

**EL DORADO COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH JOINT COMMISSION
Minutes September 28th, 2011**

TIME: 5:00 PM

PLACE: Video conference at:
Western Slope –
El Dorado County Health Service Department,
Mental Health Division
670 Placerville Dr. 2nd floor, Lake Tahoe Conf. Room
Placerville, CA 95667

South Lake Tahoe –
El Dorado County Health Services Department,
Mental Health Division
1900 Lake Tahoe
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150

I. Call to Order; Roll Call; Introductions

Members: R.S. Lynn, Ernie Klindt, Maria Quintero, Guadalupe Medrano, Claudia Ball, Jan Melnicoe, Bonnie McLane, Lee Kaplan

Guests: Bill Ball, Greg Sly, Linn Williamson, Stacy Bolton

Staff: Daniel Nielson, Joan Meis-Wilson, Sophie Cabrera, Chris Kondo-Lister, Janet Stevens, Prestine Skinner

II. Approval of Agenda

Approved

III. Public Comment (15 Minutes)

None

IV. Approval of Minutes

WS – August 24, 2011: Approved

V. New Business

A. Public Safety Realignment Plan: Greg Sly, Chief Probation Officer, provided the Commission with an overview of the County's 2011 Public Safety Realignment Initial Implementation Plan. The plan was developed by the El Dorado County Community Corrections Partnership (CCP) and approved by the Board of Supervisors on 9/26/2011. It addresses local issues expected to result from implementation of State Public Safety Realignment, including an increase in jail population as some offenders who previously would have been sentenced to State prison will now serve their sentence in County jail. In addition, beginning October 1, the County probation department will assume responsibility for supervision of non-violent, non-serious, non-high risk sex offenders who are released from State prison.

The Public Safety Realignment Initial Implementation Plan will address the first nine months of local justice realignment covering October 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. Funding in the amount of \$1,210,643 has been allocated to the County to address the new requirements under State Public Safety Realignment for this designated period. The El Dorado County plan includes a strategy for the use of these funds to provide a range of services from secure custody and enforcement through treatment and education for offenders who now fall under County jurisdiction. The full plan is posted on the Board of Supervisors website, and may be accessed from the 9/26/2011 meeting agenda or minutes. In addition, the CCP will continue to plan throughout FY 11/12 to create a long-range approach to ensure public safety, manage jail population capacity, and promote offender rehabilitation as State Public Safety Realignment is fully implemented over the upcoming four years.

B. MHSA:

- Sophie Cabrera explained that AB 100 removed responsibility for plan approval from the Department of Mental Health (DMH); as a result, DMH staff no longer ensure that County plans are compliant with the statutory requirements of Proposition 63. In addition, DMH is no longer the administrator of MHSA funds. Instead, funds are distributed on a monthly basis from the State as they become available. Consequently, funding is more volatile, and community planning more critical. Implementation of MHSA plans can begin once the Board of Supervisors has voted for approval.
- One Commission member commented that it is difficult to be aware of the scheduling of all the various MHSA community meetings and asked that the Mental Health Department provide a monthly calendar of upcoming events. Mental Health Department indicated that such a calendar will be prepared and posted as meetings are scheduled.
- One Commission member asked how one could know the amount of MHSA funding that is used to support transitional housing (T-Houses). Mental Health Department indicated that a report of MHSA funding and expenditures by component is being developed for expected distribution by the next Commission meeting.
- Sophie Cabrera updated the Commission about the upcoming Suicide Awareness and Prevention Conference planned for October 27 and 28 at the Doubletree Hotel in Sacramento. The County has eleven sponsored positions: seven for clinicians, two for participants from the Commission and two for NAMI representatives. Open registration is also available; registration materials and fees are posted on the CIMH website (<http://www.cimh.org/>)

C. Commission Evaluation:

- Sub-Committee members discussed their progress on two separate evaluations of Mental Health programs: those involved in the evaluation of Peer Support reported that they are waiting for follow-up from staff, and those involved in evaluation of the Children's program reported success in involving community members in their evaluation process.

- One Commission member asked for a future discussion of how independently sub-committees should function. There is a question of whether sub-committees should determine their own direction and select their own tasks or accept direction from the full Commission.

D. Mental Health Division Update:

- Daniel Nielson introduced himself to the Commission. He is the Director of Human Services and was appointed by the Board of Supervisors to be Acting Director of Health Services effective September 1. He is tasked with evaluating the potential to create and sustain integrated services for clients in a combined Health and Human Services Department. Daniel provided information concerning his education, professional experience and leadership style.
- Joan Meis Wilson introduced herself to the Commission. She is the Assistant Director of Health Services and will be overseeing MHSA planning, implementation, and management of MHSA funds. Joan provided information about her previous experience and professional interests and announced that plans for staff restructuring would be announced tomorrow.

VI. Old Business

A. Contracts:

- Dr. Lynn reiterated his commitment to Commission oversight of MHSA spending. He reminded the group that he had shared his analysis of the monthly contracts report and submitted three pages of questions with regard to contacts to the Mental Health Department. To date, the Department has not replied. Dr. Lynn announced that he plans to convene meeting of the Budget and Planning Committee that is posted in compliance with the rules of public notice and available via teleconference both in Placerville and in South Lake Tahoe. From that meeting he intends to draft a motion for the next meeting of the full Mental Health Commission, demanding those answers that have not been forthcoming.
- Mental Health Department replied that a report of MHSA revenue and expenditures by component is expected to be ready by or before the next Commission meeting. Joan Meis Wilson and Sophie Cabrera are also working on a revised structure for the contracts report to address concerns of the Commission.

VII. Commissioners Comments

- Claudia Ball spoke of the value and effectiveness of placement in a T-House and the extent to which placement can be helpful to the whole family. She added that keeping mental health clients housed locally is important to their recovery and that placing clients in Board-and-Care facilities located in Sacramento County is not ideal. She stressed that maintaining funding for local T-Houses is important.
- Ernie Klindt announced his resignation for the Commission due to health concerns.

VIII. Adjournment