



Advisory Board On Alcohol And Other Drug Problems

April 17, 2012

5:30 PM

Mental Health Administration
1137 B Street, Merced

Present: Richard Hawthorne, Chair; Lori Newman, Vice-Chair; Paula Mason; Nathan Sweem

Absent: Stephen Pierce; Michelle Symes; Su Briggs; Dr. Livermore

Others Present: Manuel Jimenez; Tabatha Weeda; Carol Hulsizer

MINUTES

I. Call to Order – Richard Hawthorne, Chair

Richard Hawthorne called the meeting to order at 5:42 p.m. Richard introduced the newest Board member – Nathan Sweem.

II. Self-Introductions – Members and Guests

III. Public Opportunity to Speak on Any Matter of Public Interest Within the Board's Jurisdiction Including Items on the Board's Agenda

There was no one from the public present tonight.

IV. Approval of Minutes from February 21, 2012 (ACTION ITEM)

Action/Recommendation: M/S/C (Newman / Mason) to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2012 meeting.

V. Approval of Agenda for April 17, 2012 (ACTION ITEM)

Action/Recommendation: M/S/C (Newman / Mason) to approve the agenda for the April 17, 2012 meeting.

VI. Prevention Specialist Report – Christopher Jensen

Christopher Jensen could not be present tonight. He did forward an email to Carol with his updates. Richard reported that:

➤ Christopher wanted to talk about Youth 2 Youth and remind everyone that the motto was "Dream to See What Is Meant to Be". It was a great success and he expressed special thanks to Lori for sending Tranquility residents to assist in the morning, the Atwater Police Department for their coordination and service in providing their Police Cadets during the morning meeting to ensure everyone's safety, Lamar Henderson for providing an energetic and charismatic presentation on the theme for this year's conference. They received compliments from parents, students, and workshop presenters on their experiences at this year's Youth 2 Youth. They were able to provide in-house training, with special thanks to Jeremy Rasberry, to all 64 High School youth who saved them about \$6,000 in this year's conference expenses. They had 175 Middle School students participate and 64 High School staff. Though the numbers were lower than last year, students expressed stronger bonds being created from more intimate numbers. Christopher will present a slide-show of the event at the next AOD Board Meeting.

➤ Christopher also announced that the Dept. of Mental Health has hired Marissa Chavez for the Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Unit. Marissa started her relationship with Mental Health about 6 years ago, serving as a peer mentor in the Friday Night Live Mentoring Program at Golden Valley. She was also a member of the Youth 2 Youth planning committee as well at Youth 2 Youth High School staff. While attending Merced Junior College, Marissa sat on the AOD Board as the "Youth Representative". She recently graduated from UC Davis with a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science – Public Service. She will be an amazing asset to our services. Special thanks to Manuel for all the advocating he had to do to get this and other vacant positions filled for the Department.

➤ Jon Masuda and Christopher have started writing a new 5-year Prevention Plan for Merced County. Looking at the last plan and the progress (or not) that has been made in obtaining the goals and objectives set forth, they realize that the first plan was spreading their minimal resources to thin. They will be taking a more streamlined approach in the development of this new plan, keeping in mind that they do not have the resources to prevent substance abuse among all residents of the county. The new plan will focus on 3 priorities: 1. Reducing youth alcohol and other drug use and abuse, 2. Mobilizing communities to lead prevention, and 3. Building on the capacity and the sustainability of the AOD Prevention Unit. Christopher will elaborate on these priorities in more detail at the next AOD meeting. If anyone has questions, he can be reached by email or phone.

Action/Recommendation: Manuel gave special thanks to Christopher and his team for putting this on. This is the first time that they took the lead and without bringing in a facilitator. This says a lot for Christopher and his experience in saving the Department \$6,000. He thanked everyone here also for participating and their commitment to this. Richard recently talked with Dr. Bentz and schools are no longer required to do the Health Kids Survey; but Dr. Bentz feels very strongly about doing the survey every year to get feedback. It would be nice if we could include some questions in regards to Youth 2 Youth and the Drug Store Project to see what kind of impact there is.

VII. Merger Plans with the Mental Health Board

Richard stated that they are still working towards this Board merging with the Mental Health Board. Lori has taken the time to draft a set of by-laws combining the two Boards. She passed out a copy to everyone. She felt we need to move forward with this and she was hoping that by creating this draft they could begin the process. She looked at some examples that Manuel had given her from other counties in putting this draft together.

Action/Recommendation: Manuel suggested that members try to read this document and give Lori feedback. Manuel asked that Lori attend a meeting he has scheduled with members from the Mental Health Board later this week in order to present this draft document. Lori stated she would come.

VIII. CADPAAC Update – Tabatha Weeda

Tabatha attended CADPAAC last month. Lori also attended. There are some questions as to the different changes at ADP, how they are getting broken up into three different departments and what impact that has locally with providers getting their renewal of their program certification. It will still be the same process up at the State level. ADP is keeping their annex there in the same building because that is where all the IT is and they don't want to move it around. But the staff will actually move/cross over into the different departments of Dept. of Public Health and Dept. of Social Services. This will begin July 1st. They talked about coming up with different ideas to having a help desk as a point of contact so that counties or providers don't get lost in the shuffle when they are transitioning over. They talked about some of the benefits of integrating ADP with Dept. of Social Services and Dept. of Public Health – they will be crossed trained on their different specialties which will be beneficial to us. The State is continuing to look at efficiencies at their level of how programs are set up and maintained and how the transition plan for Drug Medi-Cal services to the county level will play out. They did some presentations, one being on reentry studies to show that many of the prisoners coming out have the prevalence of 40% of healthcare needs for diabetes and high blood pressure, 58% of them having substance abuse disorders, and 56% having mental health issues. They pointed out that the more money invested in substance abuse and mental health services now will save the criminal justice system and the public health care services in the long run. They also did a presentation with provider readiness and making sure we are aligned with 2014; not just us as a county department but also insuring that our providers are ready for the changes that will occur with healthcare reform, electronic health records and the ability to have meaningful information that is shared, changing the way the way we look at county services and developing/marketing strategy plan of what types of services we provide, how we are saving the Sheriff's Dept. and hospitals money.

Action/Recommendation: Information only

IX. Executive Committee Report – Richard Hawthorne

a. Establish Nominating Committee for June Election of Officers

a. Lori and Paula volunteered to be the nominating committee.

Action/Recommendation: As noted above

X. Committee Reports

a. Membership – Vacancies

There were no committee reports. a. There are still vacancies on this Board for Districts 1, 3, 4, and 5.

Action/Recommendation: None

XI. Alcohol and Drug Program Administrator’s Report - Manuel Jimenez
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Changes at State Level b. Realignment II
<p>a. Tabatha and Lori already mentioned some of the changes at the State level and who will be reporting to whom. Healthcare Services will be dealing with the Medi-Cal part for a lot of the programs, certification of counselors will be done through Public Health, and Social Services will be the licensure of residential programs. b. Realignment II is being pushed as public safety and within that public safety there is drug and alcohol funding, funding for foster care and CalWORKs. One thing that will be different is the subaccounts. Instead of there being a subaccount that will go into drug court, perinatal and other drug/alcohol programs funded through Medi-Cal, EPSDT, Managed Care, they are now going to be in one account and it will be called Behavioral Health Account. That money could be used for any of those programs and the way they will be divvied up will be based on local need. Manuel feels it will be an opportunity for an expansion of our drug and alcohol services. Some of the projections are that there will be growth in these accounts. One of the dangers is that is that it will be solely based on sales tax revenues. The formula to decide how much money we will get it still being worked on by CSAC. Who will make the decision on how much we get will be determined by “local control”; but “local control” means different things to different people. Associations like CADPAAC and the Mental Health Director’s Association want firewalls – there has to be some protection for us.</p>
Action/Recommendation: Information only
XII. Other Business (Discussion Only)
None
Action/Recommendation:
XIII. Next Meeting Agenda, Date, and Location
Action/Recommendation: The next meeting date is scheduled for Tuesday, June 19, 2012.
XIV. Adjournment
Action/Recommendation: The meeting was adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

Minutes prepared by: _____
 Carol Hulsizer