

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
John Hidahl, 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
Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Brookes Heil-Blackburn, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Norman Nester, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Craig Therkildsen, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Shawn Allan, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Arturo Salazar, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Stacy Bolton, Associate Member, West Slope Council
Norma Santiago, Associate Member, Tahoe Council
Henry Sandigo, Associate Member, West Slope Council
Vacant (2), Commissioner, Tahoe Council
Vacant (1) Commissioner, West Slope Council

Wednesday, October 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

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

Guests: Marsha Ticas, Captain Jackie Noren, Chris Stedeford

HHS Staff: Katy Eckert, Ren Scammon, Jamie Samboceti, Patricia Charles-Heathers, Heather Longo, Angelina Larrigan, Tami Smith, Karen Naegeli

Board of Supervisors Member: John Hidahl, District 1

Associate Members: Norma Santiago, Stacy Bolton

Present: 9 - Richard Lynn, Jan Melnicoe, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Sue Novasel, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn, Norman Nester and Shawn Allan

Absent: 4 - Denise Burke, Craig Therkildsen, Ben Ehrler and Arturo Salazar

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

ADOPTION OF AGENDA – A motion was made by Commissioner McLane, seconded by Commissioner Melnicoe, to adopt the agenda as written.

Yes: 9 - Richard Lynn, Jan Melnicoe, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Sue Novasel, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn, Norman Nester and Shawn Allan

Absent: 4 - Denise Burke, Craig Therkildsen, Ben Ehrler and Arturo Salazar

PUBLIC COMMENT

NONE

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

1. [17-1169](#) Approval of the September 27, 2017 Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [9-27-17 DRAFT MHC Minutes.pdf](#)

A motion was made by Commissioner Melnicoe, seconded by Commissioner Nester, to adopt the minutes as written.

Yes: 9 - Richard Lynn, Jan Melnicoe, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Sue Novasel, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn, Norman Nester and Shawn Allan

Absent: 4 - Denise Burke, Craig Therkildsen, Ben Ehrler and Arturo Salazar

2. [17-1170](#) Appoint Mental Health Commission Capital Facilities and Technology Community-Based Wellness Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Abram discussed the need for an Ad Hoc Committee to present ideas for a community-based wellness center program. The Community-Based Wellness Center Ad Hoc Committee was formed and the members are Commissioner Melnicoe, Chair Abram, Commissioner Heil-Blackburn, and Associate Member Santiago.

3. [17-1171](#) Data Notebook Ad Hoc Committee Update

Data Notebook Ad Hoc Committee met on Monday, October 23, 2017 with Health and Human Services staff Laura Walny, Heather Longo and Tami Smith. The Ad Hoc Committee discussed the Data Notebook content and completed the questions. Heather Longo entered the information into the Data Notebook and sent the draft document to the Ad Hoc Committee members for review. The final Data Notebook will be presented to the Mental Health Commission at the November meeting.

4. [17-1172](#) Psychiatric Health Facility Ad Hoc Committee Update

Commissioner Clavere, Chair Abram, and Commissioner Nester toured the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) and met with Telecare Corporation, Inc.'s Director and additional PHF staff. The Ad Hoc Committee is compiling their findings and hope to present the information at the November Mental Health Commission meeting.

ROLL CALL 5:15 PM

Present: 10 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Sue Novasel, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn, Norman Nester and Shawn Allan

Absent: 3 - Craig Therkildsen, Ben Ehrler and Arturo Salazar

5. [17-1173](#) Selection of the Mental Health Commission Nominating Committee to Develop a Slate of 2018 Mental Health Commission Officer Nominees

Nominating Committee members are Commissioner McLane, Commissioner Allan,

Commissioner Lynn, and Commissioner Burke. Chair Abram will send the link to the current Commissioner terms to the committee members. Chair Abram will talk to the Commissioners whose terms are expiring to determine if they wish to continue serving on the Mental Health Commission.

6. [17-1174](#)

Mental Health Commission Bylaws Update

On October 13, 2017, Chair Abram met with Supervisor Novasel, Don Ashton, CAO and Director Charles-Heathers to discuss potential changes to the Bylaws. Assistant Director Eckert provided Chair Abram with draft wording for the Commission's change of name and other potential changes to the Bylaws, including adding co-occurring substance use disorder, having a single joint Commission, and adding slope-specific councils, ensuring South Lake Tahoe is represented.

Additionally, Assistant Director Eckert provided Chair Abram with a copy of the Placer County Bylaws, which do not have two councils despite Placer County being geographically divided in a similar manner to El Dorado County with offices on the West Slope and on the north shore of Lake Tahoe. The Placer County Bylaws call for specific representation from each County District.

Reasons for these changes were discussed, including the County's move toward the Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (DMC-ODS), better managing how the business of the Commission occurs, providing better representation on the Commission in alignment with the Welfare and Institutions Code requirements, and addressing potential Brown Act concerns on each slope.

Commissioner Lynn stated he is in favor of having a joint Commission, as long as the wording in the Bylaws ensures representation of South Lake Tahoe. Supervisor Novasel expressed her concerns that South Lake Tahoe have an adequate opportunity to weigh in on the potential changes and be in agreement with them.

A Bylaws Review Ad Hoc Committee was formed to discuss potential changes and will bring an update to the next Mental Health Commission meeting. Ad Hoc Committee members are Chair Abram, Commissioner Clavere, Commissioner Lynn, and Associate Member Santiago.

ROLL CALL 5:25 PM

Present: 11 - Richard Lynn, Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Sue Novasel, Bonnie McLane, Brookes Heil-Blackburn, Norman Nester and Shawn Allan

Absent: 2 - Ben Ehrler and Arturo Salazar

7. [17-1175](#)

Behavioral Health Division Presentation of Outcomes of Voluntary Service Admissions in Lieu of Court Ordered Assisted Outpatient Treatment Program Participation

Deputy Director Samboceti reported that the Quality Assurance unit did a thorough review of all Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) referrals and outcomes. There was an error on the original tracking spreadsheet, which resulted in the referrals being under-reported. The AOT handout reflects the correct information. There was discussion regarding how long clients remain engaged in treatment, treatment plan process, and tracking of clients. See handout for AOT data.

Chair Abram and Commissioner Clavere expressed their concerns that Telecare Corporation, Inc. staff at the PHF were not aware of the AOT program. Deputy Director Samboceti identified that the majority (9) of the referrals for AOT have originated from the PHF. Commissioner Melnicoe expressed her concern that information about AOT does not appear to have been distributed broadly. Director Charles-Heathers stated that PHF leadership was made aware of AOT. Deputy Director Samboceti stated that a press release regarding the availability of AOT was distributed to local media outlets.

The assessment and engagement process was also discussed, including the development of the Treatment Plan, which is developed in partnership with the client and is signed by the client. For those individuals who have not engaged and/or the Division has been unable to locate, an alert is placed on the client's medical chart to advise the AOT team that the individual has been located.

8. [17-1176](#) Update on Mental Health Recovery Center

Director Charles-Heathers reported there is no new information, and that the County is still looking for a building, which is high on Central Government Facilities priority list.

9. [17-1177](#) Update on Stepping Up Initiative

Director Charles-Heathers reported she received an email from Chief Probation Officer, Brian Richart, which stated that the Stepping Up Initiative is still on his radar, he is laying out the next steps and contacting other counties, and assuring he is moving forward with the initiative.

Commissioner Melnicoe reports she attended the Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) meeting and is very impressed with what is going on at the CCP.

10. [17-1178](#) Update on Health and Human Services Agency Service Integration

Director Charles-Heathers reported all groups are engaging in the process and meeting biweekly. Discussions are occurring regarding what services clients access from start to end of services, mapping those services, identifying overlap, identifying funding sources, etc. It is anticipated the process will be complete by the end of the calendar year, and the next update will occur in early 2018.

11. [17-1179](#) Questions / Comments on Behavioral Health Division Monthly Report

Attachments: [Behavioral Health Division Update - 10/25/17 Meeting.pdf](#)

Commissioner Melnicoe reported that she would like to see more detailed outcomes for grievances received. Ren Scammon reported that all individuals who file grievance are given a general summary of the outcome, except with personnel issues and that providing more details may pose a concern for release of protected health information/personal identifying information. Director Charles-Heathers offered that she could share outcome information with Chair Abram at their monthly meeting.

Commissioner Abram asked whether the Mental Health Commission members will be able to participate in the Quality Improvement Committee meetings. Ren Scammon clarified that the Charter must be updated and adopted by the Quality Improvement Committee, which is scheduled to take place at the next meeting on November 1, 2017. The Mental Health Commission will need to appoint a representative to participate.

Commissioner Clavere asked for clarification regarding why Medicare patients are turned

away. Deputy Director Samboceti explained that the County does not accept Medicare insurance.

Director Charles-Heathers reported that HHSA will begin discussions with Telecare relative to Medicare licensure.

Supervisor Novasel commented on how nice it was to read about the client fishing trip in the Behavioral Health Update.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Commissioner Clavere expressed his appreciation of having Captain Noren present. Commissioner Clavere asked for clarification regarding transportation of inmates to the PHF and Captain Noren clarified inmates are transported to the Emergency Department, not to the PHF directly. Commissioner Clavere identified that in Nevada County, CFMG was involved in the decision to not consider the jail a mental health unit. Commissioner Clavere also advised that Nevada and Tuolumne Counties are half the size of El Dorado County, and Yolo County is more equal to the size of El Dorado County. CFMG is the provider in Yolo County and Yolo County accepts jail time as a criteria for AOT in their county. Commissioner Clavere expressed that he is still not happy with County Counsel's decision that the El Dorado County Jail does not meet criteria to be considered a "mental health unit" for purposes of AOT referrals. Director Charles-Heathers stated she will seek out the Director of Yolo County at one of the State meetings and will discuss Yolo County's Jail and AOT with her.

Commissioner Lynn reported he is not happy with CFMG and thinks someone should be putting pressure on them, as their contract is up for renewal in June 2018. Captain Noren offered to look at any suggestions that Commissioner Lynn or the Commission may have regarding areas to address in the renewal process. Commissioner Clavere asked for the designation of a mental health unit to be discussed.

DETERMINE NEXT MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting of the Mental Health Commission is scheduled for 5:00 PM on November 29, 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

6:07 PM