

County of El Dorado

See meeting locations
listed below

Minute Order 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

Lorraine Nordone Pond, Commissioner, Tahoe Council

Maria Quintero, Commissioner, West Slope Council

David Sterkin, Commissioner, West Slope Council

Craig Therkildsen, Commissioner, West Slope Council

Stacy Bolton, Associate Member

Jane de Felice, Associate Member

Vacant (1) Commissioner

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

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

Guests: David Ashby, Nancy Courser, Tim Duran, Capt. Jackie Noren, Chris Stedeford, Marsha Ticas

HHSA Staff: Don Ashton, Patricia Charles-Heathers, Sabrina Owen, Brandi Reid, Jamie Samboceti, Ren Scammon

Present: 11 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Lorraine Nordone Pond, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Sue Novasel, Ben Ehrler and Bonnie McLane

Absent: 4 - Guadalupe Medrano, Craig Therkildsen, David Sterkin and Maria Quintero

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Melnicoe, seconded by Commissioner McLane, to approve the agenda as written.

Yes: 11 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Lorraine Nordone Pond, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Sue Novasel, Ben Ehrler and Bonnie McLane

Absent: 4 - Guadalupe Medrano, Craig Therkildsen, David Sterkin and Maria Quintero

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Courser thanked the Commission for their support and inquired about the status of the Request for Proposals for the PEI Prevention and Early Intervention for Youth in Schools program. Director Ashton stated that he would research it and offered to call her back.

Commissioner Melnicoe announced the upcoming Give Where You Live campaign on April 23, 2015 and the NAMI Walk on May 2, 2015, which has a team from the Mental Health Division headed up by Rhapsody Flores.

5:05 PM ROLL CALL

- Present:** 12 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Lorraine Nordone Pond, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Sue Novasel, Ben Ehrler and Bonnie McLane
- Absent:** 3 - Guadalupe Medrano, David Sterkin and Maria Quintero

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

1. [15-0531](#) Approval of the March 25, 2015 meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner McLane, to approve the March 25, 2015 minutes as written.

Yes: 12 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Lorraine Nordone Pond, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Sue Novasel, Ben Ehrler and Bonnie McLane

Absent: 3 - Guadalupe Medrano, David Sterkin and Maria Quintero
2. [15-0529](#) Recommendation from Commissioner Abram that the Draft 2014 Annual Report be reviewed and approved for submittal to the Board of Supervisors

A motion was made by Commissioner Burke, seconded by Commissioner Melnicoe, to approve the Draft 2014 Annual Report as written and submit to the Board of Supervisors.

Yes: 12 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Lorraine Nordone Pond, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Sue Novasel, Ben Ehrler and Bonnie McLane

Absent: 3 - Guadalupe Medrano, David Sterkin and Maria Quintero
3. [15-0526](#) Committe Updates
 - 1) Jail
 - 2) Intake Process
 - 3) Children's Services

The Jail and Children's Services reports have been submitted to the Mental Health Division for review. The Intake Process committee members reported that their report is still being finalized and will be submitted soon. Commissioner Abram stated that the reports should all be finalized and ready to present at the next regular Commission meeting in May.

4. [15-0527](#) Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Budget Shortfall AdHoc Committee Update / Report

Commissioner Abram reported that the committee met last Friday and has come up with a number of recommendations to present to ensure that CSS programs are sustainable in future years.

5. [15-0528](#) Report from the Health and Human Services Agency regarding the FY 2015-16 Budget

Director Ashton provided an update to the Commission on the FY 2015-16 Budget and answered questions from the Commissioners. He stated that some of the budget challenges include the increase to salary and benefits with no increase in revenues, as well as an increase in A-87 costs. To offset the increased costs, there is a planned decrease in client services contracts, as the department works to step clients down to the appropriate lower levels of care, application of a 3% vacancy rate factor, deletion of vacant positions and absorption of some vacated positions. He also stated that the FY 2015-16 Budget includes an increase in Medi-Cal revenues as a result of the Affordable Care Act, but reiterated that this increase is not sustainable into future years. There was also discussion regarding the need for increased adult residential facilities in our county and the long term cost savings of stepping down clients locally to a lower level of care in lieu of more costly out of county placements.

6. [15-0530](#) Questions / Comments on Mental Health Division Monthly Report

Commissioner Burke commented that there seems to be a lack of participation in the South Lake Tahoe Behavioral Health Court (BHC) and asked if there were plans to eliminate the program. Sabrina Owen stated that referrals are down everywhere as a result of Proposition 47. She will be attending a BHC conference this week and there is a re-design planned for the program on both slopes.

Commissioner Lynn asked about the staffing for the new Utilization Review (UR) clinician. Jamie Samboceti stated that this is replacing a position that vacated several months ago. The UR team's responsibilities have expanded to include intake and outcomes, in addition to their regular duties.

Commissioner Melnicoe stated that she was sorry to see the Patients' Rights Advocate position be reduced from a full time position, as this was a tremendous resource to the clients. She asked if the department could provide the Commission a summary of the types of issues and grievances that were being raised. Assistant Director Charles-Heathers stated that this information could be provided in the future.

Commissioner Melnicoe stated that she is glad to see that the CIT trainings will be starting soon. Capt. Jackie Noren provided an overview of the different types of CIT trainings that will be provided as a result of the grants that have been received and answered questions from the Commissioners and the guests of the meeting.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Abram stated that May is Mental Health Awareness Month and that there will be a proclamation at the Board of Supervisors meeting on May 12, 2015. Sabrina Owen added that the week of May 11, 2015 is Mental Health Awareness Week in South Lake Tahoe and that there will be an open house in the South Lake Tahoe Wellness Center.

Commissioner Clavere stated that it seems that Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT)

has dropped off the radar and asked for an update on the status. Commissioner Abram stated that AOT is still being pursued, but that lately, the focus has been on the budget. He stated that implementation of AOT adds a new dimension and a new tool to help counties provide mental health services at a reduced cost. Commissioner Therkildsen added that the implementation of AOT will also reduce victimization. Commissioner Clavere stated that he is not aware of any county reporting fiscal problems as a result of implementing Laura's Law / AOT.

Commissioner McLane thanked Jimmy Gonzalez from IT for staying through the meeting to ensure the videoconference equipment was working properly.

DETERMINE NEXT MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting of the Mental Health Commission is scheduled for 5:00 PM on May 27, 2015. A date for a Special Meeting to discuss the MHSA Plan Update will be determined at the next regular meeting.

6:10 PM ADJOURNMENT