with the latter established in 1966.

The Commission has access to all publicly administered institutions authorized by the county. It annually inspects jails, lockups, institutions and bi-annually county group home facilities. Following each inspection, reported findings and recommendations are submitted to the Presiding Juvenile Court Judge and others for review.

The Commission also visits Juvenile Court and may hold hearings on matters concerning juvenile custody care or facilities. The Juvenile Court Judge may issue subpoenas requiring attendance and testimony of witnesses and production of documents at the hearings.

The Commission is concerned with policy matters, advises the Juvenile Court, and is responsible for policy-making recommendations. It makes recommendations for administrative body changes, it determines beneficial to juvenile justice, and it ensures that the changes are appropriate, safe and include adequate services.

The Commission may conduct studies including: review of essential services and budgets to ensure relevant and effective probation services; exploration of matters initiated by commissioners or referred by the Juvenile Court Judge, the Probation Department, the Board of Supervisors, or citizen inquiry.

The purpose of the Juvenile Justice Delinquency Prevention Commission is to be a public conscience in the best interest of justice for children and youth.

#### Membership

There are 15 member positions on the commission, all appointed by the Presiding Judge of the Juvenile Court. Each commissioner serves a four-year term unless filling the unexpired term of a resigned commissioner. At least

two commissioners must be youth members. The commission attempts to reflect the racial, ethnic diversity and geographic representations of the county. The geographic make up of the commission for fiscal year 2009-2010 was:

Concord – 1	Moraga – 1	Antioch- 2
Hercules – 1	Pittsburg – 1	San Ramon - 2
Martinez – 1	Richmond - 1	Walnut Creek -5

The Commission began the fiscal year with 12 adult commissioners. Three new commissioners (two youth) were approved and appointed by the Presiding Juvenile Judge. The membership is at full capacity.

The Commission has an established list of five functioning sub-committees. Each member serves on several of these committees. The following committees report to the entire commission as needed: Executive, Inspections, Membership, Juvenile Justice Awards Program, and By-Laws.

#### Meetings:

The Commission meets regularly on the third Monday of every month at 5:30 pm. There is no monthly meeting scheduled in August. The January and February meetings are held on the fourth Monday, due to federal holidays. Meetings are normally held in the Second floor conference room of the Probation Department at 50 Douglas Drive and are open to the public.

To conduct official business at these monthly meetings, a quorum of members is required. At the monthly meetings, reports are received from representatives of the Juvenile Court and Juvenile Probation. Employment and Human Services Department and Children's Mental Health reports are presented bi-monthly. Reports from other agencies may be requested by the commission as required.

Immediately following the adjournment of the Juvenile Justice Commission meeting, the Delinquency Prevention Commission is called to order. This meeting focuses on reports from commissioners and ad hoc members of the public regarding ongoing programs or projects that highlight delinquency prevention throughout the county.

#### Special Programs:

Once a year, the Commission endeavors to recognize individuals, groups and organizations that have contributed to juvenile justice or delinquency prevention in a significant way. The Commission hosts an awards ceremony in May to recognize those individuals and call attention to their outstanding work in helping the County's juvenile population. On May 22, 2010 the JJ/DPC held their annual awards ceremony at the Deputy Sheriff's Association in Martinez. Refreshments were provided by the OAYRF Culinary Arts Program. Recipients of this year's awards were:

##### Outstanding Service/Contribution by a Juvenile Deputy Probation Officer

YURI SECOQUIAN, Richmond Probation Office  
ROBBYN-NICOLE LIVINGSTON, Martinez Probation Office  
NANCY KENOYER, Martinez Probation Office  
GREGG JOHNSON, Martinez Probation Office  
JUDITH NIGHTINGALE, Pittsburg Probation Office

##### Outstanding Service/Contribution by a Law Enforcement Officer

CORPORAL SHARLENE DINKINS, San Ramon Police Dept  
CAPTAIN ALLAN CANTANDO, Antioch Police Dept  
OFFICER JEFFREY PHELPS, Concord Police Dept  
OFFICER ROGER WILSON, Brentwood Police Dept  
OFFICER STEVE HARN, Concord, Police Dept

