

MINUTES
San Bernardino County
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION PUBLIC SESSION
February 2, 2012: 12:00-2:00 pm

Commissioners Present:

Bill Swift, Chris Massa, Gabriel Gonzales, Veatrice Jews, Susan McGee-Stehsel, Michael Hill, Akin Merino, Tanya Perry, Roberto Casas, Michael Grabhorn, May Farr, Monica Alonso and George Watson, Chief of Staff for Supervisor Neil Derry

Excused Absent: Tom Rivera, Monica Wilson and Jane Godager

Guests:

Dianna Lee, Field Representative for Supervisor Janice Rutherford; Calvin Holder, Nate Allen, St. Paul A.M.E. Church; Vanessa Holm, Family Service Association; Hanna Keith, Community Hospital of San Bernardino B.H.S; Greg Vander-Haeghen, Susan Petty, Faith Ikeda, Linda Ballard, Gregory Nyx, Vivien Limon, DBH Clubhouse; Beverly Scott, Sheryl Ortiz, Public; Chris Scarzo, NAMI Pomona Valley; Loretta Kelly, Pierra Hardrick, Center of Refuge; Carolyn Cooper, Linda Hart, African American Mental Health Coalition; Gwen Rodgers, EMQ FamiliesFirst; Bobbi Martinez, Lindsay Hubby, Lutheran Social Services; Anthony Brazier, Foothill AIDS Project; John Futch, San Bernardino Community College District; Ed McField, PEI Regional Center; Dr. Christine Bierdrager, Inland Behavioral Health Services; CaSonya Thomas, Paula Rutten, Susan Abito, Andy Gruchy, Nancy Olson, Mariann Ruffolo, Michelle Disick, David Denkers, André Bossieux, Dr. Teresa Frausto, Cheryl Long, Jason Hill, Rebecca Gehlke-Baez; Zakiya Otis, Cynthia Curbow, Lauretta Ross, Barry Barringer, Rachel Coley, Crista Wentworth, Doris Turner, Georgina Yoshioka, Gary Atkins, Susan Kulesa, Kristen Martinez, Michael Schertell, Christina Entz, Mary Burden, Karen Cervantes, Viviana Esparza, Lynn Neuenswander, Cindy Messer, Maria Coronado, Terri Franklin; Cynthia White, Yvonne Love, Bryan Boyer, DBH. Minutes recorded by Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission.

CALL TO ORDER, INTRODUCTIONS AND MINUTES FROM LAST MEETING

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel called the meeting to order at 12:07 p.m. Commissioner Casas led the Pledge of Allegiance and self introductions followed.

Debi Pasco, Clerk of the Commission announced: Supervisor Gary Ovitt appointed Dr. Akin Merino to the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) Fourth District on 1/10/12.

A motion made by Chris Massa and seconded by Roberto Casas: 1/5/12 BHC minutes were approved as written. Motion passed; no abstentions.

CULTURAL COMPETENCY AWARD OF EXCELLENCE – FEBRUARY 2012

Veronica Kelley, Deputy Director announced there was no honoree for this month. The Cultural Competency Advisory Committee is seeking nominations.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Bobbie Martinez of Lutheran Social Services distributed the Mountain Resource Directory published by the Big Bear Mental Health Alliance (BBMHA). The BBHMA will provide a presentation to the Behavioral Health Commission during the 3/1/12 meeting.

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

Chair Susan McGee-Stehsel stated that effective 2/15/12, the Knott's Family Resource Center contract will be assigned to Victor Community Support Services due to financial concerns. The Cal State nursing students have been visiting the El Sol Neighborhood Educational Center, which focuses on the mental and primary health of the community, and is home of Promotoras de Salud. Upcoming health fairs will be held at El Sol and Knott's Resource Centers. Susan attended the Healthy San Bernardino Coalition on 1/18/12, with special guest Herb K. Schultz, Region 9 Director U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to discuss how HHS and the White House can connect with and promote healthier communities in the Inland Empire. Discussion during this morning's BHC Executive Session included:

- Re-establishing program visits
- Upcoming educational presentations-please notify Debi Pasco if your agency would like to schedule a presentation to the BHC.
- BHC standing committees

COMMISSIONERS' REPORTS

First District:

Commissioner Bill Swift announced the next First District Advisory Committee (DAC) will be held on 2/15/12 from 10am-12pm at Victor Valley Behavioral Health.

Commissioner Michael Grabhorn recently attended a Coalition Against Sexual Exploitation (CASE) presentation and an Elevate, a capacity building training. He wished that the High Desert had a resource directory similar to the mountain directory distributed today.

Commissioner Gabriel Gonzales will resume working on his art.

Second District:

Commissioner May Farr attended the CA Mental Health Planning Council and the CA Local Mental Health Boards/Commission quarterly statewide meeting. Discussions topics included:

- Laura's Law
- Suicide Prevention
- The Soldiers Project- free, confidential psychological counseling for military service members and families.

May is actively involved in CASE- drug trafficking used to be the number one problem; there are now 27 million children being sexually exploited into modern day slavery.

Third District:

Commissioner Chris Massa attended a function at the Yucca Valley Clubhouse last week. He found the people to be full of energy and would like to schedule an upcoming DAC meeting at that location.

Secretary Tanya Perry stated that the Big Bear Mental Health Alliance recently met to discuss strategies to sustain programs. She has been distributing ArrowCare information, the County's new low income health plan. There have been several Trauma Resiliency Model trainings (concrete strategies to deal with individuals who have experienced trauma) on the mountain. Tanya participates on the Inland Empire Children Initiative Coalition that assists families in signing up for Medi-Cal/IEHP, dental and vision.

