

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, November 18, 2020

5:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL; INTRODUCTIONS

El Dorado County Staff Present: Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Ren Strong, Don Semon, Paula Frantz, Heather Longo

Public Present: Barry Harwell, Chris Stedeford, Jerry Foster, Justin Stabe, Kathi Guerrero, L. Rodriguez, Ken

Present: 5 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago and Debra Thornburgh

Absent: 4 - Henry Sandigo, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and John Hidahl

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Santiago made a motion, seconded by Vice-Chair Clavere, to adopt the agenda as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

5:18 PM ROLL CALL

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

Absent: 3 - Henry Sandigo, Karis Holman and John Hidahl

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5:34 PM ROLL CALL

Present: 5 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh and Richard Lynn

Absent: 4 - Henry Sandigo, Kathryn Hamilton, Karis Holman and John Hidahl

1. [20-1505](#) Approval of the October 28, 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes

Commissioner Clavere said that on Item #1 of the Sept. 23, 2020 Minutes, he did not request the language to be struck but he wants the Minutes to reflect that the PEI Outcomes and Data Reporting document did not reflect the information requested.

Commissioner Clavere, Commissioner Lynn, and Commissioner Santiago asked clarifying questions regarding recording of the Commission meetings.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, said that Minutes of the meetings are provided and if the Commissioners feel there is something that was not noted in the Minutes, staff will make the changes to the Minutes. Once in-person meetings resume, meetings will not be recorded.

Paula Frantz, Deputy County Counsel said that historically, meetings are not recorded. At the present time, the meetings are recorded because Zoom records meetings. The Board of Supervisors has opted to not record Commission meetings. If meetings are retained, then they are public records

Yes: 4 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Norma Santiago and Debra Thornburgh

Absent: 4 - Henry Sandigo, Kathryn Hamilton, Karis Holman and John Hidahl

Abstained: 1 - Richard Lynn

5:40 PM ROLL CALL

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

Absent: 3 - Henry Sandigo, Karis Holman and John Hidahl

2. [20-1544](#) Appoint Ad Hoc Nominating Committee for 2021 Behavioral Health Commission Officers (5 minutes)

Commissioner Salazar asked for volunteers to be on the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee. **Commissioner Santiago** asked clarifying questions and **Commissioner Clavere** said that existing officers cannot be on the Committee.

Commissioner Santiago and Commissioner Thornburgh will be on the Ad Hoc Committee.

Public Comment:
None

3. [20-1545](#) Review / Update on Stepping Up Initiative

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, provided an update on the Stepping Up Initiative, including the workgroup establishing guidelines for sustainability and identifying data points. She also provided an update about the 2nd meeting of the Mental Health Diversion Court on the West Slope.

Public Comment:

None

4. [20-1546](#) Update / Discussion on Homeless Mentally Ill Outreach and Treatment Program (HMIOT) (\$100,000) (10 minutes)

Heather Longo, MHSA Coordinator, reviewed the HMIOT grant requirements and outcomes. Most notably, the grant went beyond providing nights of shelter because referral partners provided additional assistance in other domains such as linkage to public assistance benefits, employment, and transportation to substance use disorder treatment. The final report was sent to California Department of Health Care Services.

Commissioner Salazar asked how many individuals were helped.

Commissioner Clavere asked questions about referrals. Heather said that clients known to Mental Health would receive housing assistance through the Full Service Partnership MHSA funds, if eligible. All clients screened for the HMIOT program had to be homeless or at risk of homelessness and believed to have a mental illness to be eligible for funding.

Commissioner Santiago said that is a shame when there are grant programs that provide a tremendous service, but then it ends. She wanted to know if there is a mechanism by which to write a letter to the State Legislature, noting the success of the program and hoping that they are looking for long-term funding.

Ren Strong, Program Manager, said that households ranging from one to five individuals received an average of \$2,848.08 in funds with a range from \$113.19 to \$6,564.96.

Public Comment:

None

5. [20-1550](#) Review / Discussion / Approve the 2019 Data Notebook For Submission to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council and Board of Supervisors (10 minutes)

Commissioner Santiago said the Ad Hoc Committee met to review and fill out the Data Notebook. Compared to previous Data Notebooks, this one did not have as much information for the Commission to comment on because it was mostly about Telehealth. She also said that in the Children’s Services Ad Hoc Committee, there was discussion about ensuring the transition from group homes to the community needs to be coordinated.

Commissioner Salazar agreed that this Data Notebook was more limited and he asked about question #9, which did not populate. Heather Longo, MHSA Coordinator, said that the answer to question #9 is “no”.

Commissioner Lynn confirmed the acronym “STRTP” stands for Short-term Residential Treatment Program”.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, said that she agreed that the transition from group home to community needs to be done with strong collaboration to ensure that the same level of care is being provided. She also said that there are STRTPs in El Dorado County.

**Public Comment:
None**

Commissioner Santiago made a motion to approve the Data Notebook for submission to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council and the Board of Supervisors with adding language to question #9 that reflects the need for a coordinated transition from a group home to the community. Commissioner Lynn provided a second.

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

Absent: 3 - Henry Sandigo, Karis Holman and John Hidahl

6. [20-1547](#) Update / Discussion on the Revised Outcomes and Data Reporting by HHSA on PEI Programs (10 minutes)

Commissioner Clavere said that there are still gaps in the data and many of the items say data won't be available until 12/30/2020. He also said that when he added up the unspent funds, he got \$3.3 million in unspent funds, which is money left on the table. He said that this will be an item on every Agenda.

Commissioner Santiago asked that when we go into Fiscal Year 2021, and there are unspent funds, is it because a project is transitioning from one year to another?

Commissioner Salazar said that he is hopeful that after the Budget Ad Hoc Committee, they will have some answers, they will have a report, and they can do some training.

Ren Strong, Program Manager, said that the data marked available 12/30/2020 is for county-provided services, which is reported on the Revenue Expenditure Report (RER). The RER is due to the State on 12/31/20. We don't yet have all the information.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, said that Behavioral Health continues to work on providing the detailed reports requested by the Commission. The Ad Hoc Budget Committee will have the opportunity to provide input on how to make the most useful report.

Don Semon, HHSA Director, added that Behavioral Health made some changes as a result of a Grand Jury report. For the current Three-Year Plan, the contracts for the projects were negotiated ahead of time, so once the Plan was adopted by the Board, we were able to hit the ground running. He also said that for the first time, we are using fund balance. Fund balance is being used to fund the Forensic program.

Commissioner Clavere said that the ending fund balances never go down.

Don Semon, HHSA Director, said that this dynamic happens in every department every year. Departments budget for what they have, but they never get to spend it all every year. He said that it would be great for the Commission to support over-spending as opposed to building a fund balance.

Public Comment:
None

7. [20-1548](#) Overview of Findings from the Children's Services Ad Hoc Committee (1 hour)

Commissioner Santiago, members of the Children's Services Ad Hoc Committee, and Behavioral Health Division staff provided an overview of the findings and recommendations. The Ad Hoc Committee is meeting again in December and intends to present a final report to the Commission in January.

Public Comment:
None

8. [20-1549](#) Review / Discussion / Questions on the Behavioral Health Director's Report (10 minutes)

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, responded to a question posed about foster youth in relation to the EQRO report at the October Commission meeting. She noted that in the past two years, Behavioral Health has collaborated with the Children’s service providers and Behavioral Health has improved protocols, including the protocol regarding requests for services. These collaborations and improved protocols have had a positive impact on foster youth.

Nicole also provided some highlights on the Behavioral Health Division Update report, including she is now participating in the California Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA)’s Frontier and Small County subcommittee. She also said that she is working with the Assistant Director of Child Welfare Services, regarding establishing an MOU related to AB 2083. She also stated that Amy Haynes, Psy.D. has been selected as Behavioral Health’s new Deputy Director. Dr. Haynes will begin her new role on December 7, 2020.

Commissioner Clavere noted that the Psychiatric Health Facility daily census dropped to 60% and this is something he will look at monthly.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken said that Behavioral Health has not seen a spike in outpatient hospitalizations, but we are also monitoring it.

Public Comment:
None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

None

DETERMINE NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING

The next regular Behavioral Health Commission meeting will be held on January 27, 2021 at 5:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT

7:38 PM