Outstanding Service/Contribution by a Non-Law Enforcement Individual

WALTER MILAM  
DON GRAVES  
JAMES WOGAN  
MARGOT TOBIAS

Outstanding Service/Contribution by a Community Volunteer

BRIAN LINDBLOM  
MARGE HERGERT  
VICTOR GOMEZ

Outstanding Service/Contribution by a Facility/Institution Program

HERCULES POLICE DEPT EXPLORER PROGRAM  
SAN PABLO POLICE DEPT. EDUCATION SERVICE UNIT

Outstanding Service/Contribution by a Business or Organization

CONTRA COSTA KOPS FOR KIDS

Outstanding Service/Contribution by a Youth Volunteer

SEAN PAUL APEDAILE

Model Program of Excellence

GIRLS IN MOTION (GIM) – JAMES RIVERS

Juvenile Success Story

McKENZIE MOORE  
KEVIN COOK

## Inspections

Part of the Commission's mandated purpose is to conduct annual inspections of the juvenile facilities within the County. These include lock up facilities as well as group homes and treatment programs. Following each inspection a report is written by the inspection team and submitted to the presiding judge of the juvenile court and others for review. During the fiscal year 2009-2010 ten inspections were completed. The remainder of inspections (including County group homes) will be assigned by the inspection committee.

Following a recent inspection of group homes located in Antioch the Commissioners recognized a need to promote specialized services to the youth. The Commission is planning to hold a symposium for group home directors and managers.

## Guests:

The Commission always welcomes guests at their meetings. This fiscal year Presiding Juvenile Judge Lois Haight; Lynn Mackey, Director of County Department of Education; Sean McNamara representing CASA; Susan Lynn, Library Supervisor and Nadia Bagdasar, Juvenile Hall and OAYRF Librarian; Don Glover, ILSP (Independent Living Skills Program) and Julie Posada Guzman, President, JPG Consultants, gave presentations,

## Facilities:

The Chris Adams Girls Center closed in November of 2009 due to a decrease in population. Services for female juveniles were addressed by developing the Girls In Motion (GIM) program.

In January of 2010, the GIM program was announced. The program is modeled after the Youth Offender Treatment Program (YOTP), however, treatment is focused on trauma and behavioral issues. The program is designed for 20 girls. The program must be completed prior to release. There have been 28 girls who have been placed in the GIM program, and currently there are 11 girls in the program. Six girls have completed the program. Eleven girls are under active supervision and are on probation supervised by the program's DPO.

The Youth Offender Treatment Program (YOTP) is for male juvenile offenders who are serving commitments. It has been very successful with 69 minors committed to the program since it opened. Currently there are 30 minors housed in the program. In fiscal year 2009-10 there were 39 minors released from the program and returned to the community, 14 of which successfully completed the program and wardship has been terminated. Four of these young men were presented scholarships. Sixteen of the released minors are on probation and DPO supervision following their release, to assist in their successful transition.

#### Programs:

The Juvenile Justice Commission met with representatives from the county CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocate) program and ILSP (Independent Living Skills Program) and believes strongly that the THPP (Transition Housing Program Plus) is one of the County's most important delinquency and crime prevention measures. The California Department of Social Services provides funding for THPP which is a transitional housing placement opportunity for foster and probation youth aged 16-18 who are currently in the child welfare system. The goal of the program is to provide a safe living environment so that youth can practice skills necessary to live on their own upon leaving the foster care support system. Without this program foster youth must leave the foster care system at age 18. Many of these youth are unable to function on their own and have no employment skills, therefore become homeless or are incarcerated.

The Commission has written to both Assembly Representative Joan Buchanan and State Senator Mark DeSaulnier expressing its support for THP-Plus Program and AB 12, a bill to extend foster care benefits beyond age 18. The Commission has heard nothing from Assembly Representative Buchanan, however, received both telephone calls and a written response from Senator DeSaulnier expressing his support for both THP-Plus and AB 12. The Commission will continue to explore ways to support these efforts.

