



**MINUTES**  
**GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION JOINT MEETING**  
**(4:45 P.M.)**  
**AND**  
**PUBLIC HEARING FOR MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES ACT (MHSA)**  
**(6:00 P.M.)**  
**MAY 20, 2015**

The Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission met in a Joint Meeting on Wednesday, May 20, 2015 at 4:50 p.m. in the Clinical Offices located at 2008 North Garey Avenue, Suite 1B, Pomona, California, and recessed to a Public Hearing for the Mental Health Services Act at 6:00 p.m. to be held at Walter Taylor Hall, 1775 N. Indian Hill Blvd. in Claremont, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Lantz called the meeting to order at 4:50 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** A visual roll call was taken.

**GOVERNING BOARD**

**PRESENT:** Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Chair  
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member  
Joseph M. Lyons, MA, Ph.D., City of Claremont, Board Member  
Edina Martinez, Psy.D., City of Pomona, Board Member  
John Nolte, City of Pomona, Board Member  
Bill Aguirre, City of La Verne, Alternate Board Member

**ABSENT:** Chuck Leeb, Ph.D., City of Claremont, Vice Chair  
Robin Carder, City of La Verne, Board Member

**MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

**PRESENT:** Sylvia Whitlock, Ph.D., Chair  
Toni L. Watson, Vice Chair  
Arny Bloom  
Cheryl Berezny  
Betsy MacLaren  
Ashley Nielsen  
Donald R. Perez  
Twila L. Stephens  
Davetta Williams

**ABSENT:** Paul Capraro

TCMHC STAFF

PRESENT: Toni Navarro, Executive Director  
Darold Pieper, General Counsel  
Margaret Harris, Chief Financial Officer  
David Block, Medical Director  
Rimmi Hundal, MHSA Manager  
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Acting Manager of Best Practices  
Donald Pruyn, Housing Project Manager  
Eileen Martin, Human Resources Manager  
Mica Olmos, Executive Assistant

**1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING OF MARCH 10, 2015**

There being no comment, Commissioner Berezny moved, and Commissioner Perez seconded, to approve the MHC Minutes of March 10, 2015. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, MacLaren, Perez, and Williams; Vice-Chair Watson; and Chair Whitlock. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioners Bloom, Nielsen, and Stephens; ABSENT: Commissioner Capraro.

**CONSENT CALENDAR**

There being no comment, Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Martinez seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member Aguirre; Board Members Cockrell, Lyons, Martinez, and Nolte; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Board Member Nolte –Item No. 2 only. ABSENT: Board Member Carder and Vice-Chair Leeb.

**2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – GOVERNING BOARD MEETING OF APRIL 15, 2015**

Recommendation: GOVERNING BOARD: “A motion to approve the Governing Board Minutes of its Regular Meeting of April 15, 2015.”

**3. APPROVAL OF SAFE HARBOR POLICY**

Recommendation: GOVERNING BOARD: “A motion to approve and adopt the Safe Harbor Policy.”

**NEW BUSINESS**

**4. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 401 AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE SHORT/DOYLE CONTRACT WITH THE LOS ANGELES COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (LAC DMH)**

There being no comment, Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Nolte seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 401. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member Aguirre; Board Members Cockrell, Lyons, Martinez, and Nolte; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Carder and Vice-Chair Leeb.

## **MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS**

### **5. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT**

Executive Director Navarro stated that there were two corrections to the housing report: (1) Under Office Building Search, the intended use for the building should read - is for *administrative professional* uses, rather than for *clerical and administrative* uses; and (2) under Therapeutic Garden Project, based on previous discussion it is estimated that the cost of project will not exceed \$500,000.

Governing Board Member Lyons inquired in the event that the cost goes over that amount, what authorization does anybody have to move the project forward.

Executive Director Navarro stated that there is none yet in place, noting that staff is simply reviewing the conceptual plan; that this amount is an estimate for informational purposes only; and that staff is expecting the design plans at the end of June.

Governing Board Chair Lantz stated that if the project costs anywhere near \$500,000, she would not support the project; and that she hopes the actual cost will be significantly less.

Governing Board Member Lyons asked about justification for this amount.

Governing Board Chair Lantz stated that when the design plan is prepared, there will be a cost breakdown.

Executive Director Navarro provided an update about the Los Angeles County merger, to address questions about the Coalition; thanked those that were able to attend the La Verne Spirit award ceremony; reported that the All Agency Staff Meeting helps staff come together as an Agency and gives the opportunity to celebrate each other's accomplishments; and that the TCG farm site activities are transitioning to 2018 N. Garey Avenue.

### **6. CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT**

There was no comment.

### **7. CHIEF OPERATIONS OFFICER REPORT**

Governing Board Lyons inquired about the current assessment involving retention issues and if they are discussed at the bi-monthly all employees' meetings wherein the departments bring forth the issues that might positively or negatively impact employee retention. Executive Director Navarro replied that this a recurring discussion, that a subcommittee was created wherein a representative from each department will meet to review an employee survey that will be distributed in June, and that the results will be presented at the July staff meeting.

### **8. DIRECTOR OF CLINICAL PROGRAM SERVICES REPORT**

Executive Director Navarro reported that Nancy Gill, Elizabeth Owens, and Diana Acosta were attending the California Behavioral Health Directors Fiscal Leadership Institute in Sacramento, noting that it was important for them to attend as result of the ongoing changing phase of funding and programming.

**9. MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT**

There was no comment.

**10. MANAGER OF BEST PRACTICES REPORT**

There was no comment.

**11. MHSA MANAGER REPORT**

There being no comments, Board Member Lyons moved, and Alternate Board Member Aguirre seconded, to receive and file the month of May staff reports. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member Aguirre; Board Members Cockrell, Lyons, Martinez, and Nolte; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Carder and Vice-Chair Leeb.

**GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS**

Commission Chair Whitlock complemented staff for all the report preparation.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no comment.

**MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION RECESS TO A PUBLIC HEARING BEING HELD AT ANOTHER VENUE**

At 5:02 p.m., the Mental Health Commission recessed to a *Public Hearing for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Fiscal Year 2015-16 Annual Update* scheduled to be held at 6:00 p.m. at Walter Taylor Hall, 1775 N. Indian Hill Blvd. in Claremont, California.

**CLOSED SESSION**

At 5:02 p.m., the Governing Board recessed to a Closed Session pursuant to Government Code § 54956.9: Conference with Real Property Negotiators; Property: 2001 N. Garey Avenue, Pomona, CA 91767; Tri-City Negotiators: Toni Navarro, Jesse H. Duff, Margaret Harris, Donald Pruyn, Darold Pieper; Under Negotiation: possible purchase including terms and price.

**RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION**

At 5:14 p.m., the Governing Board reconvened to an Open Session.

**CLOSED SESSION REPORT**

Counsel Pieper reported that the Governing Board had authorized Tri-City staff to negotiate the purchase of real estate property located at 2001 N. Garey Avenue in Pomona with certain parameters of negotiation.

**GOVERNING BOARD RECESS TO A PUBLIC HEARING BEING HELD AT ANOTHER VENUE**

At 5:15 p.m., the Governing Board recessed to a *Public Hearing for the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Fiscal Year 2015-16 Annual Update* scheduled to be held at 6:00 p.m. at Walter Taylor Hall, 1775 N. Indian Hill Blvd. in Claremont, California.

**RECONVENE TO A PUBLIC HEARING**

At 6:08 p.m., Commission Chair Whitlock called the meeting to order, noting that the Mental Health Commission and the Governing Board were reconvening from a Joint Meeting to a Public Hearing for Tri-City's proposed MHSA 2015-16 Annual Update, and asked Executive Assistant Olmos to conduct a visual roll call. A visual roll call was taken by Executive Assistant Olmos.

**MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION**

PRESENT: Sylvia Whitlock, Ph.D., Chair  
Toni L. Watson, Vice Chair  
Arny Bloom  
Cheryl Berezny  
Betsy MacLaren  
Ashley Nielsen  
Donald R. Perez  
Twila L. Stephens  
Davetta Williams

ABSENT: Paul Capraro

**GOVERNING BOARD**

PRESENT: Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Chair  
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Joseph M. Lyons, MA, Ph.D., City of Claremont, Board Member  
Edina Martinez, Psy.D., City of Pomona, Board Member  
John Nolte, City of Pomona, Board Member

ABSENT: Chuck Leeb, Ph.D., City of Claremont, Vice Chair

**A. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS**

Commission Chair Whitlock welcomed all attendees and explained that under state law, the public hearing occurs as part of a regular Mental Health Commission meeting; that it is an advisory and oversight body to Tri-City Mental Health Center; and that it meets monthly to help advise the Governing Board, staff, and stakeholders of Tri-City Mental Health Center about how to insure high quality mental health services in our area.

## **B. FOCUS FOR THE MEETING**

Commission Chair Whitlock explained that the Public Hearing is being conducted for the proposed Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) 2015-16 Annual Update for the Tri-City area. She noted that the proposed plans had emerged from almost a year of extensive work and conversations with individuals and organizations throughout the three cities; and that the public feedback was also necessary.

### **12. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION - OPEN THE PUBLIC HEARING**

Commission Chair Whitlock introduced MHSA Projects Coordinator Dana Stein, indicating that she and consultants Elizabeth Sadlon and Kim Tso, had helped develop the MHSA Plans; and then opened the Public Hearing for the MHSA 2015-16 Annual Update, noting that it would be facilitated by Ms. Stein.

#### **A. EXPLANATION OF PUBLIC HEARING AND CONTEXT OF PLANS**

Executive Director Navarro thanked everyone in attendance; thanked the Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission for their commitment and dedication to the MHSA process; welcomed Corey Calaycay, Mayor for the City of Claremont; and shared that the Governor's State of the State Address resonated with Tri-City's history and efforts, noting that Tri-City had quadrupled during the last six years founding an entire system of care; therefore, we should ground ourselves and nurture what has been created.

MHSA Projects Coordinator Stein explained that during the Public Hearing there would be an overview of the MSHA Annual Update, noting that it had been posted on April 17th for a 30-day public review; that special guest speakers will share their amazing stories in connection with Tri-City programs; that proposed updates to the Services and Supports (CSS) and Prevention and Early Intervention Programs (PEI) will be presented; that there will be group discussions; and that formal action by Tri-City's Governing Board will be taken. She then talked about the community planning process which entails inviting stakeholders to determine what it is important to all stakeholders in their communities; recognized Chief Financial Officer Margaret Harris for budget preparation and for her ability to keep track of all the programs' financial aspects; stated that the MSHA Annual Update included two recommendations (1) whether or not to adjust the programs' budget levels, and (2) if funds were available, how to spend those funds; referred attendants to the Question Form for table discussion for comment; and explained Proposition 63, the Mental Health Services Act, which was approved by California voters on November 2004 that created a 1% tax on personal income over \$1 million dollars allowing for the expansion of community mental health services. She then presented an overview of the Mental Health Services Act Plan which include the Community Services and Supports (CSS), the most intensive system of care that provides direct services for individuals with severe mental illness; Prevention and Early Intervention Services (PEI) designed to improve early access to services and programs to help recognize the early signs of mental illness, as well to reduce stigma and discrimination; Workforce, Education and Training (WET) created to improve and build the capacity of the mental health workforce through mental health training and volunteers; Innovations (INN) a remediation program to increase access to unserved and/or underserved communities; and Capital Facilities & Technology Needs (CFTN) to increase technological capacity to improve mental health services.



At 6:31 p.m., Governing Board Member John Nolte left the meeting.

MHSA Projects Coordinator Stein announced that success stories were going to be presented next.

Toshi Kuramtsu, Adult Program Manager, introduced Grace, a Tri-City client that participated in the FSP program. Ms. Grace shared her story of recovery.

Debbie Johnson, Children Program Manager, interviewed Flor, who has been participating during five months in the FSP program. Flor depicted how her life was before Tri-City and how life had improved as a result of repairing family relationships at home.

Michelle Mata, Family Wellbeing Supervisor, introduced Maria, a participant in the Wellness Center programs. Maria described how valuable the Wellness Center had been to her and her family, as has helped promote mental wellness in her family. Miguel, Maria's son, stated that he felt blessed for being able to participate in the youth groups at the Wellness Center.

Gilbert Saldate, Housing & Community Outreach Coordinator, stated that housing is very important in mental health because recovery will not be attainable without housing. He then introduced Kevin, property manager, who shared his experience in working with Tri-City. Kevin indicated that his brother-in-law committed suicide and this tragic event opened his eyes towards mental health. Kevin noted that Tri-City's direct involvement makes his approach with tenants less apprehensive as he has fewer problems with Tri-City clients than with his regular tenants. Kevin added that it has been great working with Tri-City staff as they are always available when he needs them.

Lisa Naranjo, MSHA Program Supervisor, introduced Twila Stephens, 'Courageous Minds' speaker and MHC Member. Ms. Stephens talked about her story of mental health recovery, noting that she and her family are more stable today than they have been in the past due to having access to Tri-City services. Ms. Stephens indicated that she shares her story of recovery to help reduce stigma as stigma impacts all services.

Luis Resendez, Marriage & Family Therapist, talked about Therapeutic Community Gardening and explained how gardening can be achieved through *container gardening* where there is no space to grow a garden.

Mark Bellegia, MHSA Program Coordinator, talked about the Integrated Care Project, which began as a stakeholder idea. He explained that there were problems with communication amongst different providers; therefore, this program helps to be able to communicate with each other including doctors and clients; and as the program ends, stakeholders want the program to continue in order to maintain relationships that have already been established. He then talked about ICP and PMAP success poster story.

At 7:15 p.m. the Public Hearing recessed and reconvened at 7:27 p.m.

Gibran Carter, WET Program Coordinator, stated that volunteers had worked over 5,000 hours to support Tri-City efforts. He then introduced Don Perez, Veteran and MHC Member.

Mr. Perez stated that it was an honor and privilege to be a member of the MHC, noting that he actually was not aware of all Tri-City programs until he became involved in some of the programs, noting that the veteran's program is dear to his heart and his vision is to help veterans and their families as he believes one person can make a difference.

Michelle Cox, talked about her wonderful experience as a Tri-City volunteer, noting that she had been working as a volunteer for six months before she became a full-time employee.

Don Whitney, IT Manager, talked about the three technology projects that Tri-City is currently working on: (1) system enhancements and HER Systems project, upgrading infrastructure to improve speed and access to network services; (2) Client and client family computer resources, upgrades to equipment network for better and safer computer experience for job skills; and (3) collecting and reporting on program outcome data; upgrading statistical software licensing and staff computers.

#### B. SMALL TABLE DISCUSSIONS

MHSA Projects Coordinator Stein talked about the stakeholders process that began in November 2014 and the stakeholders' recommendations to continue all current programs at projected budget levels; and to allocate \$50,000 for Mental Health First Aid Trainings to provide stipends for school staff substitutes allowing teachers to attend trainings to increase their awareness and ability to identify early warnings signs of mental illness in students attending local schools.

Toshi Kuramatsu, Adult Program Manager, talked about the Supplemental Crisis services under Community Services and Supports (CSS) Program. She indicated that it provides intensive outreach and engagement to prevent returning clients for crisis services for both adult and children, noting that a multidisciplinary team for intensive outreach and engagement is needed to act as a bridge between supplemental crisis service and intensive treatment services such as FSP. She then talked about the Field Capable Clinical Services for Older Adults, indicating that there is strong misconception about Mental Health in the senior community; therefore, a senior specialist is needed to provide senior services.

Rimmi Hundal, MHSA Manager, talked about two stakeholders' recommendations for MHFA trainings under PEI: (1) to train more members in the community; and (2) to conduct more school setting trainings for teachers. She explained that the money allocated for teacher substitute stipends will be distributed through an application process, noting that if there are more applications than money available, then it will be based on each city's population

#### C. PUBLIC COMMENT

Various member of the public expressed support for the proposed projects and Tri-City: hoped the Commission and Governing Board provide what the community needs; that Tri-City shares a vision and relief where people can live; Tri-City has helped families and that Tri-City can make things even better; always likes to talk about Tri-City, that the concern is what will happen if Tri-City ceases to exist, and thanked staff for all their support; applauded and complemented staff, noting that metal health is about being responsive to the community and that more prisons are not needed.



Another member of the public inquired if the proposed services for older adults will include services for dementia and Alzheimer's disease. MHSA Manager Hundal stated that these are not considered mental illnesses. Executive Director Navarro added that support will be given for caregivers about Alzheimer/dementia clients.

Another member of the public expressed concern about the lighting and access to the clinic at Garey, noting that the building, compared to the Wellness Center, looks dark and that it is difficult to enter because the entrance is around the building. Executive Director Navarro stated that the inquiry process has changed and will look into the lighting and access of the building.

### **13. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION - CLOSE THE PUBLIC HEARING**

At 8:03 p.m., there being no further public comment, Vice-Chair Watson moved, and Commissioner Stephens seconded, to close the Public Hearing. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, MacLaren, Nielsen, Perez, Stephens, and Williams; Vice-Chair Watson; and Chair Whitlock. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Capraro.

### **14. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION – DECIDE ON A RECOMMENDATION TO THE GOVERNING BOARD**

There being no discussion, Vice-Chair Watson moved, and Commissioner Nielsen seconded, to recommend the approval of the MHSA 2015-16 Annual Update by the Governing Board. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, MacLaren, