

Minutes

Present: Iris Mojica de Tatum, Paula Mason, Secretary; Sally Ragonut; Supervisor Lee Lor; Norma Cardona; Mary Ellis; Keng Cha; Vince Ramos; Darrell Hall

Absent: Richard Hawthorne, Vice-Chair; Angelo Perez; Bruce Metcalf; Kim Carter

Others Present: Yvonnia Brown; Lanetta Smyth; Sharon Jones; Olivia Lynch; Carol Hulsizer, Recorder

Call to Order / Flag Salute / Roll Call

Chair Iris Mojica de Tatum called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Roll call was taken.

Mission Statement

The Mission Statement was read by Iris Mojica de Tatum.

Approval of Minutes from May 1, 2018 (BOARD ACTION)

Recommendation/Action: M/S/C (Mason / Ellis) to approve the minutes from May 1, 2018.

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

- Vince Ramos commented that it is time again for the Board to review the Wellness Center's expenditures, trips and how the funding is being spent. He then commented on Triage and if the wait time has improved or has more staff been hired to deal with the people waiting to be seen. Vince attended the Ongoing Planning Council and they had \$2.5M in reserve that will spread out to community partners; he questioned if this can be discussed.
- Sharon Jones invited everyone to the Spiritual Wellness & Recovery Conference on July 14, 2018. Registration should start this week.
- Yvonnia Brown commented on an item from last month's Public Comment regarding the use of Medicare. We do, but it is limited to medication services only. Anyone who needs therapy – this is separate, and there is an UMDAP requirement. When someone comes in with Medicare, they are given a form stating what the Department offers, and they do sign the form acknowledging this.
- Vince Ramos stated that he was looking at the Calif. Code of Regulations and he questioned if the Wellness Center has a licensed clinician to take over the supervision there.
- Olivia Lynch, RN at the Emergency Room, was present today. She was not representing the hospital. She came to this meeting several months ago regarding concerns about the pediatric population. She has seen a lot more mental health evaluations for pediatrics than when she started six years ago. She knows that having a collaborative meeting is on the table, but she has not seen the date yet. There is a general lack of communication between the three entities – the hospital, the mental health institution and Aspiranet. Her understanding of the CSP (critical stabilization program) is that this program would do something while waiting for placement. She was present today to push for a collaborative meeting with Aspiranet, Mental Health and the hospital.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

Behavioral Health Program Updates

- a. Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Update – Sharon Jones

- **Suicide Prevention Campaign – Building a Suicide-Safe Community**
- **8th Annual May is Mental Health Awareness Month & MHSA Outcomes event – Celebrating Recovery and Reducing the Stigma**
- **July Public Hearing for MHSA Program Update for FY 2017-2020 3-Year Plan**

Discussion/Conclusion: Suicide Prevention Campaign – Building a Suicide-Safe Community – On May 16, 2018 they held their May is Mental Health Awareness Recovery event. At that event they kicked off their Suicide Prevention Initiative; they want to build a community that is alert to the risk of suicide. Suicide is a tough subject, but suicide is everyone's business. More than 40,000 people in the U.S. take their lives each year; they are among millions of people throughout the world who commit suicide in an average year. Suicide is not just for adults; teenagers and young adults are particularly vulnerable. Suicide is the third leading cause of death in people between the ages of fifteen and twenty-four. Deliberate suicidal actions have occurred in children as young as seven years of age. Suicide occurs in every ethnic group, gender, occupation, geographic area and among any social, economic status. To prevent suicide, you must know the warning signs, be comfortable enough with the person to talk openly, and show care and concern. You should take the person seriously and lead them to professional help. The goal in Merced County is to change from risk to safety. A small gesture of help can be life-saving. The Suicide-Safer Community Initiative will run similar to the Ending-the-Stigma Campaign. All of the workforce will be trained in Applied Suicide Intervention Skills training over the next few months. From there, they will have community events and partner with agencies just like they do with Ending-the-Stigma Event. Yvonnia commented that BHRS is not the only avenue for helping someone who is suicidal because there are other resources. That is why the community is being educated on recognizing the signs of someone who may be at the verge of committing suicide. The more we educate and empower the community, by giving them the resources, will hopefully minimize the number of suicidal actions that this nation is experiencing.

Ending the Stigma Event – this has been going on since May 2016. They have had 26 Ending-the-Stigma presentations in Merced County; 2,471 individuals have made the pledge to end mental health stigma and discrimination; and 856 have completed pre- and post-surveys regarding their attitudes about mental illness and stigma. Pre-survey averages about 68% gave positive responses with the post-survey average about 72% gave positive responses. This means they are headed in a positive direction. 91% percent of those surveyed reported gaining knowledge about stigma and how to fight it. 93% of those surveyed reported satisfaction with Ending-the-Stigma presentation. The 8th Annual May is Mental Health Awareness Month and MHSA Outcomes Event was held on May 16th. Sebastian Gentry was the keynote speaker; he is the laughter wellness expert. Sharon's presentation showed upcoming trainings; Iris asked if the Board could be sent this information. Sharon stated that she would have Carol send the information to Board members.

July Public Hearing – Sharon announced that there would be a Public Hearing at the July meeting. This is in regards to Prevention & Early Intervention, Innovation and Workforce Education and Training (WET) re-allocated funds. The requirement is to have a spending plan. It is money they already had and basically they are being given permission to use it. The plan will be posted from May 21st to June 19th and will go to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on August 14th.

Recommendation/Action: As noted above

Election of Officers (Board Action)

- a. Chair**
- b. Vice-Chair**
- c. Secretary**

Discussion/Conclusion: Mary presented the names for both Chair and Vice-Chair; no one volunteered for the Secretary position and Mary stated that if there were no nominations from the floor, she herself would volunteer to be Secretary. Sally read the responsibilities for all three positions. Micki Archuleta volunteered for Chair, Darrell Hall volunteered for Vice-Chair, and Mary Ellis volunteered for Secretary.

Recommendation/Action: All three were unanimously accepted by the Board.

Approve FY 2017/18 Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors

Discussion/Conclusion: Iris commented that Richard gave a presentation to the BOS today regarding the FY 2017-18 Annual Report. Richard was not present today but this would have been his last meeting. She acknowledged that Richard had put this report together. A draft copy of the Annual Report was given to all Board members to review.

Recommendation/Action: M/S/C (Cardona / Mason) to postpone approval on the Annual Report until the August 7th meeting.

Chair's Report – Iris Mojica de Tatum

a. July Meeting Date Change – July 3rd to July 10th

b. Recap of Behavioral Health Board's Strategic Planning Meeting – May 19, 2018

Discussion/Conclusion: a. Iris stated that the next scheduled meeting date is July 3rd and due to the 4th of July holiday being the next day, Board members may not be free on July 3rd. With the July meeting also being a Public Hearing, there needs to be a quorum present. With that in mind Iris wanted to move the next meeting to July 10th instead. Iris encouraged everyone to go online and read the MHSA document in order to be familiar with it for the July meeting. Yvonnia emphasized that this is a special Annual Report based on AB114 dealing with money subject to reversion. b. Iris thanked everyone that attended the Strategic Planning meeting on May 19th. She asked for everyone's input that attended. The Board came up with six objectives for next year and each was reviewed and discussed. Objective 1 – Annual Report – Sally Ragonut commented she wants to be part of the Annual Report Committee. Objective 2 – County's Outcome Data/Data Notebook – Susan Wilson, trainer for the Strategic Planning meeting, commented that the Data Notebook is to be done annually; Sharon Jones stated that she and QI have been completing the Data Notebook. Yvonnia commented that this Board is supposed to approve the Data Notebook because it is their report to the State. In the future there can be an Ad-Hoc Committee to work with BHRS staff to put the Data Notebook together. Sharon will email the last Data Notebook to Carol and she will then forward to the Board members. Objective 3 – Review/Revise By-Laws – Iris stated that there have been changes to the By-Laws and the new Chair will need to work on revising them. Objective 4 – Standing Committee for Substance Use Disorder – the new Chair needs to set this up; Darrell Hall had previously volunteered to be part of the committee. Objective 5 – Continuous Opportunities for Board Development – Micki stated that the Executive Committee would set up the training schedule. Objective 6 – Process for the Evaluation of Local Facilities – after lengthy discussion it was decided that there should be a presentation on the Wellness Center at an upcoming Board meeting.

Recommendation/Action: a. M/S/C (Mason / Archuleta) to move the July meeting from July 3rd to July 10th. Sally Ragonut abstained. b. Carol will email out the Data Notebook.

Supervisor's Report – Supervisor Lor

Discussion/Conclusion: Supervisor Lor reported that at today's Board of Supervisor (BOS) meeting, Richard Hawthorne was presented with a certificate thanking him for his volunteer work on the Behavioral Health Board. Richard was very appreciative of the acknowledgement. She is looking forward to sharing the Annual Report with the BOS.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

Director's Report – Yvonnia Brown

- a. Update on Housing and Homeless Initiatives (B Street Housing Project)
- b. Overview of Governor's May Revision State Budget for FY 18/19



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES

Behavioral Health Board Meeting

301 E. 13th Street

Merced, CA 95341

June 5, 2018

Discussion/Conclusion: a. The BOS signed an agreement for the City to lease the B Street location with the option to buy for \$1,080,000 to use as leverage for funding for an affordable housing project. It will include supportive housing services for the homeless. More information to come. b. An Executive Summary of the Governor's May Revision was handed. The Governor proposed over \$358M to go towards the homeless and housing program coming out of the State general fund and the MHSA Admin funds (this will have no direct impact to our local funding). Yvonnia went over some of the different programs.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

Reports / Updates

- a. Executive Committee – Iris Mojica de Tatum
- b. QIC – Mary Ellis

Discussion/Conclusion: a. The Executive Committee had nothing to report. b. Mary passed out copies of the May 22, 2018 Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) meeting. She highlighted a few items.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

Announcements

Discussion/Conclusion: Supervisor Lor reported that she and a professor at UC Merced have partnered and opened "Merced for Kids" which is hosting an exhibit at the Merced Multicultural Arts Center. It will be there for two weeks. It is a hands-on exhibit for young children. She encouraged everyone to attend; they are open Tuesdays through Fridays, 11:00am-6:00pm and Saturdays from 10:00am-2:00pm. Their goal is a permanent location for a Children's Museum.

Recommendation/Action: Information only

Adjournment: The meeting ended at 5:20 pm.

Submitted by: *Signed*
Carol Hulsizer
Recording Secretary

Approved by: *Signed*
Paula Mason, Secretary
Merced County Behavioral Health Board

Date: 7/11/18

Date: 7/10/18