Fourth District:

Commissioner Akin Merino mentioned that student interns at Argosy University are willing to participate in community activities.

Commissioner Roberto Casas welcomed Dr. Merino to the Commission. He also commended Commissioner Monica Alonso's mother for supporting her daughter by attending today's meeting. As a member of the City of Chino Commission, Dr. Casas finds it difficult to decide which community block grant programs to maintain due to federal money cuts. The Governor is proposing several tax initiatives, which if not passed will seriously affect education. He has concerns with AB-39, which will impact special education funding. The Second/Fourth District Advisory Committee will be held at the Chino Valley School District on 2/23/12.

Fifth District:

Treasurer Veatrice Jews announced that the African American Mental Health Coalition is sponsoring their 2nd Mental Health Symposium on 2/10/12 at Cal State University San Bernardino. The 5th District Advisory Committee meetings are held the 4th Monday of the month at New Hope Family Life Center in San Bernardino.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Director Allan Rawland welcomed everyone to the Year of the Dragon. He also welcomed Linda Haugan, Assistant Executive Officer, and his boss, to the meeting. With the appointment of Michael Grabhorn, and his expertise in the field of alcohol and drug programs, the BHC will revive the Substance Abuse Taskforce standing committee. He encouraged community members and contract providers to participate. On 1/10/12, Supervisor Gary Ovitt will appoint Dr. Akin Merino to the BHC. Allan congratulated the Board of Supervisors and the BHC for a soon to be full Commission

Director Rawland acknowledged Lynn Neuenswander and staff for the newly released Department of Behavioral Health calendar for 2012-2013, which contains 24 months of beautiful consumer artwork.

Budget and other Policy Issues:

- Federal – still dealing with the deficit and policy issues
- State – The Governor's budget is expected to be released on 1/10/12. It looks like there will be 47 initiatives on the ballot in November 2012.
- County – Chief Executive Officer and his staff continues to work on cost containment strategies and the employee associations
- Dismantling of Department of Mental Health and Alcohol and Drug Programs – may end up with the Department of Health Care Services. We hope the Governor will provide direction in his soon to be released budget.

ArrowCare (Low Income Health Plan)

San Bernardino County was just approved for early implementation of their Low Income Health Plan, which is called ArrowCare. ArrowCare will provide healthcare to an additional 20,000 individuals in the county.

Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)

Due to MHSA roll over funds from the state, the Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI) planning taskforce will reconvene to determine the need for new programs or expansion of current programs. We'll have an unbiased facilitator assist in the community stakeholder process. The final plan will be presented to the Commission for review and subsequent RFPs will be released.

The first edition of the DBH Program Dispatch pamphlets will soon be released as a marketing tool for services we provide. The pamphlets contain program description and outcomes.

Laura's Law

Laura's Law allows courts to mandate voluntary services for clients who are not following treatment plans, however it is not mandated that counties implement the measure. Allan requested a Commission representative to participate on the taskforce. Susan McGee-Stehsel volunteered to keep the balance of patients' rights.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS:

Prevention and Early Intervention Statewide Projects

Michelle Dusick, Program Manager I, stated that in August 2010, San Bernardino County assigned their Statewide PEI funding to the CA Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA) for statewide administration of three projects and what we are doing locally to support the initiatives:

- Student Mental Health Initiative
 - Expand the annual SAP training to a region student mental health training
 - Planning meetings are being held with Regional Coordinator the K-12 system
- Suicide Prevention Initiative
 - Meeting with AdEase to coordinate media campaigns for suicide prevention, etc
 - Working to develop local media that coordinates with regional campaign
- Stigmas and Discrimination Reduction Initiative
 - Coordinating with local MAMI chapters for trainings
 - Working with AdEase to collaborate for anti-stigma campaigns

Director Rawland announced SBC was one of the first counties to form CalMHSA. Currently, 47 counties have joined; 23 contractors are on board for the implementation all three initiatives.

This is Our Life Because of You

Kristen Martinez, Clubhouse Coordinator stated that this segment is similar to the 1948 radio show, "This is Your Life". Over the speaker, the anonymous individuals expressed what DBH and Director Rawland have allowed them to accomplish. The speakers revealed themselves as David Miller, Laretta Ross and Robert Dotson.

Director Rawland stated, "I have been very fortunate to be able to share gifts from my heart. My job is to plant seeds and watch them grow. I feel honored. FAMILY, CARRY ON!"

Upcoming special presentations to the Behavioral Health Commission include:

- 2/2/12: Public Safety Realignment (AB-109)
- 3/1/12: Peer Driven Room and Board Advisory Coalition and Big Bear Mental Health Alliance
- 4/5/12: Clubhouse Update

NEW BUSINESS

- *A motion made by Susan McGee-Stehsel and seconded by Tanya Perry: BHC confirmed their support for the Countywide Vision Statement. Motion passed; no abstentions.*
- Election of Officers ballot results:
 - Chair – Susan McGee-Stehsel
 - Vice Chair – Monica Wilson
 - Secretary – Tanya Perry
 - Treasurer – Veatrice Jews

- *A motion made by Tanya Perry and seconded by May Farr: Approve Behavioral Health Commission Annual Report for FY 2010-11 with changes discussed during Executive Session. Motion passed; no abstentions.*

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further items to discuss the meeting was adjourned at 1:50 p.m.

Susan McGee-Stehsel
Chairperson

Debi Pasco
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission