Sacramento County Mental Health Board (MHB) General Meeting Minutes

March 2, 2022

Meeting Location

In compliance with County, State, and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention directives related to the COVID-19 public health emergency, this meeting was held remotely via Zoom and Conference Call.

Attendance MHB Members				
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance	
Loran Sheley, Chair	Present Absent	Bradley Lueth	Present Absent	
Corrine McIntosh Sako, Vice- Chair	Present Absent	Jasmine Morales	Present Absent	
Laura Bemis, Secretary	Present Absent	Maria Padilla-Castro	Present Absent	
Ann Arneill	Present Absent	Silvia Rodriguez	Present Absent	
William Cho	Present Absent	Lourdes Santana-Sanchez	Present Absent	
Ryan Gallant	Present Absent	Theresa Riviera	Present Absent	
Supervisor Patrick Kennedy	Present Absent	Paul Wagstaffe	Present Absent	
County Staff to MHB				
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance	
Jason Richards	Present Absent	Rob Parrish (Janice Snyder covering)	Present Absent	

I. Welcome and Introductions	Dr. Corrine McIntosh Sako called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was declared and introductions were made.	
II. Comfort Agreement	Ms. Laura Bemis read the MHB Comfort Agreement.	
III. Approval of Minutes	Mr. Paul Wagstaffe moved to approve the minutes and Dr. Ann Arneill seconded the motion. (All members voted Aye.) Motion carried.	
IV. System Partner Updates	 Advocacy Update Ms. Andrea Housley, Ms. Robin Barney, and Ms. Angelina Woodberry announced the following: Ms. Housley was interviewed by Glen Price Group regarding the topic of student housing and she provided feedback. The Youth Advocacy Committee will be presenting to the Youth Advisory Board this Friday to introduce them to the work that they do. The 26th Annual Peer Empowerment Conference will be on June 10th, with an emphasis on self care in the recovery journey. The California Association of Peer Professionals is a membership based organization for peer professionals in California, in partnership with CalVoices. A flyer for this organization was distributed in the chat. 	

Agenda Item	Discussion	
	 Ms. Diane White announced the following: Behavioral Health professionals are in a workforce crisis in California, with most providers having many job openings at this time. This has resulted in existing staff being overworked and taking on more clients than usual, resulting in less attention and time for each client. An examination of ways to alleviate this workforce shortage is underway. 	
V. Mental Health Board Business	Liaison Reports No written liaison reports were submitted for this meeting.	
	 Committee and Workgroup Updates Adult System of Care Committee: Dr. McIntosh Sako reported the following: Dr. Geoff Twitchell, BHS Forensic Division Manager, gave a presentation on Laura's Law/AOT. Ms. Tiffany Senate gave a presentation on behavioral health programs offered through the Public Defender. The Committee examined May's Consent Decree information from the Sheriff's Department. The next Adult System of Care Committee meeting will be on March 22nd at 4 p.m. Children's System of Care Committee: Ms. Silvia Rodriguez reported the following: The School-Based Mental Health Services Report as approved by the MHB was submitted to BHS and the Board of Supervisors. SCOE was cc'd on the submission and the MHSA Steering Committee will receive the report via announcement at their next meeting by the MHB liaison, Mr. Brad Lueth. The Children's System of Care Committee did not have its meeting in February due to Brown Act noticing requirements. They will resume meeting in March. The Executive Committee: Dr. McIntosh Sako reported the following:	
	Mental Health Board Announcements	

Agenda Item	Discussion	
	 Dr. McIntosh Sako announced that NAMI will have their annual NAMI Walks fundraising event in person for the first time in three years. Information was distributed in the chat. 	
VI. Mental Health Board Discussion/Action Item: Mental Health Board Meeting Procedures	 Dr. McIntosh Sako reviewed the current comfort agreement (Handout #4), etiquette guidelines as determined by the MHB at their annual retreat (Handout #5), and proposed changes as determined by the Executive Committee (Handout #6). MHB member feedback included: Dr. McIntosh Sako discussed the proposed change in name from "Comfort Agreement" to "Conduct Agreement," as well as the addition of a visible timer during public comments to help keep the time. Dr. McIntosh Sako discussed her hope that the Comfort/Conduct Agreement could be a way to develop shared understanding between MHB members, including being able to disagree while maintaining respect for one another. Dr. Ameill suggested that Item #6 should say "respectfully" instead of "respectively." Mr. William Cho suggested that the words "ouch" and "oops" be replaced with more mature verbiage. Mr. Wagstaffe stated that the concept behind that item is important and should be included, but that it could be rephrased more professionally. Mr. Ryan Gallant highlighted the common sense nature of the conduct agreement as guidelines for treating each other respectfully, and suggested that members should propose solutions, rather than just criticisms. Mr. Gallant proposed that members should propose solutions, rather than just criticisms. Mr. Wagstaffe proposed a friendly amendment to include language from the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commissions code of conduct Agreement captures the spirit of the additional items. Dr. Arneill and Ms. Bemis accepted the friendly amendment, as the moving parties below. 	
VII. Division of Behavioral Health Services	 Dr. Ryan Quist, Behavioral Health Director, provided a written report on the status of Behavioral Health Services (BHS). He also provided verbal updates and answered questions as follows: Covid levels have fallen to levels experienced before the Omicron varient, but not quite to the levels seen before the Delta varient. 	

Agenda Item	Discussion	
	 Masks are no longer required in County buildings for vaccinated individuals, but continue to be recommended. The MHB will be able to make a determination at a future meeting on whether they will continue to meet virtually or in person. Mr. Lueth, Dr. Arneill, Mr. Cho, and Mr. Wagstaffe advocated for a hybrid meeting option. Dr. Quist highlighted that the logistics of having hybrid meetings would need to be determined. March has many Cultural Observances as listed in the Director's Report (Handout #7). Dr. Quist highlighted that March is Women's History Month. Sacramento County has many community members with connections with Ukraine. Dr. Quist highlighted support for the Ukrainian community during this time. Additional clinicians are being contributed by BHS to the juvenile justice system to facilitate mental health services. A Family Full Service Partnership request for proposals will be available in the Spring. This program will provide support to family housing units. Either a parent or child can be the "client" while strategic therapeutic support will be provided with the whole family in mind. Dr. Quist expressed agreement with the workforce challenges in the Behavioral Health field, as expressed by Ms. Diana White above. Behavioral Health providers, including the County, continue to experience severe challenges meeting the service needs of community members. 	
VIII. Public Comment	 Public Comment 1: Community member advocated for renaming the Wellness Crisis Call Center and Response program with additional feedback from community members. Public Comment 2: Community member expressed agreement with Public Comment 1, and advocated for renaming the Wellness Crisis Call Center and Response program with additional feedback from community members. 	
IX. Adjournment	Dr. McIntosh Sako adjourned the meeting at 7:26 p.m.	