



Merced County Mental Health Board Meeting

June 3, 2014

3:30 – 5:00 pm

1748 Miles Court, Suite B, Merced, CA

Present:

Cora Gonzales, Chair; Richard Hawthorne, Vice-Chair; Iris Mojica de Tatum, Secretary; Sally Ragonut; Keng Cha; Vince Ramos; Supervisor Walsh, Mary Ellis; James Fuller; Mary Hofmann; David Baker; Kim Carter

Absent:

Chuck McClure

Others Present:

Scott De Moss; Curt Willems; Sharon Robinson; Houa Vang, Merced Lao Family; Ge Thao, Merced Lao Family; Chris Kraushar, PRA; Forrest Hansen, County Counsel; Audrey Spangler; Carol Hulsizer, Recorder

MINUTES

I. Call to Order / Flag Salute / Roll Call

Cora Gonzales, Chair, called the meeting to order at 3:31 p.m. Cora read the following quote: "Superiority – the truth is that there is nothing noble in being superior to someone else. The only real nobility is being superior to your former self."

The flag salute was done. Roll call was taken.

II. Mission Statement

Iris Mojica de Tatum read the Mission Statement. Cora asked for self-introductions.

III. Approval of Minutes from May 6, 2014 (BOARD ACTION)

Action/Recommendation: Keng asked for a correction of the May minutes. On Page 4, item #f should read: 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. M/S/C (Fuller / Hawthorne) to approve the minutes with Keng's correction from May 6, 2014.

Recommendation/Action: Carol will correct the May 2014 minutes with the above change.

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

Discussion/Conclusion: Sally commented that she had forwarded her QIC Report to be added to this agenda but there was confusion on adding it to this month's agenda. Cora stated this will go under item #XI.

Vince went to an Ongoing Planning Council meeting and they talked about Katie A. The State and County of L.A. were sued because they were not giving adequate mental health services to the foster care children. Now any child in foster care has to be assessed by the County and from there they go into groups depending on how bad their mental health disability is. He will email the PowerPoint that was presented. Adequate services must now be given to foster children.

Mary E. attended the MHSA Outcomes Event on May 29th. It was excellent and was very well attended. The Story Boards were excellent and there was a lot of communication. She really liked the fact that it was not judged – one person that spoke said that the consumers and guest speaker were heroes. Mary felt this was very well said and she agreed with that. The presenters and staff should be congratulated and thanked. Cora agreed with her. It was well presented and received.

Sally stated that an ethics training is coming up in August. Cora continued that an email did come out about this. There are two trainings in August and everyone needs to attend – it is a requirement in order to continue serving on the Board.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

V. Merced Lao Family Presentation – Ge Thao

Discussion/Conclusion: Houa Vang welcomed everyone to Merced Lao Family. Ge Thao welcomed everyone. He is a clinician with the SEACAP program. Ge passed out a document that explained the Southeast Asian Advocacy Program (SEACAP), Integrated

V. Merced Lao Family Presentation – Ge Thao – con't.

Primary Care (PEI) and Cultural Broker (PEI); all three are under the MHSA. Ge went on to explain about the different areas/components. Community Collaboration – there is the monthly Community Partners meeting with the Director of Mental Health along with other community partners and contract providers. The meeting is a collaborative effort to make sure all clients receive adequate care. He thanked Merced County for facilitating this meeting. When they have clients with certain needs, it is through this type of collaboration that they are able to provide resources for the community. Another component is cultural competence. Ge's staff can speak Hmong, Lao, Thai and Mein. Cultural Competence is a very important component of SEACAP and PEI. Client/Family Driven Services – in SEACAP their community leaders look at them very closely and let them know of issues in the community that needs to be voiced. They provide outpatient services like individual therapy, rehab and group services for SEACAP. They work with the Mental Health Dept. for medication. They collaborate with primary healthcare providers. They have to work with the primary care physicians for some of their clients that have chronic medical issues and may not be in compliance with their medications. Within their community they also do peer support – this is a lot of socialization, engagement and skills building; this is something they have learned from the Wellness Center. Their goal is to work with 25 youth, 25 TAYs and 100 adults. Their socialization group has 195 clients and they are open four days a week – Tuesday/Wednesday/Thursday/Friday for peer support. The socialization group has a lot of community members that need help with their paperwork and such and get the engagement and encouragement needed from this group to help themselves. Ge went on to explain about PE&I (Prevention and Early Intervention). In the primary care setting, about 68% of the clients can also be diagnosed with some kind of mental health diagnosis. They screen them using the PHQ-9 and those who need more intensive care are referred out. For those who require more mild or preventive care can see the doctor and are given some brief sessions to make sure their mental health symptoms do not increase. They also have the Cultural Broker and this program has Lao Family teaming up with community leaders to train them about mental health – the symptoms, stigma, referral service, etc. It is their role to work with their families to determine who will need services. They in turn refer the clients back to Lao Family. They provide awareness to the whole community about mental health and provide education about prevention and services to the community.

Ge was asked about their new location and how it has affected their clients. Ge stated that they have been providing a lot of transportation since they moved to this location.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

VI. Rosenberg's Rules of Order – County Counsel

Discussion/Conclusion: Forrest Hansen was present from County Counsel. He passed out a cheat-sheet on how the rules work. Forrest explained that he would be going over Rosenberg's Rules even though the Board By-Laws state they follow Robert's Rules of Order. (Cora stated that the By-Law Committee has made corrections to move forward to make this change.) Forrest went over the rules that should be followed in order to get through an agenda efficiently. First, a quorum needs to be established to conduct business – a quorum is 50% plus one. Everyone needs to remember that you can lose a quorum during a meeting – if there is barely a quorum, and someone leaves, you cannot do business. Role of the Chair – the main role of the Chair is to know these rules, to establish decorum at a meeting and move through the agenda. The agenda – the agenda is the agreed upon roadmap for the meeting. The process from the agenda item to the vote – first, the Chair announces the item number and subject. A report is then invited on the agenda item and after the report the Chair asks for technical questions and then public comments are invited. The next part is optional – some things are informational so there will not be a motion. Action items will usually require a motion and a second. Anybody on the Board can make a motion – according to Rosenberg's Rules, the Chair is discouraged from making a motion, but not prohibited. The Chair will usually invite a motion to be made. Then there is a second. After the second, the Chair should clarify the motion – ask the person who made the motion to repeat the motion or the Secretary can clarify the motion. This part can be done more than once – everyone needs to understand the motion that is on the table. Next is to invite discussion from the Board members – you have a motion and a second, you have clarified the motion, now you ask the Board members (not the public) to discuss. This should also be timed. After the discussion is closed, the Chair will say close the discussion and then call for a vote. Once done with the vote, the Chair announces how the vote went. Forrest then went on and expanded on motions. There are three types of motions – regular motions, meeting motions and super-majority motions. Regular motions – these are exactly what everyone is used to at a meeting – the person makes a motion, then someone may make a motion to amend or a substitute motion. The motion this Board will use the most is the basic motion and what Rosenberg's Rules calls a 'friendly amendment'. This is when you make the original motion, you get some discussion and it is apparent that the original motion with a slight modification is going to be acceptable to the person who made the motion and the person who seconded the motion. You are allowed to have three motions on the table. You vote on the last motion first, then you move to the regular motion. Meeting motions – these have no debate – when they are made, there is a motion, there is

VI. Rosenberg’s Rules of Order – County Counsel – con’t.

a second and there is a vote. This is a motion to adjourn, fix a time to adjourn, take a break, or table a discussion on any issue; there is no discussion. Super-majority motions – these require a super-majority of the people voting. Super-majority is usually 2/3 or twice as many ayes as there are nays. These are motions to limit debate, motions to close nominations, motion to take something off the agenda completely, motion to suspend the rules, and last is a motion to reconsider – called the change-of-heart motion – where somebody who voted on a motion that passed has now changed their mind and wants to do a motion to reconsider. Voting – how do you count the votes. In this case it is majority unless it is super-majority. Lastly, the role of the Chair is to keep decorum. The Board members can also keep decorum and can do it in two ways. The Board members individually can say “point of order” if they want the Chair to pay attention and come back to Rosenberg’s Rules – this is a reminder to the Chair that something was forgotten such as the debate on a vote.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

VII. Announcement of Nomination for Chair, Vice-Chair and Secretary (Board Action)

Discussion/Conclusion: Sally stated that the Nominating Committee consisted of herself, David and James. Their recommendation for Chair is Richard Hawthorne, Iris Mojica de Tatum for Vice-Chair and Vince Ramos as Secretary. Cora asked if there were any other nominations for the Chair (there were none). M/S/C (Hofmann / Ellis) to approve Richard Hawthorne as Chair. Cora asked if there were any other nominations for Vice-Chair (there were none). M/S/C (Ragonut / Fuller) to approve Iris Mojica de Tatum as Vice-Chair. Cora asked if there were any other nominations for Secretary (there were none). M/S/C (Fuller / Ellis) to approve Vince Ramos as Secretary.

Recommendation/Action: As noted above

VIII. Chair’s Report

- a. Annual Report Progress**
- b. By-Laws Review in Progress**
- c. May 8th Community Forum**
- d. Board Membership**
- e. Evaluations**
- f. Out-going Statement**

Discussion/Conclusion: **a.** Cora reported that the Annual Report committee has met several times and it is moving forward. The committee wants to use the date of August 1st to present it to the Board. **b.** Cora and Richard have met and made changes. Richard will meet with Scott to go over the changes. They have taken into consideration changing from Robert’s Rules of Order to Rosenberg’s throughout the document. They decided to look at the By-Laws currently as it is now. Iris questioned if the Board will review these before it goes to Counsel. Cora stated that a rough draft with highlights can be ready by the next meeting date. **c.** Cora reported that May 8th the Community Forum was held. She has received the first draft of the forum. Cora has read through the comments – basically comments from the audience. The outcomes of the meeting – 1. Cora stated that there was a continuing comment/interest in transportation being a problem throughout the community and making sure consumers get to their appointments, 2. There was also a request for additional access to care, 3. Transitioning from an inpatient to a case management once they leave the hospital, 4. Reducing stigma was also noted. Cora continued that Scott presented what we have done as a Department. Cora did an overview of how the Board integrated with the Department in addressing issues. Scott stated that he found the forum to be informative and brought together stakeholders that he had not heard from since he has been in Mental Health. **d.** Cora announced that this will be Audrey’s last meeting. Cora thanked her for the many years she has dedicated to this Board. Cora also announced that Chuck is taking a leave of absence for a short time. **e.** Cora asked that the evaluations be turned in at the end of the meeting today. **f.** As this was Cora’s last meeting as the Chair she read a statement, “It has been a pleasure and an honor to serve all of you on the Board, the residents of the County as well as the staff. In the past year I have learned a lot. I thought this position was going to be easy. Wow, was I wrong. It has taken a full year for me to realize what I am supposed to be doing. I have learned a lot from the staff and I continue to learn. To show my commitment I set goals for myself. I wanted to attend as many committee meetings; I also wanted to visit as many sites as possible. I wanted the meetings to be efficient so that we would cover all items on the agenda. I didn’t quite meet all those goals. I want to thank the Board for all the valuable work and dedication. I want to let the staff know that we have Board members that are committed and hard working. Together we can make a difference to continue to meet the needs of the community. With the grace of God I survived.” Cora then had words for each Board member.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

IX. Supervisor’s Report

Discussion/Conclusion: Hub stated that today is election day – he encouraged everyone to vote. Soon the CEO and staff will be presenting a proposed budget on June 17th. In June the CEO and his staff recommend a proposed budget; in August there are final budget hearings. In the interim they find out what the State has done or not done. The State Assembly and Senate are looking at possible additional services that they want to add in and mental health was one of the issues they have been talking about. The primary focus the last few weeks for the BOS (and next few weeks) is on water issues.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

X. Director’s Report
a. Recruitment Update
b. Financial Report

Discussion/Conclusion: a. Scott reported that at the last BOS meeting in May the Board did give direction to the CEO regarding recruitment of a Mental Health Director. The CEU is currently working to execute that direction. At such time that everything is accomplished, he will return to the Board for a public recommendation for the BOS to vote on. We are getting extremely close to the end of the process and should transition over the next 30 to 40 days the next steps should be taken. Currently we are waiting for confirmation from the State and when that confirmation is received, the BOS has directed the CEO to come to them with a recommendation. b. Scott stated that they have been working on the financial report and Sharon R. passed out copies of the Fiscal Year 13/14 Quarterly Budget Report. Scott and Sharon went over the handout.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

XI. Reports / Updates
a. Executive Committee
b. Regional Meeting – June 28th in Hanford

Discussion/Conclusion: a. Cora stated that this item has changed a little. She reminded everyone that this gives an opportunity for more time rather than having fifteen reports. b. The Regional meeting is June 28th in Hanford. This is where all the counties get together. If anyone would like to attend, and Cora encouraged all members to attend, they will be taking a County van. Anyone who would like to attend should let Carol know by June 10th.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

XII. Announcements

Discussion / Conclusion:

- Vince brought up “educating the BOS” on mental health and Cora stated that this is being addressed in the Annual Report. She stated that if Vince wanted to discuss this further, it should be made an agenda item for another meeting. Supervisor Walsh clarified that the Annual Report is the correct way to get the information out to the BOS.
- Cora announced that there was a recent webinar provided by CiMH and each Board member received a packet on the webinar. Cora asked that everyone look it over and be familiar with the information.
- Cora discussed a recent editorial in the Sun Star regarding mentally ill people. She asked that Carol put a copy in the next month’s packet. Supervisor Walsh suggested that since the editorial board has expressed interest in the issue of mental health, that a meeting between this Advisory Board and the newspaper be arranged to discuss this issue.
- Mary H. questioned if the County is considering instituting Laura’s Law and if so, is this Board part of that. Scott stated that if the County was looking into this (at this time they are not) they would look to get advice from this Advisory Board. It is an important issue and he does not see the County by-passing this Board. It was suggested this be put on next month’s agenda.

Recommendation/Action:

XIII. Adjournment

Discussion / Conclusion: The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m. The next meeting is July 1, 2014.

Submitted by: _____
Carol Hulsizer
Recording Secretary

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

Date: _____

Date: _____

