

SUTTER-YUBA MENTAL HEALTH BOARD

1965 Live Oak Boulevard
Valley Oak Conference Room
Yuba City, CA 95991
(530) 822-7200

MINUTES

Thursday, February 15, 2007
5:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order

In the absence of the Chairperson, the meeting was called to order by the Mental Health Director Joan Hoss. As she welcomed members of the Board and staff, she noted there was not a quorum present.

2. Roll Call

In the absence of the Board Secretary, the Executive Secretary called the roll. The following Board Members were present:

Sutter County Supervisor Larry Montna, Dr. Charles Clement, Joginder Pardesi Cheema, and Ardythe Price.

The following Board Members were excused:

Yuba County Supervisor John Nicoletti, Chairperson Nick Sohrakoff, Vice Chair David Markland, Board Secretary Alma Amaya, Margery Hubbard, and Patricia Stutte

The following Board Members were absent:

Keith Pinckney and Mark Myers

Also present was the Mental Health Director Joan Hoss, the Deputy Mental Health Director Thomas Sherry, and Jean Stump the Executive Secretary.

3. Action Items

- a. Approve January 18, 2007 Meeting Minutes: In the absence of a quorum, the meeting minutes of January 18, 2007 could not be approved.
- b. Adopt Resolutions of Commendation: In the absence of a quorum, it was suggested and agreed by the members present to ask the Executive Secretary to canvass the absent Board Members to solicit votes regarding the recommended action to adopt the resolutions as presented. (On February 20, 2007, following a poll of the absent members (Nick Sohrakoff, Alma Amaya, Patricia Stutte and Marc Myers, a majority vote to adopt the Resolutions was given.) Presentation of the commendations will be presented at the March meeting.

4. Program Presentation – Budget Update for FY 2006-07

As previously scheduled, Ms. Hoss said she would provide the budget update during the Mental Health Director's Report.

5. Mental Health Director's Report – Joan Hoss

At the outset, Ms. Hoss said that she and Deputy Mental Health Director Tom Sherry have been involved in an in-depth analysis of the Mental Health Budget. Some of the outcomes from this study indicated that realignment funding, (which is essentially sales tax dollars that come to Mental Health to use as match to drawdown federal funding), has been flat for a number of years and contrary to earlier reports, there would be no increase in this funding from this source. Conversely, the cost of doing business continues to increase for a variety of reasons. Ms. Hoss said that without revenue growth in this area, it would severely limit the amount of services Mental Health can provide, noting that the agency cannot bill Medi-Cal if there is not sufficient funding to match.

In an effort to balance the budget and avoid dipping into reserves, Ms. Hoss said it will be necessary to reduce the number of staff in the Mental Health and Drug and Alcohol budgets. To do this, she was proposing to move certain staff into the MHSA budget to provide MHSA funded services. It was anticipated by the beginning of the next fiscal year starting in July 2007, the Mental Health Budget will be reduced by about \$1 million and the Drug & Alcohol Budget will be reduced by about \$150,000 to \$200,000 in costs for a total of \$1.2 million. No staff lay-offs are anticipated.

In response to a question posed, Ms. Hoss explained that within realignment funding over the past several years, the economy of the state has grown which has increased sales tax revenue. This revenue is apportioned to welfare, health and mental health services; however, mental health has been at the end of the line for growth in this funding and it is unlikely to change in the future, meaning no anticipated growth can be expected from this revenue source.

Continuing, Ms. Hoss said the MHSA original budget contained \$1.7 million which will increase by an additional \$750,000 this year. A portion of this additional funding source can be used as match to Medi-Cal. However, over time, the agency can expect the entire structure of its programs and services to change significantly due to limited funding for Mental Health programs and as MHSA programs and services expanded.

In response to a question posed by Dr. Clement, Ms. Hoss out of the 160-180 Mental Health employees about 1/20 of staff will be affected by program transfers.

Following a period of continued discussion, the Board thanked Ms. Hoss for a comprehensive overview of the budget.

In other business, Ms. Hoss said two psychiatrist positions remain vacant, however these positions continue to be filled by Locum Tenans.

6. Public Comment

There was no public comment offered.

7. Old Business

There was no old business brought before the Board.

8. New Business

There was no new business brought before the Board.

9. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Stump
Executive Secretary