



**KERN COUNTY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Monday
January 25, 2010
5:30 p.m.

Kern County Mental Health
3300 Truxtun Avenue
Bakersfield

BOARD MEMBERS:

Bill Matthew

Tom Ewing

Darlene Denison

Christy Fitzgerald

Kevin Seymour (excused)

Bob Hawkes (absent)

Tommy Tunson

Judy Hyatt

Brian Parnell

Rose McCleary

Greg Williamson (excused)

Rena Shumway (absent)

OTHERS PRESENT:

Jim Waterman – KCMH Director

Bill Brooks – College Community Services

Linda Eviston – STEPS

Debbie Lee – College Community Services

Marie Neel – NAMI

Jim McManus – TAASK

Russ Sempell – NAMI

Steve DeVore – KCMH

Bill Walker – KCMH

Dina Aldaco – College Community Services

Janis Cariveau – College Community Services

Cindy Gill – NAMI

Chris Reilly – Clinica Sierra Vista

Cindy Coe – KCMH

- Welcome and Introductions:** Accomplished.
- Establish Quorum:** 8 present / 4 absent; quorum established.
- Introduction of new member Christy Fitzgerald,** representing District 4 as the Board of Supervisors Chairman appointment: Members welcomed Ms. Fitzgerald, who provided a brief background introduction. This is the second time Ms. Fitzgerald has represented Supervisor Watson on the Behavioral Health Board.
- Recognition of Greg Williamson** on his appointment to Bakersfield Police Chief: Dr. Matthew announced First Vice-Chair Williamson had been recently appointed as the new Bakersfield Police Chief. Members expressed their pleasure for Chief Williamson, who was not able to attend tonight.



5. **Approval of November 23, 2009 regular meeting minutes:** Correction to item 2, with 9 present and 2 absent, a quorum was established. Motions by Tunson / Denison to approve with noted correction; approved all ayes.
6. **Public Comment:** No one spoke.
7. **Presentation on College Community Services** behavioral health services and outcome measures by Bill Brooks, Regional Director: Mr. Brooks provided an outline on College Community Services' background, clinic locations, and services provided. Outcomes studies for children's and adult programs were also provided and reviewed. Mr. Brooks addressed questions from Board members.
8. **Unfinished Business:**
 - A. Update on mental health services on high school campuses: Dr. Matthew asked for an update on services on campuses. Mr. DeVore reported currently the Department of Human Services has a social worker on campus at East High School five days a week. The social worker also has a caseload, so they are housed off-site, and are available to East High School students. Mental Health will be doing this two days per week, as soon as technology problems are solved. This schedule will be reviewed, and an additional day may be added later.
9. **New Business:**
 - A. Appointment of 2010 Parliamentarian – Bill Matthew: Dr. Matthew announced that he will appoint Chief Tunson to the position of Parliamentarian for calendar year 2010; Chief Tunson accepted.
 - B. Annual Filing of Statement of Economic Interests: Members received copies of their Form 700 and instructions. Members must file before April 1st.
 - C. Completion of Contract for Participation forms: The annual contracts were distributed, signed, and retrieved. The contracts are completed each year as a commitment to fulfill Board job duties.
10. **Chair Report:** Bill Matthew, PhD
 - A. The Board held a very enjoyable holiday gathering in December.
11. **Department Report:** Dr. Jim Waterman, Director

Dr. Waterman provided a written summary and briefly discussed the following issues:

