

County of El Dorado

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Minutes

Behavioral Health Commission

Dr. Stephen Clavere, Chair WS
Arturo Salazar, 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, May 20, 2020

5:00 PM

VIRTUALLY - See Below

VIRTUAL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL; INTRODUCTIONS

El Dorado County Staff:

Heather Longo, Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Tami Smith, Ren Strong, Don Semon,
Kim Dawson, Paula Frantz

Guests:

Nancy Callahan, Barry Harwell, Kathi Guerrero, Anna Gleason, Brenda
Frachiseur, Teresa Comstock, Phyllis Abate Wild

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

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

**Norma Santiago made a motion, seconded by John Hidahl, to adopt the
Agenda.**

Yes: 8 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra
Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and John Hidahl

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nancy Callahan – The County contracted with IDEA Consulting to evaluate the County's Behavioral Health system, to include interviews with County staff, service providers, law enforcement, El Dorado County Office of Education, other County partners, and National Alliance on Mental Illness. Surveys and focus groups are being conducted. Findings will be shared in a few months.

Theresa Comstock of California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions (CALBHBC) reminded the Commission that CALBHBC provides resources for the Commission.

Commissioner comments:

RS Lynn asked if IDEA Consulting interviews will be conducted with consumers.

Commissioner Clavere asked if the Behavioral Health Commission will be interviewed by IDEA Consulting and Commissioner Holman commented that she and the NAMI co-president participated in an interview.

PUBLIC HEARING

1. [20-0656](#) Public Hearing for the El Dorado County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan Fiscal Years 2020/21-2022/23 (60 minutes)

Chair Salazar opened the Public Hearing and introduced Heather Longo, MHSA Coordinator, who then presented the MHSA Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/21 – FY 2022/23 MHSA Program and Expenditure Plan (“Plan”). The Community Program Planning Process (community meetings) and project modifications, deletions, and additions for each MHSA component were described.

Public Comment:

Brenda Frachiseur, Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Northern Sierra thanked the Commission for supporting the Mentoring for Youth project.

Kathi Guerrero, Executive Director of First 5 El Dorado thanked the Commission for continued support of the MHSA Innovation Hub project. They served 6,500 children and families and she sees capacity to expand the model over time to include integrating Licensed Clinical Social Workers or other professionals.

Commissioner Comments:

Commissioner Santiago requested that the Mentoring for Youth Project be added back into the Plan. She also asked what level of care will be provided through the Community Services and Supports Full Service Partnership Forensic Services project.

Chair Salazar was disappointed that Parenting Classes through New Morning Youth and Family Services was being discontinued. He also wanted to know how many Latinos were being served through the New Morning Youth and Family Services Latino Outreach project. He also expressed future support for expanding the Student Wellness Centers into middle schools.

Supervisor Hidahl commented on a video that showcases the Community Hubs.

The Public Hearing ended at 5:47 p.m.

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

2. [20-0657](#) Review / Approve the February 26, 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes (5 minutes)

Norma Santiago made a motion, seconded by Steve Clavere to approve the minutes as written.

Yes: 8 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and John Hidahl

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

3. [20-0658](#)

Introduction of the New Behavioral Health Director, Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken (10 minutes)

Don Semon introduced Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, the new Behavioral Health Director. Nicole's first day with Behavioral Health was April 13, 2020.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken shared her work experience with Behavioral Health and Substance Use Disorder Services.

Commissioner Comments: Commissioner Santiago welcomed Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken.

Public Comment: None

4. [20-0659](#)

Discussion Of El Dorado County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Three Year Program and Expenditure Plan Fiscal Years 2021/22-2022/23 and vote to recommend to move the Plan to the Board of Supervisors as written or with the changes as identified (20 minutes)

Commissioner Santiago requested that the Mentoring for Youth Project be re-instated in the MHSA FY 2020/21 – 2022/23 Plan at \$75,000/year for three years.

Commissioner Clavere asked for a summary of the changes in the MHSA Plan and what unused funds are in the Plan.

Supervisor Hidahl asked if MHSA funding would be sustained or reduced due to the Coronavirus. Heather Longo explained that MHSA funding is volatile, due to it being a tax on personal income above \$1,000,000. There was an unexpected decrease in funding in March. It is anticipated that there may be a slight increase going into FY 2021/22, but it is expected that there will be a significant decrease in FY 2022/23 due to the impacts of the Coronavirus. Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken added that the information received from Behavioral Health's professional associations is a rough estimate of reductions in funding.

Ren Strong stated that the Juvenile Justice and Peer Partner contracts were implemented in the past year and that she was unaware of other programs that fund the same service.

Public Comment:

Nancy Callahan commented that with the MHSA Annual Updates, there are opportunities to make changes in the future if the taxes are reduced in the future.

Theresa Comstock reminded Commissioners of the opportunity to make substantive comments about the MHSA Plan and that she heard issues raised about parenting classes and concerns about the impact of Coronavirus on mental health.

Barry Harwell said he is thankful the County is going through a process to evaluate MH programs at all levels. He also stated that he does not support the Peer Partner and Juvenile Justice projects and feels that the projects may be supplanting.

Norma Santiago made a motion to adopt the MHSA Plan with the following changes: Add \$75,000/year for three years for the Mentoring for Youth Project and ensure that there is a focus on the stressors on families as a result of the Coronavirus. Commissioner Holman seconded the motion.

Don Semon stated that he understands the Commission wants Behavioral Health to keep a watchful eye on the Coronavirus impact to children and families.

Yes: 5 - Arturo Salazar, Norma Santiago, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and John Hidahl

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

Abstained: 3 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton and Debra Thornburgh

5. [20-0661](#) Appoint a Children's Services Ad Hoc Committee to Review the Delivery of County Mental Health Services to Children Ages 0-18 (10 minutes)

Commissioner Santiago asked if the Ad Hoc Committee would just be commissioners or also community members.

Commissioner Hamilton would like to have input from community members who work with children.

Commissioner Lynn thought it would be acceptable to have NAMI representative.

Paula Frantz advised that there is nothing about the Brown Act that would prevent inviting service providers to give input to the ad hoc committee.

Public Comment:

Theresa Comstock mentioned that the Commission Bylaws state that the Chair appoints members to the Ad Hoc, but a new Chair had not yet been elected.

The Commission trailed Agenda Item 5 until after they heard Agenda Items 6 and 7.

Upon returning to Agenda Item 5, Chair Salazar appointed the following Commissioners to the Ad Hoc Committee: Kathryn Hamilton, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, and Norma Santiago as Chair.

Public Comment: None

6. [20-0662](#) Recommendations from the Ad Hoc Committee for 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Officers (10 minutes)

The recommendation for the slate of officers are:

Chair: Arturo Salazar; SLT Vice-Chair: RS Lynn; WS Vice-Chair: Vacant; Secretary: Kathryn Hamilton.

7. [20-0663](#) Election of the 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Officers (5 minutes)

Norma Santiago made a motion, seconded by Steve Clavere, to accept the slate of officers as recommended by the nominating committee.

Yes: 8 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and John Hidahl

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

8. [20-0665](#) Receive and discuss Health and Human Services Agency Behavioral Health Director's Report and Behavioral Health Division Monthly Report (15 min)

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken congratulated Arturo Salazar on his appointment as Chair of the Behavioral Health Commission, then she presented April 2020 Behavioral Health Division Report. She also addressed Commissioner concerns regarding telehealth services to individuals who do not have access to computers and explained how Behavioral Health continues to provide services amidst the COVID-19 pandemic.

Public Comment:

None

9. [20-0664](#) Questions / Comments on Behavioral Health Division Monthly Report (10 minutes)

None

COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

John Hidahl: NAMI recently acknowledged El Dorado County Sheriff Lt. Troy Morton for his work. He suggested that Lt. Morton be invited to a future Commission meeting to discuss expanding the MHSA Psychiatric Emergency Response Team (PERT) project to South Lake Tahoe.

Norma Santiago wants to continue discussions about Behavioral Health Court.

DETERMINE THE NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE

Don Semon reminded the Commissioners that the Board of Supervisors cancelled all June Commission meetings unless a meeting was essential. Therefore, the next Commission meeting is scheduled for July 22, 2020 at 5:00 PM.

ADJOURNMENT - 7:26 PM