



Merced County Mental Health Board Meeting

June 4, 2013

3:30 – 5:00 pm

1137 B Street, Merced, CA

Present:	Mary Ellis, Chair; Sally Ragonut, Vice-Chair; Vince Ramos, Secretary; Cora Gonzales; Chuck McClure; Iris Mojica de Tatum; James Fuller; David Baker; Mary Hofmann; Keng Cha; Jan Morita; Supervisor Walsh
Absent:	Kim Carter; Maureen Freitas; Linda O'Donnell; Audrey Spangler
Others Present:	Manuel Jimenez; Curt Willems; Richard Hawthorne, Chair, AOD Board; Alan Vaughn, QI Manager; Sharon Jones, MHSA Coordinator; Chris Kraushar, PRA; Dave Olsen, County Counsel; Fred Risard; Carol Hulsizer, Recorder

MINUTES

I. Call to Order / Roll Call

Mary Ellis, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:32 p.m. Roll call was taken.

II. Approval of Minutes from May 7, 2013 (BOARD ACTION)

Action/Recommendation: M/S/C (Hofmann / Baker) to approve the minutes from May 7, 2013.

III. Approval of Agenda for June 4, 2013 (BOARD ACTION)

Action/Recommendation: M/S/C (Morita / Gonzales) to approve the agenda for June 4, 2013.

IV. 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. Sally had an editorial from the Sun Star regarding legislation that could help the mentally ill. The article was passed around. Manuel has a copy of the proposal mentioned in the article and he will forward it to Carol who can then send it out to the Board.

Iris had an item she passed around regarding the Bi-Annual Debutant Ball. This is the boot camp that is presented by Ms. Gloria Morris. If anyone wants more information, contact Iris.

Cora commented on a program regarding mental health that was on PBS; Mary had sent an email to the Board. It was excellent and she hoped that most had the opportunity to watch it. Sharon J. stated she has a link to this which she can send out to the Board.

Vince recently saw a powerpoint regarding "Un paso adelante" (A step forward) that Manuel shared with the Planning Council. Vince would like this put on the July agenda.

Recommendation/Action: As noted above

V. Announcement of Nominations for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary

Discussion/Conclusion: David reported that the Nominating Committee consisted of himself, Mary Hofmann and Kim Carter. They came up with three names for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary. The Nominating Committee recommended Cora Gonzales as Chair, Richard Hawthorne as Vice-Chair and Iris Mojica de Tatum as Secretary.

Recommendation/Action: M/S/C (Baker / Walsh) to accept Cora Gonzales as Chair for the Mental Health Board for FY 13/14. Before Richard Hawthorne can be accepted as Vice-Chair he will need to complete an application for the MH Board. Manuel motioned that we postpone nominating Richard until he has been officially appointed to this Board. M/S/C (Baker / Hofmann) to accept Iris Mojica de Tatum as Secretary for FY 13/14.

VI. EQRO Report

Discussion/Conclusion: Alan reported that the California Dept. of Health Care Services (DHCS) is charged with the responsibility of evaluating the quality of specialty mental health services provided to Medi-Cal recipients throughout the State. They hired a company called California External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) who comes in annually and provides a review of our operations. Alan shared some of the highlights from the last review in February 2013. This report is 94 pages long and anyone who would like a copy, please let Alan know; he will send the report to Carol and she can send out to anyone requesting a copy. Manuel suggested that the Board read pages 43-45 which lists the strengths the Department has and some opportunities for improvement and some recommendations; these pages basically summarize the report.

Recommendation/Action: As noted above

VII. Group Picture

Discussion/Conclusion: A group picture was taken for the cover of the Annual Report.

Recommendation/Action: None

VIII. Supervisor's Report

Discussion/Conclusion: Hub apologized for missing the last few meetings. There is a proposed/preliminary budget coming to the BOS at the end of June; it is a preliminary expenditure budget proposed by the CEO's office with the final budget being considered in August. A preliminary budget is done for two reasons: 1) expenditure authorization is needed for expenditures made at the beginning of the fiscal year, and 2) they don't know what the State is going to do. They hope to have a better picture of what the State is going to do to counties by August. Hub continued regarding the Affordable Care Act (ACA) and the implications that it has to the counties - one as an employer because the ACA states that if an employee works over 30 hours/week as extra-help, they need to get health benefits. In addition the Governor has talked about Medicaid/Medi-Cal expansion and taking on additional people in the program and this has implications for the County because we have an indigent healthcare program and some of those people would may be otherwise eligible for Medicaid which is 100% funded by the Federal government for the first three years. The Governor does not want counties to get "double pay" and with the Governor's proposal they will get the money first that is estimated to be saved, implement the program, then after words the counties would be paid back if they spent more money. The numbers they have proposed for us do not reflect the amount of dollars that we utilized in indigent health care. This is a 3-year deal – the first year the Governor wants \$300 million from the counties, the second year he wants \$900 million worth of savings and year three he wants \$1.5 billion in savings.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

IX. Director's Report (Manuel)
a. May Revise

Discussion/Conclusion: a. There is no State general fund money that comes down to Mental Health because of Realignment 2 which was a sales tax increase and vehicle license fee. The Governor is making some creative financial recommendations to take money from counties to pay for other programs. Regarding Drug Medi-Cal the Governor is proposing expanding services – the counties will have a choice of either providing those expanded services or not; but if you choose to provide those expanded services, you have to provide it to all Medi-Cal recipients. Expanded services are good, but you have to remember that the new population that qualifies for Medi-Cal gets reimbursed at 100% from the Federal government. The State's reimbursement is only \$.50 cents on the dollar. We will spend more money and get less reimbursement. The State wants counties to do more with less. Manuel will send out Senator Steinberg's proposal.

Manuel just attended the quarterly CADPAAC meeting in Sacramento. The Calif. Mental Health Director's Association and the County Alcohol and Drug Program Association of Calif. (CADPAAC) have agreed, in spirit, to become one association. At CADPAAC there was a presentation done by ADP regarding poverty. At the meeting he learned that Merced County is ranked #2 in the state for poverty levels.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

X. Committee Reports / Updates

- a. **Quality Improvement Committee (QIC)** (Sally / Mary E.)
- b. **Executive / Bylaws / Planning Committee** (Sally / Vince / Mary E.)
- c. **Membership Committee** (Kim)
- d. **Patients' Rights Advocate** (Chris)
- e. **Wellness Center Update** (Chuck)
- f. **CALMHB/C Update** (James / Keng)
- g. **NAMI** (Mary H.)
- h. **Children's System of Care (CSOC)** (Cora)
- i. **MHSA Ongoing Planning Council** (Sharon J. / Mary E.)
- j. **Cultural Competency Committee** (Mary H. / David)
- k. **Community Partner's Meeting** (Vince / Mary E.)

Discussion/Conclusion: a. Sally reported that QIC met last week. There were 14 grievances and 10 have been resolved. There were 16 requests for change of provider and 10 are still pending. The AOD Utilization Review did 26 charts and there were no disallowances. RAFT will be audited in the middle of June. Credentialing – there will be an official investigator general check-up for everyone and they will be checking licenses and they will be sending out reminders to all staff who have access to client information. Sharon J. was not there to give a report on cultural competence. Medication Monitoring Review (MMR) – the last two months \$7,000 had to be disallowed because of not having care plans in place. There was no psych autopsy review; the next is June 20th. There is Medi-Cal Oversight coming in December conducted by the Dept. of Health Care Services (DHCS). A Licensed Professional Clinical Counselors (LPCC) is a professional person that works with helping people be better prepared for jobs and social skills for adults and children. Manuel commented that the LPCC licensure is now eligible to bill Medi-Cal/Medicare and we are changing our job specs for Mental Health Clinician I and II so that we can hire LPCCs. Sally continued that it is in the budget to hire more staff beginning July 1st.

b. Mary stated that it is time to work on the Annual Report. Mary put together a Board Evaluation of Meetings which will be discussed in July. Sally had asked Manuel for department staffing assignments and this document was passed out and briefly discussed. Sally asked how much money is in the Mental Health trust fund as of today because she had heard that there is over \$12 million in the trust fund. What is the money for and why isn't it being spent on client services? Manuel replied that it is being spent on client services and that is why the Dept. is expanding staff next year. He continued that the Department's annual budget is about \$35 million. The trust fund is money to be used for that "rainy day". For example, the State comes and audits; they ended up taking several hundred thousand dollars and that is why there has to be money in the bank for when this does happen. There also has to be operating reserves because the State does not pay us on time and we have to have a reserve account in order to pay the bills. c. Kim was not present. d. Chris reported that she is doing a training for the Wellness Center on June 24th on inpatient patient rights. Chris had some pamphlets for anyone who wanted one, titled "Are You in Crisis – Do You Need Help" in English and Spanish from the Central Valley Crisis Hotline. Manuel stated they will be doing a presentation at a Manager's Meeting in a couple of weeks which is part of the MHSA statewide projects that CalMHSA is funding which Manuel hopes the BOS will be joining. e. Chuck reported that they had a decent fund raiser this last week and made a \$98 profit. They are exploring the possibility of a fund raiser selling pulled pork, chicken and tri-tip; this is still being worked out with Executive Staff and Public Health. Recently it came to their attention that there is a Pharmaceutical Luncheon twice a month and they provide lunch for those attending. The Wellness Center would like to plan a fund raiser around these luncheons. They are planning for the new fiscal year and could really use a new refrigerator that is away from the kitchen in order to lock up their goods and leftovers for the fund raisers. Currently consumers have to take these items home for storage. With the new fiscal year they are also looking at buying some inexpensive fishing poles to rent out to consumers. They hope to start another cooking class. They are also looking into a lockable storage shed/cage for their recyclables; in the past the recyclables have been taken. Two new groups will be starting – one in health by a licensed nurse, and one for exercising. f. James had nothing to report. Keng has still not been able to be included in the CALMHB/C. James said he will contact the secretary at the CALMHB/C. Manuel also has a contact and he will give Carol the information. James explained that you have to be voted in to attend these meetings. Last year James was not able to attend the June meeting and we ended up losing our seat on the Board. Now we have to be voted in in order to continue attending these meetings. Both James and Manuel will work on this. g. Jan reported that they held their first recovery support group for consumers last week. Chuck is great as a Peer Leader. They expected eight to attend and had fifteen instead; they expect this to increase throughout the summer. h. Cora reported that the next meeting is July 8th. i. Sharon J. reported they are moving toward quality and better outcomes through MHSA. The MHSA Outcomes Event placed SMART goals in all the MHSA funded contracts. j. Sharon J. reported that the highlight is that there will be a Summit on October 2 & 3 in Modesto.

X. Committee Reports / Updates – con’t.

Presenters are needed. k. Vince commented that he heard there is some unspent MHSA money to go towards helping community partners and increasing paid staff. Manuel continued that they are looking at some unspent MHSA money. First they are looking at exactly how much there is. Manuel would like to make programs “whole” because four years ago many MHSA programs were cut by 10% and he wants these whole again. They will also, by request only, look at giving some of the MHSA programs a 5% COLA. They are also looking at unspent dollars for new MHSA programs. Manuel wants the old MHSA plan updated because it is now seven years old.

Recommendation/Action: As noted above

XI. Adjournment

Discussion / Conclusion: The meeting was adjourned at 5:25 p.m. The next meeting is July 2, 2013.

Submitted by: _____
Carol Hulsizer
Recording Secretary

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

Date: _____

Date: _____