



# Merced County Mental Health Board Meeting

March 6, 2012

3:30 – 5:00 pm

1137 B Street, Merced, CA 95341

<b>Present:</b>	Mary Ellis, Chair; Sally Ragonut, Vice-Chair; Vince Ramos, Secretary; Keng Cha; Mary Hofmann; James Fuller; Cora Gonzales; Norma Blackwood; Chuck McClure; Kim Carter
<b>Absent:</b>	Hub Walsh, Supervisor; David Baker; Audrey Kotrich-Spangler; Maureen Freitas; Chris Kraushar
<b>Others Present:</b>	Sharon Robinson; Jan Morita; Fred Risard; Carol Hulsizer, Recorder

## MINUTES

### I. Call to Order / Flag Salute / Roll Call

Mary Ellis, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:28 p.m. The pledge of allegiance was done. Roll call was taken.

### II. Approval of Minutes from January 3, 2012 (BOARD ACTION)

*Action/Recommendation:* M/S/C (Ragonut / Fuller) to approve the minutes from January 3, 2012.

### III. Approval of Minutes from February 7, 2012 (BOARD ACTION)

*Action/Recommendation:* Jan Morita noted that item #III from the February 7, 2012 minutes should state "Approval of Agenda for February 7, 2012" not "Approval of Agenda for January 7, 2012". M/S/C (Fuller / McClure) to approve the minutes from February 7, 2012 with noted change.

### IV. Approval of Agenda for March 6, 2012 (BOARD ACTION)

*Action/Recommendation:* M/S/C (Gonzalez / Hofmann) to approve the agenda for March 6, 2012

### V. Opportunity for Public Input to Speak on Any Matter of Public Interest Within the Board's Jurisdiction Including Items on the Board's Agenda (Time Limit of 3-5 Minutes)

#### a. Open Discussion for Board

*Discussion/Conclusion:* a. Mary H. requested that an item be placed on each monthly agenda in order for her to give this Board an update on NAMI. Sally suggested placing "NAMI Report" under the Committee Reports/Update.

Cora stated that she and David would like to do a presentation next month on the Cultural Competency Training (CBMCS) that they recently took. She feels it would be of value to this Board to hear what actually occurred, how much fun it was, and how much they learned.

Cora suggested that because Supervisor Walsh is so busy it would be good to have his committee report earlier in the meeting so he doesn't have to rush giving his report.

Cora suggested that when the Board has a guest speaker, there be a time limit. Some speakers take most of the meeting time and then they do not get through the agenda or are rushed to complete the agenda.

Vince reported that there is a First Aid Class tomorrow. There is also an Infant and Family Mental Health training on how to raise emotionally, healthy children on March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Vince commented on the past discussion regarding having the County website having links to Mental Health Board agendas/meeting minutes/miscellaneous information. Vince came up with a draft of what he put together for this Mental Health Board link/site. He gave a copy to Carol and she will give a copy to the Director.

Kim had a flyer regarding a Central Region TAY Un-convention that she passed out. It is next Friday and is for mentors, advocates, family members, and those interested in working in mental health.

*Recommendation/Action:* Information only

**VI. Powerpoint Presentation on Mental Health Department (Manuel)**

**Discussion/Conclusion:** Sharon Robinson stated that the Director could not be present today and she will be filling in for him. Sharon stated that unfortunately the powerpoint presentation was not set up and this will be placed on next month's agenda.

**Recommendation/Action:** Information only

**VII. Sub-Committee Formation (All)**

**Discussion/Conclusion:** Sally commented that the Board already has some Board members attending certain committees within the Mental Health Department. Because there are already staff meetings being held within the Department, and rather than make a new committee, it would be easier to join the already established committees taking place, glean information from them and bring them back to this Board. Chuck already attends the Wellness Center Committee and reports back to the Board on this. James already attends the CALMHB/C meetings and reports back. The Quality Improvement Committee is already attended by both Sally and Mary E. and other Board members are certainly welcome to attend also; the dates and times of this Committee are in this month's packet for anyone interested. Other Committees that Board members could also become part of (dates/times are listed in this month's packet also) is the Children's System of Care (CSOC) which meets quarterly and their next meeting is April 10<sup>th</sup>; Cora, and possibly Norma, would like to join these meetings. The On-Going Planning Council is another monthly meeting; Chuck already attends this and Mary E. is also interested in attending these meetings. The Cultural Competency Committee is another monthly meeting; Mary H. and David will be attending these meetings. The last committee that Board members could join is a meeting with the Mental Health Dept. and Central Valley Regional Center which discusses adult programs; Vince and Mary E. will be attending these meetings. It is up to each individual to attend the meeting(s) they have stated they are interested in and bring a report back to this Board.

**Recommendation/Action:** These new Committees will be added to the monthly agenda.

**VIII. Webinar (Cora and David)**

**Discussion/Conclusion:** Sally reported that Cora, David, Chris, herself, Kim, James and Vince attended the recent webinar on February 11. Sally stated that it was very informative and they learned a lot on Mental Health Board 101, Roles and Responsibilities, and Building an Effective Local Mental Health Board or Commission.

Cora stated that it was a very good webinar and there was a lot of good information. If anyone did not have a copy of the presentation, she recommended that they get a copy and read it. It refreshes and brings you back to what you are here for and the purpose of being here. There is so much the Board should be doing – overseers, advocates, provide service to the Board of Supervisors, and ensure development and improve services. One thing she learned was continued oversight of what they are supposed to be doing and discussing for the Annual Plan and Retreat, and overseeing the By-Laws (Cora believes this has not been reviewed in a couple of years). Cora thinks the best way to attack all this is to have a checklist. A checklist of the major components – is the Board doing this, have they done that, do they need to do this. . .and there needs to be a timeframe.

Sally continued that they should go over their goals every year (before they write the Annual Report). Cora suggested this is something to really focus on first – address the goals in order to be ready for the Annual Report. This is something that could be put on the checklist; Cora would be happy to work with anyone who wants to do a checklist.

Sally informed the Board that the combined training with Stanislaus looks like it will be in May now. It will be on a Saturday in Modesto and they are hoping to have Donna Matthews be the trainer. It will focus on Mental Health Board 101.

**Recommendation/Action:** As noted above

**IX. Fiscal Report (Manuel)**

**Discussion/Conclusion:** Sharon reported that Fiscal is putting together their preliminary budget for next year; it is due to the County on Monday. Revenues look much better on the Mental Health side this year. Medi-Cal for last year was anticipated to be \$6.8 million and for next year they anticipate \$7.6 million. The increase is due partly to productivity rates going up and billing more Medi-Cal services. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) looks like there may be a 10% increase they can count on. Realignment and VLF (sales tax and vehicle license fees) – they are looking at a 5% increase here. Managed Care – based on CMHDA (Calif. Dept. of Mental Health Director's Association) the allocation may be increased by 3%. The Department is hiring several positions – there is a current recruitment for the Assistant Director; they are also looking at clinicians, nurses and other much needed staff as well.

<p><b>IX. Fiscal Report (Manuel) – cont.</b></p>
<p>The question was asked if Medi-Cal payments to the Department have improved. Sharon stated that this has not improved. The State is very much behind in getting payments out. From July through February, the Dept. billed \$6.5 million in Medi-Cal and so far we have been paid \$1.1 million. When the Dept. bills out Medi-Cal for adult services they anticipate \$.50 cents on the dollar reimbursement and for children's services they anticipate much greater because they have not only Medi-Cal which is \$.50 cents on the dollar but also EPSDT (Early and Periodic Screening, Diagnosis, and Treatment) reimbursement.</p> <p>A question was asked about the CASRA classes being delayed and is it because of lack of funds. Sharon stated that for future CASRA classes, the Dept. will be combining with another county to provide these services.</p>
<p><i>Recommendation/Action:</i> Information only</p>
<p><b>X. Director's Report</b>  <b>a. MHSA Update</b></p>
<p><i>Discussion/Conclusion:</i> a. As Sharon reported earlier in the meeting, MSHA funding is increasing and the Dept. is looking at enhancing programs and starting new ones as well.</p>
<p><i>Recommendation/Action:</i> Information only.</p>
<p><b>XI. Committee Reports / Updates</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) – Sally</li> <li>b. Executive / Bylaws / Planning Committee – Sally / Vince</li> <li>c. Membership Committee – Kim</li> <li>d. Patients' Rights Advocate – Barbara</li> <li>e. Supervisor's Report – Hub</li> <li>f. MHSA Ongoing Planning Council Update – Sharon</li> <li>g. Wellness Center Update – Chuck</li> <li>h. CALMHB/C Update – James</li> <li>i. NAMI – Mary H.</li> </ul>
<p><i>Discussion/Conclusion:</i> a. Sally attended a QIC meeting on January 27<sup>th</sup>, there was no meeting in February. She reported that Debbie Dean talked about the upcoming, yearly picnic at Lake Yosemite in May. In February the Wellness Center celebrated Black History Month and had some wonderful activities. There was a Christmas event with 80 consumers and gift bags donated by the staff. Cara came back on February 6<sup>th</sup>. Sharon Jones reported on the Cultural Competency Committee – CBMCS training, First Aid training, in Stanislaus there will be a speech regarding tolerance, First 5 Hands-on-Heroes. There is still no news on the Cultural Competence Plan. Sharon also reported that the Department's Vision/Mission/Core Values have been put up around all the buildings. Kris Brown talked about forms and there are 15 pages of titles of various forms in the Dept. Pre-claim audits were on-going in January and still are. There were 9 completed change-of-providers in December. From July through December there were 7 grievances appealed and only 3 were completed. There was a psych report and they reviewed 16 deaths. Data is needed from Golden Valley regarding referrals from the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) especially Hispanic referrals. EPSDT – 32 youth are part of a study on hospitalization costs; many were getting EMDR. There is a Performance Improvement Plan (PIP) in collaboration with Livingston Medical Group on integration of health services. Access tracking (how easy it is for a new patient to get into Mental Health) – there is a 15% increase in requests of services. The urgent POEs (Point of Entry) were all met except for one. Sally asked if anyone would like to work in the Mental Health booth at the upcoming County Fair in June; they would be giving out information about the Board. May is Mental Health Awareness month. b. Sally requested Board members update their biographies for the Annual Report. New members will have to write a biography. c. Kim reported that the potential new member did not work out. Kim talked about the Board setting goals and keeping in mind that they should be looking at the Districts, making sure that 50% of the Board are consumers/family members, and the Board's membership shall reflect ethnic diversity. She believes that they need some other areas with specific qualities in the Board members – possibly someone from the TAY group, someone from the elderly population, or possibly someone with younger children – in order to have a better-rounded group. Kim thinks that members also need to be reminded of the commitment to being on the Board and of the time that must be committed. She asked if anyone would like to work on this with her or has any ideas. d. Barbara could not be present today. e. Supervisor Walsh could not be present today. f. Sharon Jones could not be present today. g. Chuck stated</p>

that the Black History Event at the Wellness Center was wonderful. Chuck expressed that all at the Wellness Center are grateful and very aware of how well-trained, how efficient, skilled, and caring the staff is at the Wellness Center in the mental health field. There are times though when things do happen and the staff is just as well trained on things that happen quickly, and take the proper procedures. Chuck wanted to give them kudos for that. **h.** James had nothing new to report. He does have more CALMHB/C information to pass on to Carol. **i.** Mary H. reported they have trained four consumers to do "In Our Own Voice" for a total of six or seven. The need places for these people to do their presentations. If anyone knows of any groups – church groups, etc., that would like an outreach program to learn more on mental health, this would be a great opportunity. She passed around updated NAMI flyers. At the end of this month they will be sending two Spanish speaking women to be trained to do a Spanish Family-to-Family class. They are also working with a consumer who will be doing volunteer work with NAMI to get some consumer programming going through CASRA. They are on class 8 of the 12 week Family-to-Family class. They are also part of a four-county consortium (Merced, Stanislaus, San Joaquin and Tuolumne); there is some grant funding from NAMI California to do programming in "In Our Own Voice" and trained to do provider education.

**Recommendation/Action:** Information only

**XII. Adjournment**

**Discussion / Conclusion:** The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m. The next meeting is April 3, 2012.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Carol Hulsizer  
 Recording Secretary

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Vince Ramos, Secretary  
 Merced County Mental Health Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_