



Merced County Mental Health Board Meeting

May 6, 2014

3:30 – 5:00 pm

15981 Stephens Street, Delhi, CA

Present:	Cora Gonzales, Chair; Richard Hawthorne, Vice-Chair; Sally Ragonut; Jan Morita; Keng Cha; Vince Ramos; Kim Carter; Supervisor Walsh, Mary Ellis; James Fuller; Audrey Spangler; Chuck McClure
Absent:	Mary Hofmann; Iris Mojica de Tatum, Secretary; David Baker
Others Present:	Scott De Moss; Curt Willems; Sharon Jones; Carol Hulsizer, Recorder

MINUTES

I. Call to Order / Flag Salute / Roll Call

Cora Gonzales, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m. The flag salute was done. Roll call was taken.

II. Mission Statement

Sally Ragonut read the Mission Statement.

Cora shared the following statement – The most destructive habit is worry. The greatest joy is giving. The greatest loss is the loss of self-respect. The most satisfying work is helping others. The ugliest personal trait is selfishness. The most enduring species is dedicated leaders. Our greatest natural resources are youth. The greatest shot-in-the-arm is encouragement. The greatest problem to overcome is fear. The most effective sleeping pill is peace of mind. The most crippling failure disease is excuses. The most powerful force in life is love. The most dangerous farrow is a gossip. The world's most incredible computer is the brain. The worst thing to be without is hope. The deadliest weapon is the tongue. The two most power-filled words are 'I can'. The greatest asset is faith. The most worthless emotion is self-pity. The most beautiful attar is a smile. The most prized possession is integrity. The most powerful channel of communication is prayer. The most contagious spear is enthusiasm.

III. Approval of Minutes from March 4, 2014 (BOARD ACTION)

Action/Recommendation: M/S/C (Fuller / Ellis) to approve the minutes from March 4, 2014.

IV. Approval of Minutes from April 1, 2014 (BOARD ACTION)

Action/Recommendation: M/S/C (Ragonut / Hawthorne) to approve the minutes from April 1, 2014.

V. Approval of Agenda for May 6, 2014 (BOARD ACTION)

Action/Recommendation: M/S/C (Walsh / Morita) to approve the agenda for May 6, 2014.

VI. Opportunity for public input. At this time any person may comment on any item which is not on the agenda.

Discussion/Conclusion: None

Recommendation/Action:

VII. Salvador Lodge and K&R Manor Presentation – Larry Dumford

Discussion/Conclusion: Larry explained that their target group is 18-59 years of age; mental health primarily but they do have a few that are developmentally disabled but these are also dual-diagnosed with a mental health disability also. However, the population has aged somewhat and some have drifted over the 59 age and about 10% of the population is over 59. It used to be that when someone turned 59 they had to move to an elder facility but that is no longer the case; if they fit in with the population and are able to function they can stay here until they can no longer function in that capacity. They started in 1970 a little further down the road and had 16 people at that facility. They were there for 15 years then moved to this facility. K& R Manor also belongs to Larry and it is just down the road. Both facilities have 31 beds. They have stayed pretty full over the years. Currently they do have several vacancies in K & R. They change programs over the years depending on who is the Director at Mental Health and what their focus is at the time. The core

VII. Salvador Lodge and K&R Manor Presentation – Larry Dumford – con't.

group and purpose is to take care of the mentally ill. Larry explained that he came from a background with his mother being mentally ill. There was no place for her to go and she ended up in a State hospital for a long period of time. Consequently, Larry decided people didn't need to do that and this is how this place came to be.

Hub asked Larry what a day looks like. It starts at 6:30, they eat at 7:00 and all have responsibilities around the place – they help in the kitchen, take care of their room. By 10:00 they have to have their work chores done and bathing done. If they go into programming, they need to have these things done even earlier so they can catch the bus to the Wellness Center. There are two to three trips to town to get personal items. They do two big trips a year – Great America and Santa Cruz; sometimes these do change. It is pretty much what most people do in their own home. They eat as a group in the dining room. They have input as to what they want on the menu.

Jan asked if the facilities are for males only. Larry responded that they have men and women.

Cora asked if there is 24-hour staff and Larry responded affirmatively. She asked if they dispense medication. Larry stated that they assist them with their medication – they hand it out but only assisting. It is a non-medical facility and there is no nursing staff.

Jan asked who decides if they are eligible to be in this facility. Larry stated that most are conservatees, however, not all are. They have private pay clients also.

Chuck asked about the clients not being forced into doing things they don't want to do and does this include bathing and grooming. Larry stated that they cannot force them – they are given many oral prompts and the clients think staff are being mean to them, but that is part of their job. Chuck commented that some K&R/Salvador residents attend the Wellness Center very unhygienic. Larry responded that is part of the problem they have – they have been told that if they don't do those things (being hygienic), they cannot go to the Wellness Center. But they have been over ridden on those things and they can go regardless. Larry further stated that the Wellness Center has told clients that they cannot come because they are incontinent and wet on the furniture. But when they say no at Larry's end and cannot go because they are incontinent, then they are told that Larry cannot do that and are allowed to go. It is a double standard and Larry does what he is told. Wellness Center staff have called him and said that this certain person cannot come to the Wellness Center because they are ruining the furniture by wetting on it. Cora thought this is something that should be clarified.

Jan asked if they have regular support groups and Larry responded that they do. She asked if people come in from the outside and Larry stated that no one takes the interest – they occasionally have church groups that come do bingo and such.

Chuck asked if two people share a room and Larry stated yes. Chuck then asked if the clients have the opportunity to choose who they want to room with and Larry stated that sometimes that is okay and sometimes they cannot agree to the choice because they two may have the same bad habits or such and it is not a good choice.

Vince asked if a roving clinician would be beneficial. Larry stated absolutely; there have been period of times when they had three years without a case manager of any kind to help with the clients. Currently they do have a case manager and feel lucky to have one.

Larry gave a tour of the facility after the meeting.

Recommendation/Action: As noted above

VIII. Chair's Report

a. By-Laws Review

b. State Mental Health Planning Council – May 8th

Discussion/Conclusion: a. Cora stated this was discussed at the Executive meeting and they would like to form a committee to review the by-laws. This has been on hold due to the merging of this Board with the AOD Board. There are some changes they would like to move forward with and Cora asked for volunteers. Richard and Cora both volunteered. Cora asked that others think about this and let her know if they would like to join this committee. b. On May 8th there is a meeting in Merced – *We Are Listening*. The purpose of the meeting is to hear and record background of any recent changes to the public mental health system such as Medi-Cal expansion through ACA, the impact of AB 109 - Criminal Justice Realignment, the shift of special education mental health to schools and districts through AB 14, and the shift of Health Families to Medi-Cal and Katie A. Cora and Scott will be part of the panel and welcome everyone to participate. It will be from 3:00-6:30 p.m. Scott continued that they are looking for a good turnout and wanting to solicit feedback about our community and about the community's needs. Anyone who can attend, should try to attend – the State would appreciate it. It will be at 630 West 19th Street in Merced – it is the Merced College Business Center site by Merco.

VIII. Chair’s Report – con’t.

Cora announced that Jan Morita has resigned from the Board due to the NAMI contract and there is a conflict of interest. She hopes that Jan will continue to attend these Board meetings as part of the public. Cora thanked Jan for her years of service.

Cora discussed the Strategic Planning Session that took place on April 17th. Cora had passed out the agenda, minutes, outline and a document regarding committees of the board. This will be a permanent document for the binders and go under responsibilities and it will be attached to the Annual Report. The purpose of the Strategic Planning Session was to review the role and responsibilities of the Board. They also talked about the blending of this Board with the AOD Board and the modification of the agenda. Cora reviewed the basic responsibilities. Cora went over a list of recommendations and then asked Board members for their feedback and recommendations. There was discussion on the changing of the agenda.

Recommendation/Action: As noted above

IX. Supervisor’s Report

Discussion/Conclusion: Supervisor Walsh reported that the Board of Supervisors approved several contracts and grants today – renewal of staff psychiatrist and expansion of those hours that they are available, approved Trilogy contract for both web access and e-learning, approved a contract with Probation Dept. for system of care, they approved a Probation Officer for Drug Court, approved a contract for the Southeast Asian community advocacy, and they approved the Triage Grant both in terms of approving the project, staff and funds. They are currently waiting for the May budget revise that the Governor will be proposing. They hope to see some additional County resources coming from AB 109, adjustments in healthcare and mental health.

Vince questioned Supervisor Walsh on his thoughts of having 101 education for the Board of Supervisors on mental health. Supervisor Walsh thought that periodically it would be useful to have an orientation so that his colleagues understand how things fit together.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

X. Director’s Report
a. SB 82 – Crisis Residential
b. Recruitment Update

Discussion/Conclusion: a. Scott reported that the Triage Grant, that was approved by the BOS today, was the first grant we received from SB 82. We were notified about a month ago that we were going to be recommended for another SB 82 grant and it went before CHFFA (Calif. Health Facility Financing Authority) about two weeks ago. The Dept. planned to use funding (which could only be used to purchase a facility) for a facility to be used as a Crisis Residential Facility. It is a facility that helps people transition from some type of care into independent living or possibly step down from an inpatient placement into a board and care type of living. The Department’s proposal was to use the funding to establish a relationship with Turning Point as the vendor to create this program. Overall it is about \$2 million for the purchase and renovation of a property and certain things like beds, chairs, etc. We were approved and received notice; now we are working to get an item together for the BOS for their approval. Merced will be partnering with four other counties – Madera, Mariposa, Tuolumne and Calaveras. Merced will be the manager of the grant. b. Second interviews have been held and the field has been narrowed. Final interviews should be done shortly.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

- XI. Committee Reports / Updates**
- a. Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) (Sally / Mary E.)
 - b. Executive / Bylaws / Planning Committee (Cora)
 - c. Membership Committee (Kim)
 - d. Patients’ Rights Advocate (Chris)
 - e. Wellness Center Update (Chuck)
 - f. CA Association of Local Mental Health Board/Chair (CALMHB/C) Update (David / Keng)
 - g. National Alliance for the Mentally Ill (NAMI) (Jan)
 - h. Children’s System of Care (CSOC) (Cora)
 - i. MHSA Ongoing Planning Council (Sharon J. / Iris)
 - j. Cultural Competency Committee (Mary H. / David)
 - k. Community Partner’s Meeting (Vince / Mary E.)
 - l. Alcohol and Other Drug (AOD) (Richard)

Discussion/Conclusion: a. Sally reported there was not meeting. b. This was discussed under the Chair's report. c. Kim reported that *Each Mind Matters* is the Statewide mental health movement sponsored by CalMHSA. They are having a Mental Health Matters Day next Tuesday – it's an all-day event that starts with a rally and then a walk on the Capitol Mall. There will be entertainment, exhibits and a program by Darrell Steinberg. It is very interesting and fun. d. The PRA was not present today. e. Chuck reported that with the fundraisers in April they cleared \$164. Chuck reminded everyone that this Friday is the annual picnic at Lake Yosemite and everyone is welcome to attend. The last treasurer's report showed that they had \$612. Their next fundraiser is scheduled for May 23rd serving hamburgers. The snack stand sells ear plugs for the computer lab; they are raising the cost of the ear plugs from \$1.25 to \$2.00. Elections are coming up at the end of the month for the Consumer Advisory Committee – Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Treasurer. Lastly, Cara Rupp's Wellness Center Recovery – held Thursday mornings at 10:15 – had to be moved to another room due to the growing number of attendees. f. The CALMHB/C will eventually take the lead for training the Mental Health Boards. The Planning Council wants the data in the form of a Work Notebook and it needs to be turned in by July 31st. g. Jan reported that they had their last Community Dialogue in Planada on Saturday and it was awesome. About 70 attended. NAMI has started its first class for parents with children who have a mental illness. NAMI Merced was chosen to show the movie, *Call Me Crazy*. The showing will be on May 28th at B Street from 5:45 to 8:00. If anyone wants to attend, they need to call Jan and make a reservation. Seats are filling up fast. h. There was a meeting on April 14th. There was a Katie A. update. A vocational rehab counselor is helping out with diploma completion. Kathleen Grassi from the Health Dept. announced that there is a planning grant from Blue Shield integrating primary care and mental health care. i. Sharon J. reported that they are in a community planning process where she is doing focus groups, key informant interviews. She is working on the draft for the 3-year Program Update for FY 14-15-16-17 and the goal is to get the draft to the Ongoing Planning Council on June 2nd. There is an Outcomes Event on May 29th – usually they do two days, but this year they have cut it back to one day. It will be structured different – instead of powerpoints it will be story boards. There will be three panels – a consumer panel, a provider panel and questions that come from the story boards. The banner will be across G Street that last week in May. j. Sharon J. stated that cultural competence and clinical competence go hand-in-hand and with all the focus groups Sharon is doing, she is making sure they take cultural competence into consideration. Sharon is also working with Tabatha Weeds from AOD and getting ready to develop a plan for all staff to have an individual assessment and organizational assessment. Many of the contract providers are building up their clinicians. k. Mary E. reported that AOD services have reached their 21st year. Los Banos staffing is looking good. The AOD structural shift is ongoing. QIC is working on projects; developing priority worksheets. The Department is going to ensure client's needs are met. l. Richard reporting there is not much new with the blending of the two Boards. Last month they did have the annual Youth 2 Youth Conference and it was well attended. Some of the AOD Board members attended for the first time and it was an eye-opener for them. It is a great program. Christopher Jensen is a sharp individual and very motivated.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

XII. Announcements

Discussion / Conclusion: Sally hoped that Carol brought her camera to take pictures of the Board for the Annual Report. Cora asked the Board if they were interested in holding this Board meeting in Planada next month. Cora also stated that attached to this month's packet was a handout called, Keepsake Connection. She recommended that Board members put this in their binder under Service and Programs. It would be handy tool to have. Board members also need to put the Role of the Committee Board also in their binders.

Vince reported that Hanford is having another mental health meeting on June 28th. He received an email on this. Cora stated that she also received this email and all Board members are invited to attend. Cora will forward the email to Sally and she can distribute to other members who want to attend. Cora encouraged everyone to attend.

Recommendation/Action:

XII. Adjournment

Discussion / Conclusion: The meeting was adjourned at 4:58 p.m. The next meeting is June 3, 2014.

Submitted by: _____
 Carol Hulsizer
 Recording Secretary

Approved by: _____
 Iris Mojica de Tatum, Secretary
 Merced County Mental Health Board

Date: _____

Date: _____