

# County of El Dorado

See meeting locations  
listed below

## Minutes

### Mental Health Commission

*Jim Abram, Chair, West Slope Council / Countywide*

*Denise Burke, Chair, Tahoe Council*

*Sue Novasel, Board of Supervisors Representative*

*Michael Ranalli, Board of Supervisors Alternate  
Representative*

*Dr. Richard Lynn, Vice-Chair, Tahoe Council*

*Jan Melnicoe, Vice Chair, West Slope Council*

*Ben Ehrler, Secretary, Tahoe Council*

*Bonnie McLane, Secretary, West Slope Council*

*Dan Boals, Commissioner, West Slope Council*

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner, West Slope Council*

*Steve Ehrler, Commissioner, Tahoe Council*

*Guadalupe Medrano, Commissioner, West Slope Council*

*Vacant, Commissioner, Tahoe Council*

*Craig Therkildsen, Commissioner, West Slope Council*

*Brookes Heil-Blackburn, Commissioner, West Slope Council*

*Norman Nester, Commissioner, West Slope Council*

*Stacy Bolton, Associate Member*

*Vacant (1) Commissioner, West Slope Council*

*Vacant (2) Associate Member*

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Wednesday, January 25, 2017

5:00 PM

Meeting Locations (in person and connected via  
tele/video-conferencing):

- Health and Human Service Agency, 3057 Briw Road, Sierra Room, Placerville, CA
- Mental Health Office, 1900 Lake Tahoe Blvd., Suite 103, South Lake Tahoe, CA

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Public Comment: Matters not on the agenda may be addressed by the general public during Public Comment. Comments during Public Comment are limited to three minutes per person and the total amount of time reserved for Public Comment may be limited.

Public comment will be received on each agenda item listed under Discussion / Action Items as called by the Chair. Individual comments are limited to three minutes and individuals speaking for a group are allocated five minutes. Except with the consent of the Commission, individuals shall be allowed to speak to an item only once. Upon completion of public comment the matter shall be returned to the Commission for deliberation. Members of the public shall not be entitled to participate in that deliberation. The Commission reserves the right to waive said rules by a majority vote.

#### 5:00 PM CALLED TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL; INTRODUCTIONS

*Guests: Kelsey Bekart, Caitlyn Dickey, Supervisor John Hidahl, Evgenia Ioudina, Dara Presley, Norma Santiago, Chris Stedeford*

*HHSA Staff: Patricia Charles-Heathers, Angelina Larrigan, Sabrina Owen, Brandi Reid, Jamie Samboceti, Ren Scammon, Tami Smith, Lori Walker, Laura Walny*

**Present:** 10 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane and Norman Nester

**Absent:** 4 - Denise Burke, Steve Ehrler, Sue Novasel and Brookes Heil-Blackburn

## ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**A motion was made by Commissioner McLane, seconded by Commissioner Clavere, to adopt the agenda as written.**

**Yes:** 10 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane and Norman Nester

**Absent:** 4 - Denise Burke, Steve Ehrler, Sue Novasel and Brookes Heil-Blackburn

## 5:05 PM ROLL CALL

**Present:** 12 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

**Absent:** 2 - Steve Ehrler and Sue Novasel

## PUBLIC COMMENT

*Kelsey Bekart, a nurse practitioner at UC Davis, advised that Medi-Cal and Medicare are now covering the cost for telepsychiatry services and wanted to get the word out because this service is extremely beneficial for homebound individuals and other vulnerable populations.*

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 1. [17-0028](#) Approval of the November 16, 2016 Meeting Minutes

**A motion was made by Commissioner Lynn, seconded by Commissioner Nester, to approve the November 16, 2016 minutes as written.**

**Yes:** 12 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

**Absent:** 2 - Steve Ehrler and Sue Novasel

### 2. [17-0093](#) Mental Health Commission Officer Elections

*The following recommendations were presented to the Commissioners for the 2017 slate of officers:*

*Jim Abram - West Slope Council and Countywide Chair*

*Denise Burke - Tahoe Council Chair*

*Jan Melnicoe - West Slope Council Vice-Chair*

*R.S. Lynn - Tahoe Council Vice-Chair*

*Bonnie McLane - West Slope Council Secretary*

*Ben Ehrler - Tahoe Council Secretary*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Melnicoe, seconded by Commissioner Clavere, to accept the Mental Health Commission slate of officer appointments as presented.**

**Yes:** 12 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

**Absent:** 2 - Steve Ehrler and Sue Novasel

**3. 17-0094** Discussion regarding upcoming BOS Behavioral Health presentation

*Lori Walker advised that she is working with Jamie Samboceti and others to organize a presentation to the BOS on March 7, 2017 with several areas of focus. She asked what would be the most effective way for the Commission to provide input. Due to the short time frame, Commissioner Clavere suggested that an Ad Hoc Committee be formed that would have the authority to report out on behalf of the Commission. A copy of the agenda and minutes outlining the areas of focus was included in the Commission agenda. Commissioners Abram, Burke, Clavere, and Melnicoe volunteered to participate on the Ad Hoc Committee.*