The Volunteers in Probation Program, coordinated by Petrenya Boykins, consists of community members who have made a commitment to support the youth in detention. There are over 200 volunteers that support in one way or another. Volunteers participate in one-on-one mentoring program and other programs such as Computer Skills through the library program, Bedtime Readers, Senior Tutors, Discovery Bay Garden Club and "Meet and Greet" with Juvenile Hall residents.

Following the presentation by Julie Posada Guzman on "Recommendations for Improving the CCC Juvenile Justice System" the Commission is researching funding through Victims of Crime Program (VOC). These funds are accessible to youth with documented victimization histories to increase mental health resources for this population. This source of funding could be used to increase mental health resources for this population.

#### Events of Interest:

During the fiscal 2009-2010 year the following events involving the Commission are worthy of mentioning. This includes Juvenile Probation Programs and their facilities:

Brian Lindblom, Tom Sponsler, and Lois Weyermann participated as Oral Board Raters of the County Probation Officer recruitment. The Board recommended four candidates, who were then interviewed by Judge Lois Haight, Judge John Kennedy, County Administrator David Twa and Commissioner Orin Allen. Mr. Philip Kader was appointed as the new County Probation Officer.

The CCC Grand Jury requested the JJ/DPC to attend their meeting to provide them with an update of the Commission's activities. Brian Lindblom and Lois Weyermann represented the Commission.

The September meeting of the Commission was dedicated to a restructuring of the commission meetings. The following topics were discussed: recruitment, attendance, interviewing, training and by-laws. The goal was to allow more time for working together on projects.



The Juvenile Court requested that the Commission review the Juvenile Hall and OAYRF libraries. The Commission spoke with Nadia Bagdasar, Librarian and Susan Lynn, Library Supervisor and reviewed the book selection guidelines. It was recommended that the libraries continue to use diligence in book selections to screen out inappropriate violence and sexual literature references.

The library was recognized for the outstanding services provided for the youth. In April a poetry competition was held at OAYRF. The contest entries were compiled into a book of poetry which has become a valuable asset for all to read. Career Day took place in May with 10 speakers talking to the youth about viable career opportunities. The next career day will feature County Probation Officer Philip Kader as the speaker.

Statistics received from both libraries are impressive. At Juvenile Hall, 4,270 items circulate every month, and the number of circulated items at OAYRF is 733. Eighty percent (80%) of residents at Juvenile Hall have one or more books checked out at any given time and 95% of the youth at OAYRF are actively involved in reading materials from the library.

The Probation Department reported that they have been actively seeking grants to create a "Reporting Center" to provide assistance in vocational training, living skills and homeless youth assistance. All services would be available to both female and male juveniles. Additionally, they are seeking grant funding for the Volunteers in Probation Program, the GIM Program, SAMSHA (Substance Abuse and Mental Health Administration) and the Second Chance Recovery Act, a federal re-entry grant focusing on juveniles returning to their communities. These were not successful.

Commissioners met with the Department of Health in December 2009 to discuss the lack of mental health services and inadequate mental health staffing at OAYRF and Juvenile Hall. At that time the commission requested documentation of programs and services for youth in the institutions. No reports have been received and services are still severely inadequate. There is currently one therapist, performing services for approximately 35 youth out of 100 residents. Also during the December of 2009 meeting, a representative of the Children's Mental Health Department reported that an intern program would begin at OAYRF in the near future that will be paid for by Probation.

Since the December date, there has been no representative from Mental Health attending the commission meetings, nor has the intern program been initiated at OAYRF.

First Five is providing teen parenting classes at OAYRF. Additional programs include: Narcotics Anonymous, Alcohol Anonymous, Anger Management, Impact to Crime Victims, Gang Diversion, Life Skills, gardening, Senior Tutors and the Read to Live Program.

