

**CONTRA COSTA COUNTY MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
MINUTES – OCTOBER 23, 2008**

<p>I. CALL TO ORDER / INTRODUCTIONS The meeting was called to order by Commission Chairperson Jacque McLaughlin at 4:40 p.m.</p> <p><u>Commissioners Present:</u> Clare Beckner, District IV David Evans, District V Art Honegger, District V Dave Kahler, District IV Peter Mantas, District III Jacque McLaughlin, District II Cynthia Miller, District II Colette O’Keeffe, M.D., District IV Teresa Pasquini, District I Annis Pererya, District II Connie Tolleson, District V</p> <p><u>Attendees:</u> Karyn Cornell, Supv. Piepho’s Office Brenda J. Crawford, Mental Health Consumer Concerns Judith Galliard, Public Defender John Gagnani, Local 1, Mental Health Coalition Suzette Madrid, Supv. Bonilla’s Office Mariana Moore, Contractors’ Alliance Karen Shuler, MHC Staff Cindy Staton, Mental Health Consumer Concerns Veronica Vale, “In Our Own Voice” Program Donna Wigand, CCC Mental Health Director Loretta Williams, Mental Health Consumer Concerns Janet Marshall Wilson, JD, Patient’s Rights</p>	<p><u>Commissioners Absent:</u> Supv. Susan Bonilla</p>
<p>II. ANNOUNCEMENTS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teresa announced the opening of RYSE Youth Center. • Brenda Crawford announced that Janet Wilson will receive a Lifetime Achievement Award from the California Patient’s Rights organization. • The Annual Advisory Body Training will take place at the BOS Chambers at 651 Pine Street on November 13 at 4:30. 	
<p>III. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 25, 2008 A motion was made to approve the Minutes as presented.</p>	<p>M-Honegger; S-Pasquini. Carried.</p>
<p>IV. CHAIRPERSON’S COMMENTS – Jacque McLaughlin</p> <p>a. Recap of Commission Retreat We are still assembling information. Jacque asked for feedback. Teresa said her impression was positive – that there was a sense of comraderie and community. Art</p>	<p><i>Place follow-up on November MHC Agenda</i></p>

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<p>asked when we would have the recap. Teresa said she was frustrated that the materials aren't ready yet. It was mentioned that (counting today) it had only been 4 working days since the Retreat and the materials had been sent to the facilitator for review and we were awaiting his comments and would send out the Minutes when they are received back. Donna said she would make available the facilitator if the Commission wanted to meet every 6 months rather than annually. Connie stated that each person was passionate and we made a lot of progress. Peter said it was a good experience and that his expectations were exceeded. He said he would like to see a quarterly strategic meeting without a facilitator. Donna said there is a benefit to having a facilitator and she would agree to provide one quarterly, if that's what the Commission wanted. Colette suggested looking at what we've accomplished at future retreats. David said it was very encouraging that programmatic problems were already on Donna's radar and that it was good to have a Mental Health Director who is aware. Donna said she felt the results were very positive. She said she feels positive about the strategies for next year.</p> <p>b. Preparation for Annual Report Jacque asked for input from the Commissioners. It will be voted on at the November MHC meeting.</p> <p>c. Nominations for Chair and Vice Chair Commissioners were asked to get their nominations to Karen. The vote will be held at the November MHC meeting.</p> <p>d. Nominations for Executive Committee The Executive Committee includes the Chair, Vice Chair and the Chairs of Standing Committees. Since the Commission is operating without these Committees, Jacque recommended that the Executive Committee consist of the Chair, Vice Chair and representation from each of the positions on the Commission (consumer, family member, member-at-large). Teresa and Peter both questioned whether or not we were operating within the governance of the Bylaws and voiced that the Bylaws would need to be amended to accommodate and changes. After discussion, Connie, Dave and Art expressed support in making the appointments as recommended.</p> <p>e. Appointment of Commissioners to meet with Donna regarding the proposed Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) Jacque said she is still working on this.</p> <p>f. Abbreviated November meeting, followed by MHSA</p>	<p><i>November MHC Agenda ACTION item.</i></p> <p><i>November MHC Agenda ACTION item.</i></p> <p><i>Staff: Check with County Counsel/CAO's office to determine proper process to accommodate the recommendation for the Executive Committee.</i></p>
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<p>Prevention & Early Intervention Public Hearing The P&EI Public Hearing has been postponed, so the November MHC meeting will not be shortened. A reminder was given that the meeting will be held the third Thursday (November 20) due to the Thanksgiving Holiday. A date in December is forthcoming.</p> <p>Jacque announced Cynthia Miller’s resignation from the Mental Health Commission. Cynthia’s participation on the Commission extends to nearly 20 years. Her participation will be truly missed. The Commission will work with staff to honor Cynthia. Janet asked that whatever is done be open to the public.</p>	<p><i>Staff: Plan event honoring Cynthia.</i></p>
<p>V. REPORT FROM THE MENTAL HEALTH DIRECTOR – Donna Wigand, LCSW</p> <p>a. Update on Performance Improvement Projects No updates. David Cassell will be providing updates every 6 months.</p> <p>b. Update on budget cuts and their impact The State budget has passed. It was thought mental health was pretty much unscathed from further cuts, only getting cuts in the managed care allocation. However, the State Department of Mental Health wants to cut every county straight across the board. Counties that haven’t been doing minor consent would be hit hard. If the California Mental Health Director’s Association can’t come to an agreement, there will be a severe cut. Donna mentioned an unforeseen silver lining to budget cuts – Mental Health Consumer Concerns was forced to move out of their 24th Street location in Richmond to a house on San Pablo Avenue, which is a lot more welcoming. They have a library with computers and exercise equipment. Donna said she remains concerned about the loss of capacity at the Children’s Clinic. Medi-Cal and uninsured kids have to go to the back of the line behind AB3632-covered kids. However, the County has hired 6 clinicians to work with the AB3632 kids. In the final budget there was a requirement that everyone has to refile for their Medi-Cal benefits every 6 months. EHSD is taking a serious reduction this year and cutting their benefits staff, so we are building our own superstructure and have a Patient Financial Counselors available to help specifically for mental health.</p> <p>c. Update on Mental Health Services Act MHSA Project Team Manager Sherry Bradley was unable</p>	

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<p>to attend due to her attendance at a conference in Sacramento. Her report to the Commission was distributed. It included information on the P&EI Component; CSS One-Time Funds; Capital Facilities/Information Technology Component; Workforce Education & Training Component; Innovation Component; and an Update from the State. Commissioners were encouraged to contact Sherry Bradley directly via e-mail with any questions. Teresa asked that the Commission be aware of the next Stakeholder meeting on November 6.</p> <p>John stated that Donna’s report shows how we’re going through “shrinking pains.” Jacque asked how the Commission can know if things are going well. John said he will continue to report to the Commission.</p>	
<p>VI. PRESENTATION FROM MENTAL HEALTH CONSUMER CONCERNS – Brenda Crawford, Interim Executive Director The powerpoint presentation had to be postponed due to equipment malfunction.</p>	<p><i>Place on November MHC Agenda.</i></p>
<p>VII. COMMITTEE REPORTS Interim Ad Hoc Committee – David Evans The Committee met with District III applicants Robert Leyman last month and Bielle Moore this month and will be forwarding their comments to Supv. Piepho.</p>	
<p>VIII. REPORTS: ANCILLARY BOARDS/COMMISSIONS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mental Health Coalition – Teresa Pasquini Teresa reported they had a good meeting. She said they had discussed revisiting the Coalition’s Platform. “No cuts in direct services” has failed. They need to look at how their mantra has been working and how they can get potential power. Teresa introduced the idea of expanding the Coalition to include more members. The “unanimous vote” requirement is an issue. Concern was expressed about the role of members. They wrote a letter requesting information regarding the hiring of Sherry Bradley to replace Kimberly Mayer. • Mental Health Services Act Steering Committee – Connie Tolleson Connie said she didn’t receive the meeting notification. John attended and said at first the Steering Committee was put on hiatus, and then it was decided it will meet quarterly as a combined Steering Committee/Stakeholder group. There was discussion during which it was said there is a basic mistrust by the contractors. Brenda Crawford stated there is no identified consumer 	<p><i>Staff: check to make sure Connie is on the Steering Committee notification list.</i></p> <p><i>Follow-up: Have Sherry explain how the various MHSA committees interact. Get</i></p>

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<p>involvement in the P&EI process. Art and Connie expressed concern that the county not just give lip service to community involvement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Contractor’s Alliance – Mariana Moore Mariane praised the Mental Health Administration for slowing the process down. • Local 1 – John Gragnani John reported it appears that the county is contracting out the running of Martinez Detention to a private business, Prison Health Services. 	<p><i>information on the make-up of the Steering Committees.</i></p>
<p>IX. PUBLIC COMMENT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Veronica Vale mentioned there are parts of the non-mental health budget cuts that affect consumers – such as cutbacks in rental subsidies. 	
<p>X. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Recap Retreat 2) Election of Commission Officers (ACTION) 3) Finalize 2009 MHC Legislative Platform (ACTION) 4) Finalize Annual Report to the BOS (ACTION) 5) Update on the MHSA, including consumer and contractor involvement – Sherry Bradley 6) Powerpoint presentation on the work of Mental Health Consumer Concerns – Brenda Crawford 7) Update on PHF – Donna Wigand 8) Children’s System of Care – Vern Wallace 9) Suggested Topics of Interest <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Conservatorship b. Discussion of 5150 process/CIT Training c. Implementation of AB1421 d. Out-of-County Placements, including adults sent to contract hospitals 	
<p>XI. ADJOURN MEETING. The meeting was adjourned at 6:30 p.m. The next meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be Thursday, November 20, 2008. NOTE THE CHANGE IN DATE DUE TO THE THANKSGIVING HOLIDAY.</p>	

Respectfully submitted,
Karen Shuler, Executive Assistant
Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission