

Sacramento County Mental Health Board Justice Committee Meeting Minutes

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday, April 3, 2024
5:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Meeting Location

700 H Street, Hearing Room 1
Sacramento, CA 95814

Meeting Invitees

- Mental Health Board Justice Committee Members
- General Public

Members Present: Maria Padilla-Castro, Mykel Gayent, Melinda Avey

Members Absent: Corrine McIntosh Sako

I. Welcome and Introductions

Vice Chair Maria Padilla-Castro convened the meeting at 5:04 pm, introductions were made, and the conduct agreement was acknowledged.

No announcements were made.

II. Public Comments Relating to the Sacramento County Behavioral Health Services Adult System of CARE – Items Not on Agenda

Public Comment #1: Community member thanked the Mental Health Board (MHB) for creating a Justice Committee and affirmed the importance of justice related work related to behavioral health.

Public Comment #2: Community member thanked the MHB for creating the Justice Committee, as a family member of an individual in the justice system.

III. Discussion/Action Item: Establish Committee Chair & Co-Chair for 2024

Ms. Melinda Avey nominated Mr. Mykel Gayent for Chair. Mr. Gayent accepted the nomination. All members voted Aye.

Mr. Gayent nominated Ms. Avey for Vice Chair. Ms. Avey accepted the nomination. All members voted Aye.

Results:

- *Chair: Mykel Gayent*
- *Vice Chair: Melinda Avey*

IV. Discussion/Action Item: Establish Justice Committee Goals for 2024

The Committee established the following goals. The committee affirmed the importance of establishing measurable goals that can be accomplished:

Goal 1: Researching, monitoring, and making appropriate recommendations regarding implementation of CARE Court in Sacramento County.

Goal 2: Monitor and make appropriate recommendations regarding behavioral health services provided to individuals interacting with the justice system – including, but not limited to: incarceration, collaborative courts, probation, etc.

The Committee expressed the following areas of interest:

- Interventions at the point of entry into the justice system.
- Information provided to individuals in the justice system prior to and at the time of release.
- Visiting the jail to see it in person, specifically the booking process and what happens to people before they get there.
- Best practices for outreach to people who need services.

Public Comment #1: Community member expressed that some of the information the committee described would have been helpful to their family. This community member advocated for involuntary treatment in a hospital setting being preferable to incarceration.

Public Comment #2: Community member recommended that committee members include feedback from families who have experience with loved ones in the justice system in their exploration of these topics.

Public Comment #3: Community member affirmed the committee for their organized approach to setting the above goals, and recommended exploration of the topic of access to meds.

Public Comment #4: Community member affirmed the importance of supportive housing services in serving the justice involved population, including best practices and what is being done in other areas.

Public Comment #5: Community member talked about how the County jail is different than prisons, in relation to a family member who is involved in the justice system. This community member stated that more resources and services are available in prisons compared to the jail. Community member advocated for reimagining how we can better reach out to people who are difficult to serve.

V. Adjournment

Vice Chair Padilla-Castro adjourned the meeting at 5:41 pm.