

Minutes
Behavioral Health Commission

Arturo Salazar, Chair
Dr. Stephen Clavere, Vice-Chair WS
Dr. Richard Lynn, Vice-Chair SLT
John Hidahl, Board of Supervisors Representative
Kathryn Hamilton, Secretary
Henry Sandigo, Commissioner
Norma Santiago, Commissioner
Debra Thornburgh, Commissioner
Karis Holman, Commissioner
Vacant (7), Commissioner

Wednesday, September 23, 2020

5:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

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5:14 PM CALLED TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL; INTRODUCTIONS

El Dorado County Staff Present: Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Paula Frantz, Ren Strong, Nicole Cable, John Schumacher

Public Present: Barry Harwell, Chris Stedeford, Kathi Guerrero

Present: 5 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago and Richard Lynn

Absent: 5 - Henry Sandigo, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, John Hidahl and Sue Novasel

PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

5:20 PM ROLL CALL - Karis Holman arrived

Present: 6 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Karis Holman and Richard Lynn

Absent: 4 - Henry Sandigo, Debra Thornburgh, John Hidahl and Sue Novasel

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Santiago, seconded by Vice-Chair Clavere, to adopt the Agenda.

Yes: 7 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman and Richard Lynn

Absent: 3 - Henry Sandigo, John Hidahl and Sue Novasel

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. **20-1218** Approval of the August 26, 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes (5 minutes)

A motion was made by Vice-Chair Clavere, seconded by Commissioner Santiago, to approve the 8/23/2020 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes as written.

Yes: 6 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Karis Holman and Richard Lynn

Absent: 4 - Henry Sandigo, Debra Thornburgh, John Hidahl and Sue Novasel

2. **20-1246** Review / Discussion of Children's Services Ad Hoc Committee (25 minutes)

Commissioner Santiago presented a summary of the September Behavioral Health Commission Ad Hoc Children's Services Committee meeting, which included presentations by Sheila Silan with El Dorado County Office of Education, Chris Stedeford with Summitview Child and Family Services, and Laura Walshaw of Stanford Youth Solutions.

The next Ad Hoc meeting is anticipated to be on October 8 and four additional service providers will be invited to attend.

Commissioner Holman is no longer able to attend the meetings, so the Ad Hoc Committee will continue with the existing membership of Commissioner Santiago as the Chair, Commissioner Hamilton, and Commissioner Thornburgh.

Public Comment:

Barry Harwell with Sierra Child and Family Services asked which agencies the Ad Hoc Committee met with and requested to participate in a meeting.

Kathi Guerrero with First5 said she appreciates the opportunity to participate.

3. 20-1217 Behavioral Health Court Presentation and Discussion (25 minutes)

John Schumacher with Health and Human Services Agency/Behavioral Health, provided an overview of the Behavioral Health Court program. The overview included the history of the Behavioral Health Court program, the current state of the program, and the future of the program.

Commissioner Clavere asked about the District Attorney's willingness to reduce charges and fines and how many individuals might participate in a functioning Behavioral Health Court.

Commissioner Santiago asked about collaborative training, eligibility to participate in the program, and about Diversion Court versus Behavioral Health Court.

Commissioner Holman spoke about the benefits of participating in a Diversion Court.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, spoke about the differences between Diversion Court and Behavioral Health Court, and she spoke about the new MHSA Forensic project.

Nicole Cable, Manager of Mental Health Programs, said that Behavioral Health is researching evidence-based programs and is working to bring the Behavioral Health Court and Diversion Court in alignment with regards to having the same referral forms, having one person oversee the programs, and trying to make the processes as similar as possible for continuity.

Public Comment:
None

6:02 PM ROLL CALL - Debra Thornburgh arrived

Present: 7 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman and Richard Lynn

Absent: 3 - Henry Sandigo, John Hidahl and Sue Novasel

4. 20-1247 Update on Stepping Up Initiative (5 minutes)

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken provided an update on the Stepping Up Initiative. There will be a meeting to discuss the protocols related to Diversion Court referrals, treatment services, communication between parties, etc. The first court date for the West Slope is October 19, 2020.

Public Comment:
None

5. 20-1248 Review / Discussion on Outcomes and Data Reporting by HHSA on PEI Programs (10 minutes)

Commissioner Clavere requested to know what was spent on each contract. He also wants information on what funds were left on each contract per year and on a cumulative basis. He also asked questions about fund balances, contract funds rolling from year-to-year, and funds remaining unspent on contracts from Fiscal Year 2017/18- present. Ren Strong, Program Manager, directed him to the PEI Reporting document (attached to the agenda and shown on screen), ~~which provides the requested information for the most recent completed fiscal year.~~

Commissioner Santiago said success has to be measured as a program evolves.

Commissioner Salazar agrees it is good to have a fund balance. However, for some projects like Senior Link, the project exists on paper, but the project was not implemented.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, said contracts, including MHSA contracts, are monitored monthly and there are times when it is difficult to get projects off the ground. She also said that having a fund balance can be a wise fiscal strategy for when there is a decrease in funding. In this case, MHSA programs may not have to be reduced due to having a fund balance.

Public Comment:

Barry Harwell from Sierra Child and Family Services said it is hard to determine what funds are MHSA versus Medi-Cal and when there are unspent funds, it is hard to determine from what source funds are unspent. He also said that he would like to be able to roll funds forward, especially when projects start late in the year.

6:40 PM ROLL CALL - Supervisor Novasel arrived

Present: 8 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and Sue Novasel

Absent: 2 - Henry Sandigo and John Hidahl

6. 20-1249 Review / Discussion on Substance Use Disorder Services (SUDS) Outcomes and Data by HHSA (15 minutes)

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken reviewed the number of individuals served according to the different levels of services provided. The order of the services listed is from the more intensive care to less intensive care. There may be some duplication of counts for people who were enrolled more than once. This information represents the services received by Medi-Cal beneficiaries.

Commissioner Salazar asked for clarification if the data represents services provided by all SUDS partners.

Public Comment:

None

7. 20-1221

Receive and Discuss Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health Director's Report and Behavioral Health Division Monthly Report (15 minutes)

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken reviewed the Behavioral Health Division Monthly Report. She also noted that the Substance Use Disorder Services (SUDS) section in the Division Report also includes information regarding Quality Assurance on-site monitoring of contracted providers who provide SUDS services.

Commissioner Salazar requested separating the number of SUDS services provided in South Lake Tahoe versus the West Slope. He also asked if there is data for individuals under age 18 placed in psychiatric health facilities. Ren Strong, Program Manager indicated that Behavioral Health could include some data on children for next month's report.

Commissioner Clavere asked if there were any Assisted Outpatient Treatment referrals and he noted that the Psychiatric Health Facility has a census of 80% this past month. Nicole Cable noted that there were no petitions for Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) and individuals have been transitioned into Full Service Partnership services. It may be a clerical error that the information related to AOT was not carried over in the report. She also noted that the Institutions for Mental Disease (IMD) have stopped admissions and discharges due to COVID-19.

Public Comment:
None

COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS

Supervisor Novasel said she was pleased to receive notification from NAMI that the 988 response (similar to 911, but specifically for suicide prevention) has been passed by the House, and is on President's desk to sign. She thanks NAMI for taking a stand on this and being strong proponent for mental health in our community.

DETERMINE NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

The next Behavioral Health Commission meeting will be held at 5:00 PM on October 28, 2020

ADJOURNMENT - 7:13 PM