

**CONTRA COSTA MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MINUTES
THURSDAY, JANUARY 26, 2006**

<p>1. Call to Order/ Introductions</p> <p>Attendees:</p>	<p>The meeting was called to order by 2005 Commission Chairperson Scott Singley at 4:42 p.m.</p> <p><u>Commissioners:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Geet Gobind, District III 2. Lisa Honegger, District V 3. Judy McCahon, District III 4. Kathi McLaughlin, District II 5. Daniel L. Ruxin, District V 6. Scott Singley, District III 7. Karen Sloma, District IV 8. Robert Torres, District II <p><u>Staff, Members of the Public and Guests:</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Herb Putnam, NAMI-CC, MH Client Network 2. Raul Rojas, Supv. DeSaulnier's office 3. Karen Shuler, MHC Staff 4. Arlan West, Guest 5. Donna Wigand, MH Director 	<p><u>Commissioners Absent:</u></p> <p>Bobbie Arnold, Exc. Supv. DeSaulnier, Exc. Dave Kahler, Exc. Cynthia Miller, Exc. Bettye Randle, Exc. Lisa Ronan, Abs. Diane Soto, Exc.</p>
<p>2. Public Comment</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>3. Announcements</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A card was distributed for Dr. Walker expressing the sympathy of the Commission upon the death of his stepson. 2. There will be another NAMI Walk in June. 3. Karen announced changes in Commission expenses reporting procedures due to AB1234. 4. It was announced that the Form 700 was being mailed and Commissioners needed to send it in right away. 5. Karen distributed materials that are available on the Commission's new website. She was asked to place what the Commission would like to see on their website on the Retreat Agenda. 	
<p>4. Approval of Minutes</p>	<p>The Minutes of November 17, 2005 were approved as presented.</p>	<p>M-Sloma; S-McLaughlin. Carried.</p>
<p>5. Outgoing Chairperson's Report – Scott Singley</p>	<p>Due to the absence of the new Chairperson, this report was deferred to February.</p>	
<p>6. Chairperson's Report – Bobbie J. Arnold</p>	<p>Presentation. Due to Bobbie's absence, this was deferred to February. Mental Health Commission's Annual</p>	

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	<p>Retreat. A date of Saturday, February 25 was decided on. Karen is still trying to find a facility. Kathi suggested San Damiano Retreat, Mental Health Services Act Planning Committee. Due to Bobbie's absence, no report was given.</p>	
<p>7. Mental Health Director's Report</p>	<p>Update on the Implementation of the Mental Health Services Act Donna reported the team going to Sacramento February 6 to present our County's plan did a run-through rehearsal on the DMH protocol. Donna stated she feels we have a great team. Sharon Kuehn is known state-wide as a consumer advocate. Also going will be Nancy Ebbert, our Chief Psychiatrist. Update on the County Budget Process. There was a monthly all-management meeting where the issue of county line staff feeling uninvolved, excluded and even angry was addressed. Donna mentioned the need for healing, but said that due to the proposed budget cuts, it will be confusing to see existing programs being cut when the MHSA money is coming in for new programs. She reiterated that it is illegal to use MHSA money on existing programs. She said she has been told the cuts will be in the millions. Donna has asked an internal group to help her make the expected \$3 million cuts. Donna said we've been through 4 cuts for \$8 million. The most in 1 year was \$2.5 million. This year's is expected to be \$3 million. Donna has instructed Jana Drazich to tell her where County dollars are. We have cut all from the contract dollars that we have. Mental Health Administration has seen cut, but line staff have been saved. This cut will be a program/line staff cut. County dollars are used to match EPSDT, re-alignment, MHRC'S (250 people), Contra Costa Crisis Center, Summit and Chris Adams, and 6 clinics. John Cullen is the new CAO. Former CAO Phil Batchelor was brought back to aid in the transition. They have put together a countywide finance team. Address Medicare Part D implementation.</p>	

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	<p>Respond to concerns regarding computer systems not being upgraded to handle the new Medicaid billing and the need for pharmacies and physicians to be Medicare Certified. Discuss the overall impact on patient care, especially the availability of injectable and non-injectable medications.</p> <p>In West and East County, there are pharmacies at the clinics, so medi-medi are able to continue to get their meds. Concord patients must go away from the clinic to outside pharmacies to get their medications. Health Services had applied to be a provider, but applications were submitted late. Because we weren't ready by January 1, we had to reroute to community-based pharmacies. We were given a 1 month grace period. The 1200 medi-medi clients are being contacted and we are working with individuals on what formula to use. Donna said the decision to have County pharmacies be a provider may change. Regarding the concern over people receiving injectable medications, she said they will continue to get them – permanently.</p>	
<p>8. Committee Reports</p>	<p>Criminal Justice Committee Due to stigma surrounding the word “criminal”, entertain a motion to change the name of the Committee to Justice Committee. Discussion followed during which suggestions were made of: Justice System Committee, Consumer Justice Committee, and Justice Committee. The name “Justice System Committee” was agreed on.</p> <p>NOTE: Due to time constraints and absences of Commissioners, no other Committee reports were given.</p>	<p>M-Sloma; S-McLaughlin. Carried</p>
<p>9. Ancillary Committees/Boards/Commissions Reports</p>	<p>NOTE: Due to time constraints, no reports were given.</p>	
<p>8. Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 p.m. due to loss of quorum,</p>	

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Shuler, Executive Assistant
Mental Health Commission

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