

County of El Dorado

See meeting locations
listed below

Minutes

Behavioral Health Commission

Jim Abram, Chair, West Slope Council / Countywide
Denise Burke, Chair, Tahoe Council
John Hidahl, Board of Supervisors Representative
Dr. Richard Lynn, Vice-Chair, Tahoe Council
Dr. Stephen Clavere, Vice-Chair, West Slope Council
Brookes A. Heil-Blackburn, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Jan Melnicoe, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Norman Nester, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Craig Therikildsen, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Shawn Allan, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Arturo Salazar, Commissioner, West Slope Council
Vacant (3), Commissioner, Tahoe Council
Vacant (3), Commissioner, West Slope Council

Wednesday, February 28, 2018

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: Chris Stedeford, Barry Harwell, Teri Gelgood, Juline Aguilar, Carla Wills, Terry Case, Carol Ward, Val Akana, Keith Wills

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

Associate Member: Henry Sandigo

Present: 7 - Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therikildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Norman Nester, Shawn Allan and Arturo Salazar

Absent: 2 - Richard Lynn and Denise Burke

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Melnicoe, seconded by Commissioner Nester, to adopt the agenda as written, with continuing Discussion Item #5 (Legistar File ID 18-0317) to the March 28, 2018 meeting.

Yes: 8 - Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therikildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Norman Nester, Shawn Allan, Arturo Salazar and John Hidahl

Absent: 2 - Richard Lynn and Denise Burke

PUBLIC COMMENT

Terry Case, community member, expressed appreciation for making the Health and Human Services Agency (HHS) more effective.

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

1. [18-0334](#) Approval of the January 10, 2018 Meeting Minutes

A motion was made by Commissioner Nester, seconded by Commissioner Melnicoe, to adopt the minutes as written, with the correction of adding Commissioner Allan's name to Commissioners present.

Yes: 8 - Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therikildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Norman Nester, Shawn Allan, Arturo Salazar and John Hidahl

Absent: 2 - Richard Lynn and Denise Burke

2. [18-0314](#) Appointment of one Mental Health Commission member to attend the Quality Improvement Utilization Review quarterly meetings

Commissioner Allan was appointed as a member of the Quality Improvement Utilization Review Committee.

3. [18-0315](#) Appointment of one Mental Health Commission member to participate in the evaluation of the Request for Proposal (RFP) responses to the Primary Intervention Project update/discussion/selection

Commissioner Salazar was appointed to participate in the evaluation of the PIP RFP responses.

5:07 PM ROLL CALL

Present: 8 - Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therikildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Norman Nester, Shawn Allan and Arturo Salazar

Absent: 1 - Richard Lynn

4. [18-0316](#) Appointment of Mental Health Commission Membership Committee Members

Commissioner Nester was appointed as member of the Mental Health Commission Membership Committee.

5. [18-0317](#) South Lake Tahoe Council Chair Burke to appoint Norma Santiago as Associate Member to the South Lake Tahoe Council

This matter was continued to the March 28, 2018 Mental Health Commission meeting.

6. [18-0318](#) West Slope Council Chair Abram requests the Mental Health Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors that Henry Sandigo be appointed as a full member of the West Slope Council

A motion was made by Commissioner Clavere, seconded by Commissioner Therkildsen, to recommend to the Board of Supervisors that Henry Sandigo be appointed as a full member of the West Slope Council.

Yes: 9 - Denise Burke, Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Norman Nester, Shawn Allan, Arturo Salazar and John Hidahl

Absent: 1 - Richard Lynn

7. [18-0319](#)

Mental Health Commission Ad Hoc Goals / Priorities Committee Update / Discussion / Selection

Commissioner Salazar's goals are as follows:

- 1) Direct referral to Behavioral Health by the School Attendance Review Board (SARB). Deputy Director Samboceti said that Behavioral Health can accommodate this request.*
- 2) More trained bilingual and bicultural clinicians who are certified by the State to interpret and to translate forms.*
- 3) More Latinos in management positions.*

Commissioner Clavere asked how many County staff are County-certified bilingual?

Deputy Director Samboceti and Program Manager Ren Scammon responded that 5 staff on the West Slope are County-certified.

Commissioner Clavere's goals are as follows:

- 1) Mental Health services in the jail.*
- 2) Outcome Measures – develop better ways to measure outcomes than the client satisfaction surveys.*
- 3) Fund Balance – Unspent Funds*

Commissioner Melnicoe's goals are as follows:

- 1) Rotate what program reviews are going to be covered each year, create a calendar.*
 - 2) Criminal justice reform.*
 - 3) Funding for Behavioral Health Court, Assisted Outpatient Treatment, and related programs which are diversion-related.*
 - 4) Continuum of care in children's services for foster kids made a priority.*
- Commissioner Melnicoe also agrees that language barriers are an issue.*

Chair Abram's goals are as follows:

- 1) Stepping Up Initiative*
- 2) Continue pursuit of a Mental Health Rehabilitation Center (MHRC)*
- 3) Continue to pursue a Community Wellness Center*
- 4) Move forward with the above goals and put them into place.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

Val Akana asked for the definition of MHRC and an explanation of what is being pursued for the Community Wellness Center.

A question was asked if the funds are MHSA.

Deputy Director Samboceti clarified that the funding is from traditional funds.

Carla Wills asked how many children are placed out of county.

Program Manager Angelina Larrigan responded that no children are placed out of county unless the child is placed on a 5150 hold. Foster care would have the data on how many foster children are placed out of county.

8. [18-0320](#)**Mental Health Commission Bylaws Revision Ad Hoc Committee Update / Commission Discussion / Resolution of Changes and Motion to Send Bylaw Changes to County Counsel for Review**

The Ad Hoc Committee is comprised of Commissioners Lynn, Abram, and Clavere, and Associate Member Sandigo.

Commissioner Clavere summarized the major revisions to the Bylaws as follows:

- 1. Change the name from Mental Health Commission to the Behavioral Health Commission.*
- 2. Remove the two (2) Council system (i.e., the West Slope Council and the East Slope Council).*
- 3. Eliminate all standing committees with the exception of the "Membership Committee." Members of the Mental Health Commission expressed that they would like "Ad Hoc Membership Committee" instead of a standing committee.*

Chair Abram reviewed the Bylaws and made note of the following:

- 1. Article V, "Membership" – two options, one includes designation of a SLT membership and the other does not. Chair Abram does not feel that seat designations are necessary; Chair Burke expressed that she feels seat designations are necessary.*
- 2. Chair Burke requested Article V, "Membership," Section D "Commission Composition" be edited to reflect County employees may not be members.*

Chair Abram stated that Welfare and Institutions Code prevents County employees from holding membership. He also reminded the Commission that the membership requires someone who has experience working with the mental health system.

Ren Scammon reminded members that family members are not excluded from being members.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Barry Harwell expressed that if the Children's Committee is eliminated from the Bylaws, he hopes that the Commission will continue to focus on children. He also clarified whether contracted vendors can participate on committees.

Chair Abram stated that the new Bylaws do not preclude vendors from participating on committees, but they cannot vote.

Commissioner Allan and community member Juline Aguilar expressed interest in retaining a Children's Committee.

Chair Abram reminded everyone that anyone can call the Chair to ask for items to be agendaized.

Director Patricia Charles-Heathers stated that becoming the Behavioral Health Commission makes the Commission more inclusive, especially as HHSA moves toward service integration. A Behavioral Health Commission will bring more people into the

discussion at meetings.

Ren Scammon suggested clarification on Article VII, "Meetings" and making meetings accessible via video conferencing. Ren also suggested that the language be edited to state the "public may attend the meetings via publicly accessible video conferencing from remote locations with compatible video conferencing capabilities."

It also was suggested that the final sentence in Article VI, "Officers" be edited to state "a nominating Committee" instead of "the Nominating Committee."

A motion was made by Chair Abram, seconded by Commissioner Clavere, to approve the Bylaws as follows:

- 1. Approve for inclusion in the Bylaws the changes noted in blue font; and*
- 2. The revision in the red font on page 2, Article V, shall not be included in the Bylaws; and*
- 3. The last sentence in Article V, "Composition of Commission" shall be revised to state, "Associate Members may be appointed by the Commission Chairperson to serve on the Behavioral Health Commission committees."*
- 4. The final sentence at the top of page 5, Article VI, "Officers" shall be revised to state, "... a nominating committee" rather than "the Nominating Committee".*
- 5. The final sentence at the bottom of page 6, Article VII, "Meetings" shall be revised to state, "may attend meetings via publicly accessible video conference from remote locations with compatible video conferencing capabilities."*

Chair of South Lake Tahoe Council Burke opposed adoption, all other Commissioners approved the motion.

A motion was made by Chair Abram, seconded by Commissioner Clavere, to approve the Bylaws as follows:

- 1. Approve for inclusion in the Bylaws the changes noted in blue font; and**
- 2. The revision in the red font on page 2, Article V, shall not be included in the Bylaws; and**
- 3. The last sentence in Article V, "Composition of Commission" shall be revised to state, "Associate Members may be appointed by the Commission Chairperson to serve on the Behavioral Health Commission committees."**
- 4. The final sentence at the top of page 5, Article VI, "Officers" shall be revised to state, "... a nominating committee" rather than "the Nominating Committee".**
- 5. The final sentence at the bottom of page 6, Article VII, "Meetings" shall be revised to state, "may attend meetings via publicly accessible video conference from remote locations with compatible video conferencing capabilities."**

Chair of South Lake Tahoe Council Burke opposed adoption, all other Commissioners approved the motion.

Yes: 8 - Jan Melnicoe, Craig Therkildsen, Jim Abram, Stephen Clavere, Norman Nester, Shawn Allan, Arturo Salazar and John Hidahl

Noes: 1 - Denise Burke

Absent: 1 - Richard Lynn

9. [18-0335](#) Stepping Up Initiative Update / Discussion

Chair Abram and Commissioner Clavere met with Brian Richart, Chief Probation Officer (CPO) on January 31, 2018 to discuss putting the Stepping Up Initiative into place. At that time, the CPO said he would assign an Administrative Deputy to oversee the project and would let them know the name of that individual. The plans changed over several weeks, and the last communication from CPO stated he was aiming for a late March kick off meeting.

On February 23, 2018, Chair Abram met with County Chief Administrative Officer (CAO) Don Ashton and Director Charles-Heathers to express concerns that the Stepping Up Initiative was adopted over two years ago but work on the Initiative has been slow..

Supervisor Hidahl stated that he met with Brian Richart, and while he is disappointed at a lack of forward progress, he does not know what is on the CPO's work plate. He stated he would again meet with CAO Don Ashton.

Director Charles-Heathers stated she offered to support Brian Richart.

Chair Abram shared that Jeanne Nelson also met with Brian Richart.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Terry Case shared his opinion that people who focus on processes, get in the way of progress and results.

Carol Ward also questioned if the Sheriff is a participant.

Chair Abram confirmed that the CPO is a participant, not the Sheriff.

10. [18-0321](#) Health and Human Services Agency Service Integration Update / Discussion

Director Charles-Heathers reported that she presented an update on service integration to the Board of Supervisors on February 13, 2018, which now opens up service integration discussion with the greater community. She also mentioned that integration is focused on indicators (outcomes) and ties into the County's Good Governance strategic plan.

11. [18-0322](#)

New MHSA Innovations Program(s) Update / Discussion

Heather Longo, MHSA Coordinator, presented the MHSA Innovation ideas of which MHSA is moving forward. Of the proposals submitted, the County will continue to research seven proposals. The summary of the proposals is attached to Legistar File ID 18-0322.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Teri Gelgood reported she submitted a Neuro-reorganization proposal working with foster children and would like clarification as to why it is not included.

Ren Scammon replied that it is already being done, but her question was forwarded to the State and we are awaiting their response.

Val Akana added that it is for foster kids, so that should make it innovative.

Commissioner Salazar for clarification of the next steps in the process.

Ren Scammon explained that once MHSA identifies potentially viable proposals, we will work with the State to ensure the proposal(s) have merit, include the proposal(s) in the Annual Update for public comment and Board of Supervisor approval, and then seek approval from the State.

Community member (name unknown) asked Heather Longo to keep in mind that MHSA addresses "serious mental illness."

12. [18-0323](#)

Community Wellness Center Update / Discussion

Chair Abram reported the Andler Road property requires too many tenant improvements, so the County will continue to look for a property.

Assistant Director Eckert reported a commitment to developing a wellness center and exploring all funding options.

13. [18-0324](#)

Mental Health Commission requests that at the March 2018 Commission meeting, the Behavioral Health Division present the Commission with a review of the MHSA unspent funds spending plan required by AB114, due by July 2018, indicating how funds will be spent by July 2020

Ren Scammon reported the County is appealing the State's reversion calculations and we may not have a response from the State by the March meeting. She also explained that how the County will spend funds subject to reversion, will go through the MHSA process and will be embedded in the MHSA Plan.

Commissioner Clavere asked to have a separate report that addresses unspent funds.

Ren Scammon identified that it would be included as an attachment to the next MHSA Plan Update.

Assistant Director Eckert stated that based on the final reports that are not computed by generally accepted accounting principles and HHSA's actual accounting records are different from the State's.

14. [18-0325](#)

Questions / Comments on the Behavioral Health Division Monthly Report

Chair Abram reported that Telecare has hired a new Administrator but he still wants the Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) annual report for the March meeting. Chair Abram also asked about the number of repeat clients to the PHF over the past 2-3 years?

Ren Scammon reported there have been 26 individuals who have had two or more hospitalizations.

Commissioner Clavere would like two charts for revenue and expenditures, one for traditional and one for MHSA.

Assistant Director Eckert stated Behavioral Health can provide this on an annual basis since the charts are updated on an annual basis.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Barry Harwell stated a Mental Health provider contracting meeting is needed.

Deputy Director Samboceti responded that we are aware of the issues, but we are awaiting more information from the State, especially with regards to Continuum of Care Reform and the Mega Regs.

Ren Scammon added that the State just released Information Notices on Network Adequacy and Grievances.

Commissioner Melnicoe asked why there was such a large jump in requests for service in January 2018.

Deputy Director Samboceti replied that Tribal Health is now sending over a lot of referrals.

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Chair Abram reported that Brookes Heil-Blackburn has resigned.

DETERMINE NEXT MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting of the Mental Health Commission is scheduled for 5:00 PM on March 28, 2018

ADJOURNMENT 7:21 PM