



# 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, November 16, 2016

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 agendized 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.

#### CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL; INTRODUCTIONS

*Guests: Joseph Delallo, Ruth Loehr, Norma Santiago, Marsha Ticas*

*HHSA Staff: Patricia Charles-Heathers, Sabrina Owen, Brandi Reid, Jamie Samboceti, Ren Scammon, Tami Smith, Laura Walny, Shirley White*

**Present:** 14 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Sue Novasel, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

**ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA**

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

**Yes:** 14 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Sue Novasel, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

*Director Charles-Heathers announced that she completed her Masters in Public Administration and completed her final paper on chronic homelessness in El Dorado County.*

**DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS**

- 1. **16-1162** Approval of the October 26, 2016 Meeting minutes

**A motion was made by Commissioner Melnicoe, seconded by Commissioner Boals to approve the October 26, 2016 minutes as written.**

**Yes:** 14 - Richard Lynn, Guadalupe Medrano, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Sue Novasel, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester

- 2. **16-1163** Update on Medical and Mental Health Admission Policies and Procedures for the Jails

*Commissioner Clavere advised that he sent a request to Captain Noren for jail admission policies and procedures and they were received promptly. CFMG has their own procedures for suicide prevention, which have also been requested, but not yet received. He stated that the policies and procedures were written in 2001 and are therefore, outdated.*

*Supervisor Novasel advised that there is an upcoming conference on January 18-19, 2017 for the Stepping Up Initiative in Sacramento and that many representatives from El Dorado County will be in attendance.*

- 3. **16-1164** Membership Committee Report

*The Membership Committee reported that the three Commissioners (Burke, Clavere and Medrano) whose terms are ending in January all wish to be reappointed.*

**4. 16-1165** Nominating Committee Report

*The Nominating Committee recommended reappointments of all Commission officers as follows:*

*West Slope Chair - Jim Abram  
South Lake Tahoe Chair - Denise Burke  
West Slope Vice Chair - Jan Melnicoe  
South Lake Tahoe Vice Chair - R.S. Lynn  
West Slope Secretary - Bonnie McLane  
South Lake Tahoe Secretary - Ben Ehrler*

*Commissioner Abram stated that the Commission will vote on the slate of officers at the January meeting and that the recommended appointments will be confirmed at the January Board of Supervisors meeting.*

**5. 16-1166** Discussion of Mental Health Commission Goals for 2017

*The following goals and ideas were shared by the Commissioners for 2017:*

- 1) Assisted Outpatient Treatment implementation*
- 2) Children's Services, especially with AB403*
- 3) Outcome measures*
- 4) Inclusion of Behavioral Health in SLT housing taskforce*
- 5) Advocate for MHRC since many of the chronically homeless are mentally ill*
- 6) Peer programs / supportive employment to clients*

**6. 16-1167** Update on Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program

*Deputy Director Samboceti stated that County Counsel has recommended that the BHD identify and complete the first application for AOT. This process will involve collaborating with the PHF, CIT and the Emergency Department to identify appropriate candidates for the program.*

**7. 16-1168** AB403 (Stone) Continuum of Care Reform Update

*Director Charles-Heathers stated that monthly AB403 meetings are continuing and that providers who want to become certified have already submitted their applications and these have been forwarded to the State.*

**6:10 PM ROLL CALL**

- Present:** 13 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Dan Boals, Steve Ehrler, Ben Ehrler, Bonnie McLane, Sue Novasel, Brookes Heil-Blackburn and Norman Nester
- Absent:** 1 - Guadalupe Medrano

**8. 16-1169** Questions and Comments on Behavioral Health Division Monthly Report

*Commissioner Lynn questioned how the decision was made to purchase Avatar and wants to learn how many counties are using Avatar. Deputy Director Samboceti stated that federal and state mandates require counties to have integrated care systems. The department looked at three different products before the decision was made to purchase the "out of the box" version of Avatar. County IT and Mental Health staff worked collaboratively on all forms, processes and mapping for implementation of the Avatar system.*

*Commissioner Melnicoe commented that the BHD staff did an outstanding job for the Thanksgiving dinner for the clients. Ren Scammon added that the Public Health Nurse provided about 19 flu shots to clients and staff at the event.*

*Commissioner Abram asked if there are plans to fill the Program Coordinator position vacated with Dee-Anna Bradley's resignation. Deputy Director Samboceti stated that a requisition to fill the position has been requested.*

*Commissioner Abram asked if PHF statistics were available since they were not included in the monthly report. Ren Scammon advised that one or two were El Dorado County residents and that the rest of the beds were out of county placements. Director Charles-Heathers added that there has been an increase in the number of beds by older adults and the department will be looking at possibly contracting with Medicare in the new year.*

*Commissioner Abram asked for more information about the Mental Health Loan Assumption program. Laura Walny advised that the program has been around for awhile and loan forgiveness of up to \$10,000 is available to those currently working in the public mental health system. She reported that five individuals have contacted her since her email.*

*Commissioner Melnicoe asked if an update on the suicide prevention meetings and activities could be added to the MHSA section of the report.*

## COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

*Commissioner Melnicoe stated that her daughter has stepped down to a lower level of treatment and is doing well and thanked the department for helping move her forward.*

*Commissioner Boals stated that he called County Mental Health about three years ago requesting help for his daughter. The department worked to connect them with Summitview in a Full Service Partnership for her and she is now stable and enrolled in college. He thanked the department and service providers for their help and persistence.*

*Commissioner Abram stated that his daughter is also doing well in services right now and also thanked the department for their help.*

DETERMINE NEXT MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE

*The next regular meeting of the Mental Health Commission is scheduled for 5:00 PM on January 25, 2017.*

**6:22 PM ADJOURNMENT**