State Report

- A. The governor's budget proposal would have no General Fund dollars for mental health, backfilled with \$452 million per year from a "sweep" of MHSA funds, with an additional \$847 million from MHSA per year if the federal government does not come up with enough and the "trigger" takes effect. The MHSA fund balance is \$1.1 billion. The governor proposes another ballot measure to take the funds. The money taken from MHSA would backfill Managed Care dollars and would be the sole state funding source for the children's Medi-Cal EPSDT program, and fund state hospital costs.
- B. Short-Doyle Phase 2, the state's new billing system, began January 1st for substance abuse and Feb 1st for mental health programs. Phase 2 prevents billing services for clients with dual Medicare and Medi-Cal coverage (Medi-Medi). The new system requires a Medicare denial before billing Medi-Cal, which has created a "Catch 22" problem that blocks billing. The Department will be restricting access to services for people with Medicare; they will continue to receive case management services and access to a psychiatrist, using telemedicine technology for outlying areas, at Medicare certified sites with certified staff. Medicare can be billed for these services. The Department is awaiting a letter from CMS (Centers for Medicare and Medicaid) that authorizes the proposed state fix. When the authorization is approved services will again be accessible.
- C. The state has taken the position that counties are responsible for IMD (locked facilities) ancillary costs. This represents a high risk for Kern County in that counties would be responsible for medical expenses for those in the facilities, as they would no longer be Medi-Cal billable. The Department will be initiating meetings to strategize about how the county can cover these costs.
- D. The California Department of Corrections & Rehabilitation (CDCR) is reducing their census by releasing between 6,000 and 30,000 non-violent, non-sex offender parolees under a non-revocable parole status. These parolees will not be eligible for services at Parole outpatient clinics. Chief Tunson added that Kern County should receive about 1,700 parolees.

County Report

- E. The Board of Supervisors has re-instituted restrictions on hiring and procurement. This will have little effect on the Department because we are not General Fund funded.
- F. The Department's budget next year will be at least \$3 million less than this year.

- G. The first Meth Reduction Task Force workshop was held this afternoon. Three additional workshops are planned for February 1st, February 8th, and February 22nd. Mr. Parnell, Ms. Hyatt and Ms. Fitzgerald offered feedback on the workshop.
- H. The Department will be holding stakeholder meetings to gather input on how to adapt to next year's budget by identifying priorities.
- I. The PEI (Prevention & Early Intervention) plan implementation is progressing. The Innovation plan is also being implemented. Current tasks include crafting an unusually difficult contract, as well as getting cost estimates for building renovation. In view of the possible "sweep" of MHSA funds, the Capital fund of approximately \$6 million has not yet been approved.
- J. The Request for Proposal (RFP) for services in Taft has been awarded to College Community Services, and the Department is in negotiations with College.
- K. Board members are needed to participate on RFP review panels, particularly for Parolee Services Network and pharmacy services, as they have been published.
- L. Orientation is available for new Behavioral Health Board members, or a refresher if desired.

Behavioral Health Report

Not available.

Dr. Waterman addressed Board questions and comments on report items.

12. Board Member Item: No one spoke.

13. Committee meeting minutes filed:

- A. 2009 Annual Report – 11-05 and 12-08-09: Mr. Parnell reported the committee seems to be making good progress, with only a few reports missing. The next meeting will be February 11th.
- B. Adult Treatment & Recovery Services – 11-18-09; no December meeting: Chief Tunson reported participation has been good, with a good exchange of data and information.
- C. Children's Treatment & Recovery Services – 11-17 and 12-15-09: No additional report.

- D. Housing Services – 11-18 and 12-16-09: Ms. Denison reported they have revised and adopted a new mission statement. The committee has also heard presentations on housing opportunities, projects statuses, and adopting room and board facility regulations.
- E. SQIC – 11-02 and 12-07-09: Dr. McCleary reported the committee learned the Department will have their EQRO review next year over the telephone due to their recent positive reviews. The committee received a status report on outcomes measures for the DHS and CalWORKs program; and identified priority areas as co-occurring disorder services, cultural competence, and recovery.

14. Announcements:

- A. Russ Sempell, NAMI, announced the Family-to-Family classes are now available in Spanish in Lamont. Ms. Neel provided a description of sites and classes available. Services are free.
- B. Dr. McCleary announced May is Mental Health Awareness Month activities are being planned. Ms. Gill offered a brief oral list of known planned events.

15. Items requiring follow up action:

None noted.

- 16. Adjourn to Regular Meeting, February 22, 2010 at 5:30 p.m., at Kern County Mental Health, 3300 Truxtun Avenue.**

JAW:cc

Distribution

Minutes of November 23, 2009 regular meeting
College Community Services presentation material – *Brooks*
Director's Report – *Waterman*
BHB Committee Meeting Minutes