

**MINUTES APPROVED**  
**6/16/16**

**Mental Health Advisory Board**

May 19, 2016

3:00 – 5:00 p.m.

1400 Emeline Ave, Bldg. K, Room 2006, Santa Cruz, CA 95060

**1. Call to Order**

- Meeting called to order at 3:00 by Kate Aver Avraham
  - Roll Call: Maria Correia, Richard Martinez, Hugh McCormick, Charlotte Nolan Reyes, Jodie Wells, Kathleen Aver Avraham, Erik Riera, Greg Caput, Jenny Kaupp
  - Excused: John Laue, Denise Ostlund
- Question from Supervisor Caput about the longer and shorter versions of the minutes. He would like to have the more detailed minutes in the future. Director Erik Riera stated the board can have the more detailed minutes in the future.
- Supervisor Greg Caput provided a detailed copy of the budget, which was shared with the board
- Meeting notes from April 21, 2015 had the following error: Jenny Kaupp seconded motions, but wasn't a board member at that time.
  - Approval of corrected minutes from April 21, 2015, with the caveat that future minutes be provided in long form: Maria Correia approving, Jodie Wells second. Motion carried unanimously.
- Approval of Sept 17, 2105 meeting notes which were not corrected: With only three of the original members from that date present, the correction was tabled for approval for next meeting.

**2. Public Comment**

- There were several members of the community, including David Drake, Maria Gonzalez, and others who shared their complaints about the way the Mental Health Client Action Network (MHCAN) accepts clients on a daily basis. The criticisms included the limited number of people who are allowed to access MHCAN services, being restricted for verbal outbursts, the feeling that the director was not responsive to their needs, and that grievances and complaints were not responded to.
  - Thomas Webb, Sarah Leonard, Melvee Filippini, Jan Gibson and others from MHCAN stated that MHCAN is restricted by the county to no more than fifty clients a day with the following breakdown: thirty-four clients from County Mental Health, six clients from outreach, and ten people who are not county. The clients are taken on a first come first served basis and the available slots are generally filled within the first five minutes of the day. They are sometimes met with threats and harsh language. When clients act in a way that is disruptive, the client will be restricted. They reiterated that they would take as many people as possible, if they were not bound by county contract and occupancy permits.
- Kate Aver Avraham has submitted two complaints to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Quality Assurance Manager, Karolin Schwartz.

- If a person has a grievance, they should write a complaint to the MHCAN board, and if it is not addressed, they should forward their complaint to the Mental Health and Substance Abuse Services, Quality Assurance Manager, Karolin Schwartz.

### 3. Standing Reports

- Supervisor, Greg Caput:
  - Response from MHAB to board, by July 18. Encourages people to show up to the June 14 board meeting.
  - Vacancy of board addressed; one vacancy on the board at present.
  - Agenda: suggests putting directions to meeting places on the agenda.
  - Bi-laws: state Robert's Rule of Order for notes.
  - Alternates: do bi-laws allow alternates when a board member cannot show up?
  - Most of this should be addressed on the June 14<sup>th</sup> board meeting.
  - Written report to be given to the Board of Supervisors.
  - Health Services Agency should have a spirit of cooperation with the Mental Health Action Board
  - Veteran's Walk: Monday May 23. An eighteen-day walk to Sacramento to highlight Veteran's mental health needs; twenty-two veterans commit suicide every day.
  - Funding for a Veteran's Outreach Coordinator. County will pick up funding for Travis, the current Outreach Coordinator. Will apply for state funding for next year.
- BH Director, Erik Riera:
  - Suggests board put together small subcommittee to provide a written response to the Grand Jury Report. Written response would be brought before the MHAB for approval.
  - Acknowledges the MHAB does not have to agree with Grand Jury Report.
  - Proposes that the subcommittee have report for the June meeting.
  - Maria Correia, Charlotte Nolan Reyes, and Jodie Wells volunteer for the subcommittee
  - Motion on forming subcommittee: Erik Riera approving, Richard Martinez second. Motion carried unanimously.
  - There was a request from the County Clerk asking for members Hugh McCormick and Jennifer Kaupp to take their oath; Jennifer has already taken the oath. Hugh needs to take the oath; Superintendent Caput administered oath for Hugh.
  - Budget is available online. Staff will send link information.
  - The California Mental Health Planning Counsel requests adding a regular agenda item regarding patient rights.
  - Motion to add agenda item: Erik Riera approving, Jenny Kaupp second. Motion carried unanimously.
  - Central Coast Alliance for Health has released grant applications on April 18, 2015; three types of grants: Capital, Infrastructure, and Training/Technical Assistance Grants.
- MHAB member and/or Sub-Committee Reports, Maria Correia:

- Thanks to the board for electing her as co-chair. Encourages the board to be less passive, more effective, and extend beyond the two-hour meeting to be well informed; advise and find a way to deliver mental health services to all who need them. Must listen to people's needs and experiences.
- CABHBC retreat: April 22nd, Friday
  - Suggestions to local boards: Hold town hall meetings. Call on the mental health director and the police. Put someone powerful on the board; reporters/retired judges, etc. Meeting with appointed authority/supervisor. Have a unified voice.
  - Goals for coming year: Alternative use facilities. Meeting transitional age youth
  - Presentation by Toby Ewing, Mental Health Services and Oversight Accountability Commission MHSOAC provides funding for COM Board
  - Saturday: Various committee reports. Discussion about strategic plans/bi-laws.
- Visited Community Connections and MHCAN on the 19<sup>th</sup>.
  - Suggests that board members should be visiting local facilities.
- Access Line: Fielding anyone seeking services at the county. 800-952-2335.
  - This is a twenty-four-hour line, with regular business hours between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. There is an answering service after hours.
  - Access Line follows a script: "Do you need to speak to someone now?" If yes, there is a very rapid call back (usually within 10 minutes).
- Presentation by Marty Riggs, BH Program Manager on the Mobile Response Team:
  - Hospitalizing ten to fifteen percent of youth who had been placed on a 5150 hold. Easily seventy percent were a one-time-event. The bulk of the youths did not need hospitalization.
  - Dominican hospital began to require a Child Board Certified Psychiatrist to lift a hold. During the following two-year period, every child who came through Dominican Hospital was sent to an out-of-county hospital.
  - Telecare opened and Behavioral Health negotiated with Dominican Hospital: Dominican began to allow licensed clinical psychologists who meet credentialing for Dominican to have privileges.
  - Telecare has had contract since December 2013. Current hospitalization rate is thirty-seven percent.
  - Harper Vet: plan to take over building and provide children's walk-in center for kids.
  - There has been a grant for hybrid cars for mobile response.
  - Outreach to schools: almost fully staffed. Another quarter will give a larger set numbers to give statistics.
  - Access will take in anyone who is in a crisis situation. Evaluation and intervention happen at one time to get through the crisis. 1 to 3 visits.
  - Mobil response is limited to facilities that have a doctor on staff.
  - Keeps kids from being cuffed.
  - There is a current trend in transgender youth having larger suicidal response.

#### **4. Old Business**

- John Laue letter regarding MHCAN support.
  - Corrected: currently the only peer-owned, peer-run, establishment in the county.
  - Motion to submit letter: Greg Caput approving, Maria Correia second. Richard Martinez abstaining. Motion carried.

- Transparency: talk more next meeting.

#### **5. New Business**

- Kate proposed idea for board members to have business cards for MHCAN with fill-in blanks for member names and districts. The back of the card would have Access and emergency numbers, as well as the telephone number for the board.
  - Motion to pursue project to completion: Richard Martinez approving, Maria Correia, second. Motion carried unanimously.

#### **6. Adjournment**

- Next Meeting: June 16, 3:00 – 5:00 at 1400 Emeline Avenue, Building. K, Santa Cruz, CA 95060
- Motion to Adjourn, Jodie Wells motions, Richard Martinez second.
- Meeting ended, 4:56 p.m.