Minors in the OARYF program observed Black History Month with a luncheon and program. The Senior Tutors Program celebrated its' 25th year of commitment to youth. Each tutor was recognized by OAYRF Superintendent Michael Pitts and was presented with a certificate honoring their contributions to CCC youth at the annual holiday luncheon.

In April the Ronald Mc Donald dental van performed dental exams to the youth at the facility. Also of interest the youth participated in the Annual JFK University annual team building and ROPES course event.

#### Joint Commission Workshops:

On April 3, 2010, The CCC and Alameda County JJ/DPCs hosted a joint commission meeting/workshop at the Alameda County Juvenile Justice Center. Commissioners from the Nine Bay Area Counties were invited to attend the all day event. The workshop featured training from CSA (Corrections Standards Authority) on inspections of detention facilities. Following the workshop, group sessions convened to discuss topics including membership recruitment, restorative justice, truancy and exploited minors.

All but one of the nine counties was represented. Valuable information was shared and ideas were exchanged. It is the hope of all county commissioners that additional meetings/workshops will occur on an annual basis.

Some of the programs that are regularly reported on are: the Violence Prevention Coalition, DELTA Project, and STAND! Against Domestic Violence. Commissioner Harvey Samuels is the representative from the JJ/DPC. The DELTA project presented a video regarding "The Role of Faith Community" which was followed by a discussion. STAND! which focuses on the education of our young men in the schools and support for the victims of domestic violence has put up posters at bus stations, Bart and other county locations providing information regarding respect for women. The Violence Prevention Coalition hosted a seminar regarding Engaging Men and Boys to Prevent Domestic and Sexual Violence. Tony Porter, co-founder of "A Call to Men", presented the program with emphasis on "taking an active role in creating cultural and social shifts that no longer tolerates violence against women". The JJ/DPC is grateful to the CCC Board of Supervisors for its proclamation to declare October 2010 as "Domestic Violence Awareness Month".

The Commission continues to be grateful to the many community groups and organizations in Contra Costa County that fund youth programs to empower youth, fight delinquency and assist in setting positive directions. The Contra Costa Police Athletic Association (CCPAA) administers: Kops for Kids Mentoring, Positive Mental Attitudes Seminars and Sports Clinics. The CCPAA also collaborates with the Violence Prevention Coalition in efforts to suppress teen violence through acceptable alternatives.

#### Conclusions:

The Commission's mission is to reduce the delinquent population and keep youth out of the juvenile justice system by:

- 1) Sponsoring and participating in diversion and prevention activities that steer youth away from entering the juvenile justice system.
- 2) Supporting programs and systems that can assist youth with mental health and substance abuse issues that may eventually lead to involvement or re-involvement in the juvenile justice system.
- 3) Promoting education and training for the youth who are involved in the Juvenile Justice System that they might become responsible citizens. Leaving their delinquency behind and becoming successful in completion of their probation as they return and live in their communities.

Mental health services continue to be inadequate again this year in the institutions. Many minors in custody have a history of physical, sexual or mental abuse, alcohol and drug abuse, gang involvement, prostitution, truancy and neglect. There is an opportunity to work with minors that are incarcerated in a controlled environment, yet no resources seem to be available through Children's Mental Health to make this happen. It was hoped that assistance through MHSA PEI (Mental Health Service Act - Prevention and Early Intervention) would help address this crisis, but these funds have gone to other interests. The Commission believes that one-on-one counseling and therapy can and will make a difference in the future of the "juvenile at risk population". Children's Mental Health has been unresponsive in the Commission's request for information regarding this area of treatment, choosing instead to ignore their mental health responsibilities.

The Commission requests the Board of Supervisors to assist them in contacting the Health Services Department for Children's Mental Health to secure enhanced funding for the population at OAYRF and Juvenile Hall. This population is in desperate need of higher level of services.

The Commission continues to work closely with the Probation staff, other youth serving agencies and County organizations to advance and promote innovative delinquency prevention programs. The Commission is fortunate to have a positive relationship with the Juvenile Court Judges and the dedicated staff of the Juvenile Probation Department.