

**EL DORADO COUNTY
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
JOINT COUNCIL MEETING
Minutes for March 23, 2011**

TIME: 5:00 pm

PLACE: Joint Council by videoconference at –

**Western Slope -
El Dorado County Health Services Department,
Public Health Division
931 Spring St.
Placerville, CA 95667**

**South Lake Tahoe -
El Dorado County Health Services Department,
Public Health Division
1360 Johnson Blvd., Suite 103
South Lake Tahoe, CA 96150**

I. Call to Order; Roll Call; Introductions

Members: Jan Melnicoe, Bonnie McLane, Guadalupe Medrano, Claudia Ball, Jane de Felice, Denise Burke, R.S. Lynn, Lori Shepherd, Cathy Hartrum, Jeanne Lahey, Lee Kaplan

Guests: Michael Bischoff, Bev Savage

Staff: Neda West, Chris Kondo-Lister, Sophie Cabrera, Kirsten Rogers, Janet Stevens

II. Approval of Agenda

The order of business was adjusted to accommodate a request to begin the meeting with the discussion of Laura's Law.

III. Approval of Minutes

- **January 26, 2011 Minutes** - approved
- **February 23, 2011 Minutes** - approved

IV. Public Comment (15 Minutes)

The Commission was asked to remember the death of one of our own Mental Health clients as they consider their position on Laura's Law. Motivation for adopting the law is based on care and concern for the welfare of the most seriously ill in our community.

V. Continuing Business

- A. **Brief Discussion of Laura's Law:** Discussion was offered both in favor and opposed to the adoption of Laura's Law in El Dorado County. Advocates on both

sides acknowledged implementation and funding issues but generally agreed on the importance of providing mental health services to County residents who are most seriously mentally ill. Suggestions to implement Laura's Law on a voluntary basis or as a pilot project were offered and the Commission asked that a description of existing FSP services be included on the agenda for the next Commission meeting. The Commission also agreed to keep discussion of Laura's Law on the agenda for future meetings.

B. MHSA Innovation Plan – Report by Dr. Lynn: After careful review of the Innovation Plan, the Budget and Planning subcommittee identified three areas of concern and is suggesting the following recommendations for Commission approval:

1. Exhibit C, page 4 of 13, Project Design, paragraph 5, contains references to “fund[ing] community capacity building mini-grants” and “holding a competitive process for interested participants for these positions” where the positions are Community Navigators who will be employed by private contractors. In the Innovation Projected Revenues and Expenditures are projected expenditures of \$50,000 and \$240,000 respectively for these mini-grants and contracts, for a total of \$290,000. The Vendor Guide of the Procurement & Contracts Division of the Chief Administrative Office does not specify the membership of any team of reviewers. Presumably, purchasing decisions are made with the input from the relevant county department involved. Recommendations: The Requests for Proposal shall be more widely advertised than is required by the usual County standards. The Mental Health Division review team responsible for evaluating the bids shall include a volunteer member appointed by the El Dorado County Mental Health Commission and a volunteer member appointed by the El Dorado Community Foundation. This recommendation was approved by vote of the MH Commissioners.
2. The Innovation Plan does not provide a budget for the total innovation program. The plan's timeline documents implementation/completion dates as 06/11 – 06/14, a 3-year period. The plan only provides projected revenues and expenditures, as well as budget narrative, for a two year period. We are not provided with the total costs of all years of the innovation program, with projected total cost for each fiscal year. We need more complete budgetary information so we can understand what is being spent for components of the program within the 3-year timeline. Recommendation: Provide a budget for the total innovation program, a 3-year program. Include estimated total costs for all years of the innovation program. Include projected total cost for each fiscal year. Include what is to be spent yearly for the program as it goes through the different stages of the timeline. This recommendation was approved by vote of the MH Commissioners.
3. The innovation work plan evidences no discernable involvement by consumers. Such involvement is a fundamental aspect of the Mental Health Services Act. What the consumers want should be the basis of what the Innovation plan strives to provide. The plan's community planning process

only mentions earlier efforts in the development of PEI and WET. The PEI documents input collected from consumers in 2005. The current innovation plan revisited collecting stakeholder input in 2009 and 2010. However, they left out consumers, instead relying upon 2005 input. The 2005 input did not address the innovation project. Recommendation: Collect and document current input from consumers including those with serious mental illness and/or serious emotional disturbance, family members, and people that reflect El Dorado County's demographics, including people currently un-served and underserved by mental health and explain their ideas and contributions as the basis of an innovation program. Include in the innovation plan thorough documentation of a current comprehensive outreach effort focused on consumers as described above. This recommendation was approved by vote of the MH Commissioners.

VI. Mental Health Division Reports

A. Program Updates:

- Shirley White and Rob Evans are attending most or all of the BHC sessions. In SLT, there are nine active clients, one pending referral, and one client who is in the process of transferring to Placerville. The next SLT court date is April 14 at 1:30 in Judge Bailey's courtroom. In Placerville there are thirteen active clients, with three pending clients and one ready to graduate from the program. The next meeting of BHC in Placerville is scheduled for April 14 at 2:00 PM in Dept 2 with Judge Proud.
- PEI contracts for youth early intervention are now being implemented.
- Turning Point is implementing a pilot project to provide assessment services to unserved and underserved clients, and to link those clients with necessary support services.
- The MHD Cultural Competency plan has been completed and sent to the State.
- The Department's review by EQRO (the California External Quality Review Organization) is scheduled for April 13. Consumers and family members will be asked to participate in focus groups as a part of this review.
- Quality Improvement Committee (QIC) meeting minutes from Feb. 3 were distributed. Per request, the MHD will continue to include quarterly QIC meeting minutes with the Program Updates provided to the MH Commission.
- Planning for the FY 2011-12 MHSA Annual Update will begin soon. The MHD acknowledges the contributions of the MH Commission on the Innovation plan, and would like to work together with Commission members to get more comments from consumers as part of the MHSA Plan Update process.
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B. Budget Updates

- The Legislature has approved the transfer of 936 million dollars in MHSA accounts to fund AB 3632, Medi-Cal Managed Care and EPSDT for FY 11-12. The Governor has proposed a “New Realignment” that will shift a number of health and public safety responsibilities from State to local control, but tax extensions would be required to implement this proposal. Tax measures are not yet on the ballot, and the level of funding the County will receive from the State remains uncertain.

VII. Commission Comments/Open Discussion

- Regional Meetings for Boards and Commissions are scheduled for April 12 in Fresno. Jan Melnicoe has attended these in the past and found them to be educational, thought-provoking and interesting.

VIII. Adjournment

Next Meeting: To Be Determined