

SUTTER-YUBA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

Gold Rush/Valley Oak Conference Rooms
1965 Live Oak Boulevard
Yuba City, CA 95991
(530) 822-7200

MINUTES

Thursday, March 16, 2006
5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

In the absence of the Chair, Vice Chair Nick Sohrakoff called the meeting to order at 5:35 p.m. and he welcomed everyone to the meeting, including the guest speaker, Linda Loos, Assessment Services Coordinator for Psychiatric Emergency Services (PES).

2. Roll Call

Noting there was not a quorum present, the roll was called and the following members were present:

Sutter County Supervisor Jim Whiteaker, Vice Chair Nick Sohrakoff, Charles Clement, Joginder Pardesi Cheema, and Patricia Stutte.

The following Board Members were excused:

Yuba County Supervisor John Nicoletti, Chairperson Margery Hubbard and Alma Amaya

There following Board Members were absent:

Keith Pinckney and Janice DiCola

Also present were the Mental Health Director Joan Hoss and the Executive Secretary Jean Stump.

3. Action Items:

a.) Approval of February 16, 2006 Meeting Minutes; b.) Recommendation to Appoint David Markland to the Mental Health Board; and c.) Appoint Ad Hock Committee to Develop Annual Year-End Report to the BOS.

Because there was not a quorum present, the action items (as listed above) were deferred to the April meeting.

5. Program Update - Psychiatric Emergency Services - Linda Loos, Assessment Services Coordinator

Following her introduction, Ms. Loos said she joined Sutter-Yuba Mental Health Services approximately six months ago as the Assessment Services Coordinator and then provided a brief professional history and background information on her previous experience. Subsequently, she provided a general overview of PES noting that it was a 24/7 program serving the bi-county communities in Yuba and Sutter counties. Ms. Loos said PES currently

has 7 full time- staff with one vacancy and said there are eight (8) extra hire staff who provide support to the program on an as needed basis. PES services include telephone support and crisis intervention, walk-in services, evaluation/assessment, intervention, support and referrals.

Services providing during the month of October and November included 417 walk-ins and 983 phone calls.

Continuing, Ms. Loos said her initial goals are: 1) To update and redesign initial and ongoing staff process and protocols; 2) Provide consistent formal supervision for staff; 3) Assist PES staff to develop and implement yearly professional goals; 4) Implement more consistent protocols for assessment to danger to self, e.g., Suicide Risk Assessment as developed by Dallas Schools and 5) Develop and implement protocols, processes and procedures for Adult Urgent Services Program. Subsequently, Ms. Loos then provided an overview of the new Adult Urgent Services Program, which she said was “brief therapy” program that provides intervention appointments to give clients who have urgent mental health needs an opportunity to get services very quickly. As she distributed copies of the policy and procedure developed for providing these services, Ms. Loos gave a brief overview of each Phase development which included development of the protocol, refining the process, focusing on further clarifying pertinent diagnostic factors and supporting development an urgent services program for adolescents.

In concluding her presentation, Ms. Loos presented a brief overview of areas of unmet needs in the community including shelters for women and children, a detox facility, more substance abuse services and a local placement for minors in need of hospitalization. Following a brief period of question and answer, the Board thanked Ms. Loos for a most insightful review of her program.

6. Mental Health Director’s Report

At the outset, Ms. Hoss said that she agreed with many of the areas identified by Ms. Loos as unmet needs and said it was hoped to bring up urgent services for adolescents with funding from the Mental Health Services Act. With that said she said, she noted there was not a lot of other funding or available space in the building to bring up other programs citing that staff would need to use current resources to pursue other service areas.

Ms. Hoss announced that she was actively recruiting for a physician to fill the vacancy created by Dr. Riley on the Psychiatric Health Facility; and was bringing in a locum to fill the temporary vacancies cause by the deployment of Dr. Burns and Dr. Cosgrove’s vacation.

In other business, Ms. Hoss said that the meeting with the Department of Mental Health on February 28 to review the MHSA CSS plan went very well and it was now a matter of waiting for final approval.

In response to a question posed regard the PHF remodel, Ms. Hoss said it was hoped to conduct of tour of the remodel PHF by May or June.

In conclusion, Ms. Hoss said she would update the Program Goals for FY 05-06 at the next meeting.

7. Public Comment

There was no public comment offered.

8. Old Business

There was no old business brought before the Board.

9. New Business

There was no new business brought before the Board.

10. Adjournment

There being no further business, the Vice Chair adjourned the meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Stump
Executive Secretary