

**Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission
Minutes from May 24, 2012 – Final**

1. Call to Order / Introductions

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Carole McKindley-Alvarez at 4:32 p.m.

Commissioner attendees:

Dave Kahler, District IV

Peggy Kennedy, District II

Carole McKindley-Alvarez, District I

Supv. Karen Mitchoff, BOS Representative

Colette O’Keeffe, District IV

Floyd Overby, District IV

Teresa Pasquini, District I

Annis Pereyra, District II

Sam Yoshioka, District IV

Commissioners Absent: Evelyn Centeno, District V
 Juliet Scott, District III
 Gina Swirsding, District I
 Monique Tarver, District III

Non-Commissioner Attendees:

Stephen Boyd, OCE Admin.

Lia Bristol, Supv. Mitchoff’s Office

Louis Buckingham, Family member

Andrea Clark, Anka

John Gragnani, CCCMH/Local 1

Karen Hamadanyan, MSW Intern

Peggy Harris

Susan Medlin, CCBHS/OCE

Mariana Moore, Alliance

Holly Page, MH Admin.

Maria Ramirez, MHCC

Mary Roy, MH Admin.

Karen Shuler, MHC Executive Assistant

Camille Thompson, MHCC

Jennifer Tuipulotu, OCE Admin.

Janet Marshall Wilson, MHCC

2. Public Comment

- 1) Janet Wilson commented about problems at unlicensed Board and Cares in East County. An appeal was made to the Commission for advocacy.
- 2) Camille Thompson, a resident of one of the Board and Cares, commented about people being physically and verbally abused, medications being locked up, the refrigerator being locked, and restricting access to showers.
- 3) Louis Buckingham commented about the “May is Mental Health Awareness Month” Proclamation. He asked what was noticed to the public and what active role the Board of Supervisors played.

3. Announcements

Peggy Kennedy sent around the framed copy of the “May is Mental Health Awareness Month” Proclamation, and praised Commissioner Monique Tarver who was instrumental in writing this year’s Proclamation.

4. Approval of the Minutes from March 22, 2012

- Teresa Pasquini made a motion to approve the Minutes. Sam Yoshioka seconded the motion. There was no discussion. The Minutes were approved as presented by a vote of 8-1. Carole abstained due to absence.

Approval of the Minutes from April 26, 2012

Sam Yoshioka made a motion to approve the Minutes. Colette O’Keeffe seconded the motion. It was determined there was not a quorum of people who attended the April 26, 2012 meeting, so the Chair suggested holding off approval until the next meeting. Supv. Mitchoff mentioned that it is permissible to vote on approving Minutes even if you are not present at the meeting. Carole said she would check into that and get back with the information next meeting. The motion was withdrawn.

5. Hold a working meeting with hospitals, law enforcement, and other stake-holders to develop a plan on how to address systemic issues.

There was discussion that the original intent was not to just focus on 5150’s, but to address the broader view of the entire systemic problem.

- Peggy Kennedy made a motion that the MHC create a Task Force to develop a plan on how to address systemic issues. Annis Pereyra seconded the motion. Supv. Mitchoff said a person who voted against the original motion must make the motion. Colette O’Keeffe moved to table the issue and Sam Yoshioka seconded the motion. During discussion, disappointment and frustration with the Commission in not being able to go forward with this was expressed. It was decided as part of that motion that there be more flushing out of the item with history and figures if it’s going to be reconsidered. If it comes back it needs more background. The motion passed by a vote of 7-1-1. Teresa opposed and Floyd abstained. The issue will be reconsidered at a future date.

6. Conversation on recommendations for interview process for hiring mental health director.

Carole explained that she and BHS/MHA had reviewed the Welfare & Institutions Code regarding the participation and responsibilities of the Mental Health Commission. She asked Commissioners to submit questions they would want to use as interview questions to Karen who will compile them and forward to them Cynthia. It was emphasized that Commissioners are to send their questions to Karen only.

Peggy made a motion to accept the recommendations for the interview process. Sam seconded the motion. During discussion, it was clarified that Carole and Peggy are making the recommendation. There were questions of how the process was done previously when Donna was hired, and concern was expressed over the Commission not being provided the documentation about the position being posted. It was explained that when something like this is posted you can go to the website and find the description. Human Resources will have

the information. The process is: there will be a paper review, then personnel analysts will check minimal qualifications, then they'll start looking at supplemental questionnaires. Then personnel puts together an oral board. Oral interviews are ranked. That is when the MHC might get involved. Carole suggested that staff send out the job description. She will place Cynthia on June agenda to respond to questions. The Commission was asked if they would consider taking a position on expanding process to include others. The motion was withdrawn.

7. Committee Reports

Criminal Justice Committee

- Recommendations re: Juvenile Justice Commission Report.
Because neither Brian Lindblom or Jamie Miller were present at the Commission meeting, Dave suggested having the report presented next month. Carole asked Dave or his committee members to deliver the report.
 - Dave Kahler made a motion to bring the Juvenile Justice Commission Report back next month. Floyd seconded the motion. Commissioners asked to hear the report from the Committee. Dave replied he would rather the report come from the authors. Carol asked what is the main thing we would get out of the report? Floyd said there is no follow-up care. Supv. Mitchoff recommended the report be sent to the Board of Supervisors Family and Human Services Committee to be reviewed and to get staff analysis. The motion was amended to send the report to the FHS Committee. The motion to forward the report to the Family and Human Services Committee was unanimous.
- Behavioral Health Court Site Visit Recommendations.
Dave and Sam reported they visited the Behavioral Health Court and were impressed. No action item was required.
- Site Visit to the West County Detention Facility
Sam stated they were very impressed with the West County Detention facility. The inmates do much of the upkeep. We need more information about what is happening to the inmates who need mental health services. The Committee will follow-up on this. John Gragnani added that all male inmates who require medication are at Martinez, while the females are at West County. Medical and mental health resources are available.
- Janet Wilson asked the Criminal Justice Committee what is the effect of the realignment on housing? Supv. Mitchoff responded that we don't know, and no advocacy is needed yet. Dave said that Chief Probation Officer Phil Kator continues to run his monthly meeting on AB109. Carole requested a written report of what's happening in those meetings. Dave said he will get one to staff.

Nominating Committee

- Status of applicants
 - Evelyn Centeno is now in District V, and Peggy Kennedy is now in District II.
 - There are currently openings in District III (Member-at-Large) and District V (Consumer and Family Member). Interviews have been set up for two applicants (District III Member-at-Large and District V Consumer).

- Three other applications were received – two for District IV Members-at-Large (Dave Kahler’s seat), and one for District III Member-at-Large (Peggy Kennedy’s seat). Floyd Overby’s seat will be available after June 30.
- Supv. Mitchoff said Supv. Piepho will process any of Supv. Uilkema’s applicants.
- Colette suggested bringing to the Executive Committee recruitment of members for the Nominating Committee.

Quality of Care

- Propose a site visit to Napa State Hospital.
It was felt a recommendation to advocate for improvements would not be complete without a site visit.
 - A motion was made by Peggy Kennedy for the Commission to conduct a site visit to Napa State Hospital. Annis Pereyra seconded the motion. Discussion: Suzanne reported the DMH is going to raise the rates, so we are discussing that and quality of care. In Contra Costa we’ve worked hard to get our admissions to Napa down, but Murphy Conversions have raised rates from 8 to 29. She has asked John Allen to check it out and see if we can find better alternatives. If we are refused access, we will speak with Supv. Mitchoff and then state legislators. It was suggested a Commissioner could go with John Allen. The motion was approved unanimously.

Capital Facilities

- The Capital Facilities Committee recommends that the Commission support the building of the CRF and the ARC, and use the MHSA prudent reserve.
 - Teresa Pasquini made the motion and Annis seconded. Discussion: Questions were asked about why we aren’t receiving a written report about this. We are told verbally without any evidence in writing about the dollar amounts. It was clarified that the exact same project didn’t double, it changed. Originally it was costed out as 3 different facilities, then it was decided to proceed with the ARC and CRF and co-locate the arc in the health center. So the CRF now became a single standing facility so costs went up. The final costs weren’t known until recently. Aging of the bids, plus the fact that it must be part of the MHSA plan, makes it time sensitive. The motion was approved by a vote of 8-0. Sam abstained.

Supv. Mitchoff left the meeting at 5:45.

8. Update on proposed MHSA changes at State Level and Possible Advocacy. – Teresa Pasquini and Carole McKindley-Alvarez.

Carole reported that CALMHBC has no advocacy regarding MHSA at this time, and our local planning council did not send the letter of advocacy they were supposed to. Teresa has put together documents she has collected from her personal advocacy. She has attended several meetings, including Committee #3 of Health and Human Services and had a document that provides information on what’s going to be happening at the local level; she also had copies of background information surrounding SB1136. Senator Steinberg’s bill that will codify all the rules and regulations (tie up loose ends around MHSA). Teresa mentioned she has attended both local and state stakeholder meetings.

- Teresa made a motion to take this to the Executive Committee to create an action plan that includes a position of advocacy regarding compliance and local accountability and how that process is going to work. Sam seconded the motion. Teresa suggested re-looking at our annual plan and readjusting our human resources. We are hoping to accomplish educating the public and Commissioners to be able to better provide input on the process. Sam felt we need a concrete recommendation on what the Commissioners want regarding advocacy. There was also a suggestion about possible action to create a Commission legislative committee to help get more Commissioners involved in the advocacy at the state level. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

9. Approve sending a letter to Health Services Director William Walker, Chief Financial Officer Pat Godley, and Behavioral Health Director Cynthia Belon regarding the necessity of what needs to happen and the process and time involved in keeping the MHC informed of MHSA information in a timely fashion to be able to meet statutory requirements.

It was explained that it took so long to get information to Carole, there was no time to bring it to the Commission. It is important that things pass swiftly through them Health Services and Finance so it can get to the Commission on time. It was suggested that a friendly letter be sent that would help remind everyone of the statutes around MHSA that apply to the Mental Health Commission.

- Sam Yoshioka made a motion that a letter be drafted by Carole and Peggy. Peggy Kennedy seconded the motion. Suzanne was asked for a copy of the report that general services provided to Finance. She said she will ask about it. It was felt this would provide transparency, and a request for transparency needs to be included in the letter. The motion was approved by a unanimous vote of 8-0.

10. 5:50 MHSA Report – Mary Roy, MHSA Program Manager

- MHSA and Community-Based Organizations
 - How money is allocated
 - Discuss issue of the same CBO's getting the money
 - Discuss RFP process.

The above items were not discussed, except to say that 68 % of money is anticipated to go to CBO's

- Public Hearing

The MHSA Public Hearing will be June 14 from 5:40-7:40 at 2425 Bisso Lane, Concord (downstairs conference room).

Mary showed several pages of the CPAW Annual Plan Update FY 2012-2013.

The entire Powerpoint is available from the MHC office.

MHSA was supposed to provide a program to serve everyone rather than a small number of people. Where are we now in expanding to serve everyone in the county. Mary replied we are serving over 20,000 additional people a year. We can use a step down plan. Sam said we need to have concrete evidence that we are moving in the direction where we serve the total residents of the county instead of a few. The Commission asked to have information for them sent out sooner.

11. MHC Representative's Reports

- CPAW Housing Committee Report – Annis Pereyra
Annis reported the meeting was cancelled.
- MHSA Social Inclusion Committee Report – Carole McKindley-Alvarez/Monique Tarver
Monique and Carole were not able to attend. Susan Medlin gave a report. They are planning a photo voice advocacy project, to show from a consumer's point of view how it feels to be stigmatized. They feel it's our responsibility to be a model. They came up with ideas for transportation. Carole asked if their Minutes could be included in our packets. Susan will send Minutes to staff.
- Integration Steering Committee Report – Sam Yoshioka
Announced the Change Agent meetings are being moved to Bisso from Bay Point. They are looking at the composition of the committee.

12. Commissioner Announcements

Teresa shared she heard Dr. Don Berwick, and it was very inspiring. Would encourage people to read his books. Dr. Berwick and Dr. Charles Saldanha will be making presentations in Washington, D.C. Teresa has also been invited to make a presentation. She wants to share the power of family stories as well as consumer stories.

13. Adjourn Meeting

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40.

Respectfully Submitted,
Karen Shuler, Executive Assistant
Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission