



## MINUTES

### **REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD FEBRUARY 20, 2019 – 5:00 P.M.**

The Governing Board met on Wednesday, February 20, 2019 at 5:02 p.m. in the MHSA Office located at 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Governing Board Chair Carder called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** Visual Roll was taken.

#### GOVERNING BOARD

**PRESENT:** Robin Carder, City of La Verne, Chair  
Ronald T. Vera, City of Claremont, Vice-Chair  
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member  
Rubio R. Gonzalez, City of Pomona, Board Member (arrived at 5:18 p.m.)  
Jed Leano, City of Claremont, Board Member  
Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member  
Mona Sparks Johnson, City of Pomona, Board Member

**ABSENT:** None.

**STAFF:** Toni Navarro, Executive Director  
Darold Pieper, General Counsel  
Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer  
Nancy Gill, Chief Operations Officer  
Angela Igrisan, Director of Clinical Program Services  
Seeyam Teimoori, Medical Director  
Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services  
Trevor Bogle, Controller  
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

#### **PRESENTATION**

Executive Director Navarro presented an Award of Recognition to outgoing Mental Health Commission Member Donald R. Perez for his contributions to Tri-City since 2012, noting that he was active in the stakeholder process bringing great ideas, and that it was a pleasure working with him.

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal thanked Don Perez for his services provided to Tri-City; talked about his consistent participation and stated that because of him, Tri-City now has a Therapeutic Community Garden Program and a Veterans Group.

Mr. Perez thanked Tri-City for the award and stated that he has learned from staff, noting that he decided to get involved in the Peer Mentoring Program to help veterans, and that it has been a learning experience which has helped him grow personally.

Chair Carder thanked Mr. Perez for his time and commitment to Tri-City, for his service to our country, and for his service in local police; and wished him well and stated that he is always welcomed back.

### **CONSENT CALENDAR**

There being a correction on the spelling of a name, Board Member Leano moved, and Vice-Chair Vera seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Leano, Ontiveros-Cole, and Sparks Johnson; Vice-Chair Vera; and Chair Carder. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Gonzalez.

#### **1. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 16, 2019**

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Meeting of January 16, 2019.”

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 472 ADOPTING TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY'S NO PLACE LIKE HOME HOMELESSNESS STRATEGIC PLAN**

Executive Director Navarro indicated that the Draft of the proposed NPLH Homelessness Strategic Plan was delivered approximately 3 1/2 weeks ago the Governing Board for their review and comment; shared that Board Member Gonzalez provided feedback and stated that he was appreciative of the effort and the report; that it was a wonderful process and discussed the information learned; and that Sadlon and Associates did a great job.

Vice-Chair Vera inquired if the report was going to be adopted at this meeting or at the next meeting because the January Minutes indicated that this Plan was going to be adopted in March. Executive Director Navarro indicated that it should state February.

Chair Carder inquired if the Plan can be adopted in March. Executive Director Navarro replied in the affirmative, noting that the deadline to apply for the non-competitive funds is August 15, 2019; and that it is not required to have a plan about how to spend the funding when applying for the funds.

Vice-Chair Vera stated that he did not wish to hold the approval of the Plan; however, he did want to see more substance, more detail in terms of how we cooperate.

Chair Carder stated that these plans are usually general and not specifically detailed. Executive Director Navarro stated that there was a template for answering questions under NPLH, which were general; that it touched specifically the severely mentally ill population; that it touched housing and homelessness that relate specifically to the population that the Mental Health Authority serves; that it made sure that there was region wide input; that it was just general ideas on how to proceed; and that future proposed projects shall fit the general Plan, noting that these are the reasons for not being specific.



Board Member Leano sought clarification about Tri-City being able to draw funds without a specific proposal. Executive Director Navarro stated that Tri-City can draw money only for the non-competitive funds; and explained that the NPLH has two pots of money 200 million for all counties, and that Tri-City is allocated \$1.149 million; that after money is received, Tri-City has until February 2021 to submit a specific plan regarding how funds will be expended. She added that to apply for the competitive funds, a specific project must be submitted and compete with same size counties for the funding, pointing out that Tri-City is a medium size county; that the deadline to apply for competitive funds is August 2022; and that within three years thereafter, the project must break ground.

Vice-Chair Vera stated that he initially thought that this was the specific proposal that we were submitting for the competitive funds. Executive Director Navarro stated that the Plan provides only general guidelines about what our region needs and is for the non-competitive funds.

At 5:18 p.m., Board Member Rubio Gonzalez arrived at the meeting.

Discussion ensued how the competitive funds will be awarded and how to apply for this funding.

Chair Carder called for the question and asked Vice-Chair Vera if he was comfortable with the response. Vice-Chair Vera replied on the affirmative.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Leano moved, and Board Member Sparks Johnson seconded, to approve Resolution No. 472, adopting the Authority's NPLH Homelessness Strategic Plan. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Gonzalez, Leano, Ontiveros-Cole, and Sparks Johnson; Vice-Chair Vera; and Chair Carder. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

### **MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS**

#### **3. TONI NAVARRO, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Executive Director Navarro reported that shortly after last Board meeting, Tri-City received confirmation from LACDMH that they would send the Los Angeles Controller's office to conduct a fiscal audit of Tri-City; stating that as a Mental Health Authority, not a Mental health Plan, Tri-City does not submit its cost reports directly to the State; instead, they are submitted to the LACDMH and they submit Tri-City's cost report, along with theirs, to the State. Therefore, Tri-City is never directly audited by the State, like other Behavioral Health Counties in the State system; and that a final audit report will be issued to Tri-City by July.

Vice-Chair inquired if they were looking as to how we provide services in general. Chief Financial Officer Acosta replied in the negative, noting that it a cost report fiscal audit; and explained the process for how the audit was conducted and about the information sought by the auditors.

Vice-Chair Vera further inquired if Tri-City asked a consulting firm to help respond to the audit. Chief Financial Officer Acosta replied in the negative, noting that it was done in-house by tree accounting staff which have the level of expertise and experience necessary to answer all audit questions; and noted that the audit was rigorous that lasted three weeks, and that she does not believe that a consultant would have been able to help.



Executive Director Navarro stated that this audit may help Tri-City to be successful in modifying its contract with LACDMH which its provider specific, and not Tri-City specific, to make our negotiation packet more streamlined. She continued with her report and stated that the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of the Inspector General (OIG) conducted an audit of 42 counties for California's Medi-Cal specialty mental health service, noting that the original disallowance was for \$230 million which the state owes to the Federal government; however, there were items that should not have been disallowed and the recoupment amount was modified to \$180 million; and that the California State Association of Counties (CSAC) decided that that all 57 counties would contribute to the payment of the recoupment fine, with the two Mental Health Authorities working independently with its larger county.

Vice-Chair Vera inquired if there was an agreement in place for the repayment of the \$180 million. Executive Director Navarro stated that one is currently being drafted, and that CSAC is working on reducing the fine and establishing four years as the length of time to pay.

Executive Director Navarro talked about how the CSAC determined all counties shall pay for the fine; that Tri-City had five charts that were reviewed within the total number of lines of billing audited for LACDMH and there were no errors in those charts; about how Tri-City's contribution would be calculated using the same formula that was used for the larger counties, which it will be approximately .5% to 1.5% Tri-City's claim; and that after the amount is determined, staff will present it to the Board for its approval to pay back to the State. She then provided a housing update and stated that two housing developers had approached Tri-City to discuss the Baseline property as a potential location for future permanent supportive housing; that staff is looking for new office space; and that the new lease agreements will be presented for Board approval in March.

#### **4. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT**

Chair Carder thanked the three accounting staff involved in the audit.

Chief Financial Officer Acosta stated that in connection with the audit performed on Tri-City by the Los Angeles County Auditor-Controller's office, the draft report will be completed in about 2-3 months, and that a final report will be completed in July; however, management will present the final report to the Governing Board as soon as it is made available; and that Tri-City's Investment Policy is completed and is currently being reviewed by the California Municipal Treasurer's Association to go through their certification process to ensure that it is in compliance with investment government codes.

#### **5. NANCY GILL, CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER REPORT**

Chief Operations Officer Gill talked about the California Health Information Exchange Onboarding Program (Cal-HOP), stating that the California Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) is moving towards Electronic Health Information Exchange (HIE) focusing on interoperability and data exchanges between Medi-Cal providers within the State of California; that on March 1st, staff will determine Tri-City's eligibility and look at what the county's role will be. She indicated that she will continue to provide updates; she then stated that staff has revised that Tri City's Personnel Rules and Regulations Manual which has been submitted to legal counsel for additional updating and review; and that the final Manual will be brought to the Governing Board for approval in April.



Discussion ensued regarding the number of employees, and of some of the new required trainings.

Vice-Chair Vera referred to the school partnership and inquired if it is a special funding to work on the schools. Executive Director Navarro stated that the Board authorized an expansion of Tri-City's realignment funding to meet the growing needs of the schools.

#### **6. ANGELA IGRISAN, DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL PROGRAM SERVICES REPORT**

Director of Clinical Program Services Igrisan reported that the department has been focusing on Substance Abuse Treatment, noting that our counselor has developed a five module training that she has already started to implement with the clinical staff; that the Therapeutic Community Gardening (TCG) team's proposal for presentation has been accepted by the upcoming state TAY Conference in Sacramento; and that there were five persons that attended the Commission meeting to share their success story of recovery.

#### **7. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT**

Medical Director Teimoori reported that psychiatrists and other related staff have been informed about new the law that requires prescribers to provide education to patients about narcotic overdose prevention, noting that staff also provides substance abuse counseling, basically making sure that people taking pain medication are aware of the consequences of being in such medication.

Vice-Chair Vera inquired about the recruitment status of a psychiatrist. Medical Director Teimoori replied that we have one Locum Tenens; provided information about possible applicants; and that he explains to them the reality of jobs in the private sector vs. Tri-City.

Discussion ensued regarding the education, open positions, and recruitment process for the Psychiatric Technician position.

#### **8. RIMMI HUNDAL, DIRECTOR OF MHSA AND ETHNIC SERVICES REPORT**

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal reported that we are in Cohort 9 for the community wellbeing grants; that 16 communities attended the Bidders Conference; that a one-on-one information was presented to those that were not able to attend; that for stigma reduction, staff is getting ready to invite artists to submit art for the next Creative Minds Community Gallery; that the reception will take place in May during Mental health Month; that Tri-City is part of California Mental Health Services Authority (CalMHSA), which has a prevention program called Directing Change, a statewide student video contest that focuses on suicide prevention, and that staff is currently outreaching to students to submit a video. She also announced that Tri-City will be holding a community event at Holt Family Apartments on March 28th, pointing out that various community partners will also participate.

Board Member Ontiveros-Cole inquired if anybody from other apartments is welcomed to attend the community event. Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal replied in the affirmative, stating that it is a community event so that they get to know Tri-City, learn about resources available to them, to help them create ownership.

Discussion ensued regarding ride-along with police departments by Tri-City staff; and about current plans to go back to police departments for mental health trainings that they might need.

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal also announced that the Wellness Center is preparing for its annual summer camp from June 17th to July 12th; and shared how it was established by staff to meet the need for low income families who cannot afford other summer camps.

#### **9. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER REPORT**

There was no comment.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Leano moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to receive and file the month of February staff reports. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Gonzalez, Leano, Ontiveros-Cole, and Sparks Johnson; Vice-Chair Vera; and Chair Carder. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

#### **GOVERNING BOARD COMMENTS**

Vice-Chair Vera stated that he is amazed by all the stuff that staff is doing every month; that staff are very helpful; that he keeps hearing good things about Tri-City in the community; and encouraged staff to keep doing what they are doing.

Board Member Ontiveros-Cole stated that it is a great idea of having a community event because it is good to include the surrounding community, letting them know that they are not forgotten; that she attended the Pomona Awakening meeting, and noted that this type of teaching should be introduced to the school system.

Board Member Leano thanked Tri-City staff for working with the Cities of Claremont, Pomona and La Verne in applying for Measure H grant money; that the Board of Supervisors authorized 49 million in Measure H funding and only 44 million has been awarded; and that he hopes that, by working together, we can find new ways to access more funding under Measure H.

Board Member Ontiveros-Cole spoke about the current challenges the City of Pomona is facing with its homeless population who are refusing to go to the Hope for Home shelter in Pomona.

Chair Carder praised the City of Pomona for all its cleaning efforts for the beautification of the City; for addressing its homeless population; and applauded Benita DeFrank for creating the Hope for Home shelter.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Dick Bunce talked about the Pomona Reawakening conference; about the key note speakers, pointing out that there were 8 different workshops; that Toni Navarro was a panelists in one of the workshops; that Tri-City was very supportive and encouraging; that Tri-City had helped financially; and praised Toni Navarro for doing a great job.



**CLOSED SESSION**

At 6:13 p.m., the Governing Board recessed to a Closed Session pursuant to Government Code § 54957, Public Employee Performance Evaluation; Title of Position of Employee Being Evaluated: Executive Director.

At 6:50 p.m., Governing Board Carolyn Cockrell left the meeting.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

At 7:26 p.m., the Governing Board reconvened to an Open Session.

**CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

Chair Carder announced that no action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:27 p.m., the Governing Board Meeting of February 20, 2019 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, March 20, 2019 at 5:00 p.m., in the MHSa Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.



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Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk