



BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD

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**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
August 24, 2017**

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting convened at 5:00 p.m. and was called to order by Chair, Jack Waldorf.

Those in attendance introduced themselves.

Deputy Martin lead the Board members and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Gregg Clifton, Annie Henrich, Carlos Hernandez, Susan Kirk, Carmen Maldonado, Vern Masse, Charmaine Monte, Jill Neifer, Frank Ploof, Jerold Rosenthal, Kathy Rupe, Mike Shinkel, Virginia Solorzano, Jack Waldorf, Supervisor Terry Withrow

MEMBERS ABSENT

Tony Flores, Yvette McShan, Thomas Olsen

STAFF PRESENT

Cherie Dockery, Veronica Ortiz-Valle, Elaine Byrom, Debra Buckles, Christi Golden

GUESTS PRESENT

Barbara Johnson, Shantel Johnson, Jim Rokaitis

PUBLIC COMMENTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS - None

CORRESPONDENCE

A letter was received from the Clerk of the Board to declare a vacancy for Jeff Gullo's seat in District 2 from the Behavioral Health Board.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Action: Kathy Rupe made the motion to approve the Behavioral Health Board minutes of July 27, 2017, Jerry Rosenthal second the motion.

CONSUMER REPORTS/COMMENTS – None

FAMILY MEMBER REPORTS/COMMENTS – None

BOARD OF SUPERVISORS REPORT

Supervisor Withrow reported on the presentation given at the Board of Supervisors regarding Laura' Law. There was a 5 – 0 vote to move forward with a work group to develop a plan for a three year pilot program for future consideration. BHRS Staff will come back to the Board with the cost, goals and measurements for success. The Board of Supervisors will determine if the three-year pilot will be approved.

PRESENTATION - Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) a 40 hour training offered by BHRS to law enforcement.

Deputies Martin and Glover from the Sheriff's Department and Officer Heilman from the Modesto Police Department shared their experiences before and after the Crisis Intervention Training (CIT). The training provided a better understanding of options when confronting someone that may be dealing with mental illness or substance use. The training provided different methods for law enforcement to contain a situation without the use of force in the initial encounter. All felt this was a worthwhile training and felt that new recruits should take the CIT Training within the first two years.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Executive Committee

Jack reminded members that Behavioral Health Board committee reports are due to Veronica by September 27, 2017. Veronica reminded the chairs of the committees that it is important to work with their Senior Leaders to review the report prior to submission. Jack is available to help if needed.

Jack discussed the section of the Behavioral Health Board By-Laws regarding conflict of interest. He reminded everyone that, per the By-laws, no member of the Board shall be an employee of BHRS or a paid member of the governing body of a mental health contract agency. Veronica let the Board know that if there is ever a question, they can call Jack or Administration to figure out if there is a conflict.

Administrative, Fiscal Management Committee

The committee meets quarterly. The next meeting is scheduled for September 28, 2017, at 4:00 p.m. Greg called a committee meeting in August, however, to work on the Annual Report. The committee reviewed the draft of the report that they plan to submit.

Managed Care Committee

No report. The committee meets every other month. The next meeting is scheduled on September 7, 2017, at 3:00 p.m.

Prevention and Community Education/Outreach Committee

Jill set up a table display at the meeting and to show what the table may look like for community outreach events. Jill asked members for feedback on the table and if they felt other material should be displayed. Jill also suggested revising the current Behavioral Health Board brochure.

The committee visited Waterford High School and was impressed with their program. Jill said it would be nice to have this program in all county high schools. Susan shared her experience in taking the Mental Health First Aid Class. She felt it was a worthwhile class for everyone to attend. Jill visited the Homeless Outreach and Engagement facility. She was very impressed with the facility.

Impact – Department Run Services Committee

Virginia reported the committee conducted a site visit at the Co-occurring Disorder Intervention Project FSP. She thanked Melissa Hale and Dawn Vercelli and said they were very informative and welcoming. The program opened in April of 2016 and is currently serving 25 clients with a capacity of 50. Referrals come from SRC, hospitals and other counties. The clients are homeless and receive therapy twice a week. The committee was able to speak with a client that expressed that this program saved their life. Vern expressed a concern that Stanislaus County is no longer the best of the best. He said that the county cannot compete with private programs that tend to be a more attractive place to work in regards to compensation for clinicians.

Impact – Contract Run Services Committee

Frank stated he agreed with Vern's statement on compensation. He added that hiring and retaining appears to be an issue. Frank questioned how can good services be delivered if we do not have the staff.

Frank reported that the committee has a calendar planned for the year. Telecare came to the last committee meeting and the committee plans to visit the Telecare site at 500 N. 9th Street.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY, EQUITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE (CCESJC)

Carmen reported the committee reviewed the Class Standards and then divided into groups to share ideas. Jennifer Marsh and two Navy Seals presented an update on "Stanislaus County Committed" a program on leadership.

DEPARTMENT REPORT

Cherie Dockery responded to Vern and Frank's concern about hiring and retaining staff. She explained in the early to mid-2000, BHRS was one of the top Counties to work for because of their programs, salaries, benefits, etc. Cherie stated that she is responsible for the day-to-day operations of the department. She is responsible for addressing issues that are complicated and not always positive. If we compare our staff salaries to other County salaries for (psychiatrists, clinicians, nurses) we find there is a substantial difference. BHRS is unable to match the higher salaries at this time; therefore, candidates have more choices based on their individual needs.

BHRS has a probationary committee, which meets regularly to review all staff on probation in our department. About 10-20 percent of those individuals will not advance with us because of several factors.

Our programs operate from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. but are short on staff infrastructure. We have requested eight positions in our budget from the Board of Supervisors and are looking at approval in September or October 2017. Obtaining these positions will bring more supervision to our staff and alleviate the additional work provided by our leadership staff. Turnover is high in some classifications. We are noticing a trend of individuals receiving their licensure hours and moving

on to another County or private agency for more compensation.

Currently there are four major projects in the process of implementation or planning. Of the four, three are mandated by the state, 1) Continuum of Care Reform (CCR), which we did not receive funding from the state to implement, 2) Drug Medi-Cal Organized Delivery System (ODS), 3) Managed Care Final Rule which changes the timeliness guidelines to access from 30 days to 10 days. 4) Laura's law is mandated by the community and the Board of Supervisors. We will work toward requesting participation from all of our partners and community who want to participate in this project.

BHRS has always had the philosophy of being over achievers. If we do not have the infrastructure, staff pick up the slack and get the job done. We continue to try to handle all things but that is not feasible, which may be part of the reason we did not receive approval for staff we previously requested. It does not take long to begin to see the results of not having enough infrastructures. Some of the results are extended probation, grievances, complaints, fact-findings, etc. As we investigate the changes we are seeing, we find we do not have the right staff in the right positions to be able to take on the load we have. We also experience some differences in generations and we must work at bridging that gap. Our staff continues to do the best they can with what they have.

Frank thanked Cherie for sharing and asked how the board can help. Cherie stated that their support during board and community meetings is helpful. Frank asked if we could increase the salaries of our staff and Cherie responded those requests are between unions and their members.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Annie shared that she is taking a training to become an advocate for domestic violence and sexual assault on adult, children, and the elderly.

Mike thanked Cherie for being candid with the committee on their concerns.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m. The next meeting will be on September 28, 2017, 5:00 p.m. – 6:30 p.m., at 800 Scenic Drive, Modesto, in the Redwood Room.

Respectfully Submitted,
Elaine Byrom
Confidential Assistant IV