*Public Comment: Norma Santiago stated that there is currently no clear road map for family members of mentally ill individuals to follow on how to navigate mental health services.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Clavere, seconded by Commissioner Lynn, to form an Ad Hoc committee to make recommendations and provide input on behalf of the Commission.**

**Yes:** 11 - Guadalupe Medrano, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

**Absent:** 3 - Richard Lynn, Steve Ehrler and Sue Novasel

**4. 17-0095** Update on Stepping Up Initiative

*Director Charles-Heathers reported that she and many representatives from El Dorado County attended a Stepping Up Initiative conference on January 18-19, 2017 in Sacramento. The group focused on the following topics:*

- 1) *Is our leadership committed?*
- 2) *Do we conduct timely screening and assessment?*
- 3) *Do we have baseline data?*
- 4) *Have we conducted a comprehensive process analysis and inventory of services?*
- 5) *Have we prioritized policy, practice, and funding improvements?*
- 6) *Do we track progress?*

*She stated that they would like to use the existing CCP group as an advisory group with a member of the Mental Health Commission. They are looking at what other counties are doing and how to move the process forward in El Dorado County.*

**5. 17-0096 Discussion regarding Local County Mental Health Rehabilitation Center**

*Commissioner Abram reported that the BOS has approved an exploration in concept for a MHRC in El Dorado County. He stated that the Commission has been in support of this idea for the past several years because it brings clients back to our local community which allows the family to be more involved in the treatment plan, reduces the travel time for clinical staff to other counties, is better for the clients in general and would be a fiscally sound option. Commissioner Clavere recommended that the Commission make an official statement in support of the MHRC.*

*Director Charles-Heathers stated that a RFI was completed at the end of last year to garner a sense of interest and that there were two responses. She advised that they have located some property in the County suitable for a MHRC. She indicated that they are currently exploring the costs and feasibility of having a MHRC that will provide co-occurring mental health and alcohol and drug services. Once they have more concrete details, a plan will be brought back to the BOS for consideration. Commissioner Melnicoe added that she would like a chance to bring personalized importance of a MHRC from the family perspective.*

*Public Comment: Norma Santiago asked if the BOS established a time line and suggested that the Commission ask for a time commitment.*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Clavere, seconded by Commissioner Lynn, stating that the Mental Health Commission is in support of a MHRC in El Dorado County.**

**Yes:** 12 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

**Absent:** 2 - Steve Ehrler and Sue Novasel

**6. 17-0097 Presentation by Director Charles-Heathers regarding Chronic Homelessness in the County of El Dorado.**

*Director Charles-Heathers gave a presentation to the Commission about chronic homelessness in El Dorado County, which was the subject of her MPA Masters degree. Copies of the presentation slides were included in the agenda.*

**7. 17-0098 2016 El Dorado County Data Notebook - selection of Commission member participants**

*Commissioners Boals, Melnicoe and Nester volunteered to participate on an Ad Hoc Committee for the 2016 Data Notebook.*

**8. 17-0099 Update on Upcoming MHSA Three-Year Plan Draft**

*Laura Walny provided an update on the Community Program Planning Process for the MHSA Three-Year Plan. The Commission expressed concern that they would like input earlier in the process of the development of the Plan.*

**9. 17-0029      Update on Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program**

*Jamie Samboceti reported that six potential candidates for the AOT program were identified, three of which met eligibility and assessments will be completed soon to gather as much data as possible. She requested that this item be reported in the division update instead of having it be a standing item on the agenda going forward.*

**6:27 PM ROLL CALL**

**Present:** 11 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

**Absent:** 3 - Guadalupe Medrano, Steve Ehrler and Sue Novasel

**10. 17-0030      AB403 (Stone) Continuum of Care Reform Update**

*Angelina Larrigan reported that the rollout has been done in segments so far and that we continue to wait for direction from the State on how to proceed. The STRTP (short-term residential therapeutic program) model is being rolled out and the CFT's (child and family teams) are being formed.*

**11. 17-0031      Questions and Comments on Behavioral Health Division Monthly Report**

*Commissioner McLane asked for more details about the reference to sober living in the report. Ren Scammon advised that this refers to a variety of different living environments for clients where there is a particular focus on staying sober.*

*Commissioner Clavere asked why there was no data for the PHF in this monthly update. Ren Scammon advised that the data was not made available, but that back data will be provided once it is available.*

*Commissioner Melnicoe reported that Jeanne Nelson from SLT NAMI was concerned about the lack of regular drug testing for BHC clients. Sabrina Owen agreed that there needs to be an improvement and indicated that they are looking at the implementation of a best practice. Jamie Samboceti added that the department is looking to mirror the practices being used on the West Slope to SLT.*

**COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

*Commissioner Melnicoe asked how the FEP program is doing. Ren Scammon shared the information that was provided in the monthly reports about the FEP program.*

**DETERMINE NEXT MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE**

*The next regular meeting of the Mental Health Commission is scheduled for 5:00 PM on February 22, 2017.*

**6:59 PM ADJOURNMENT**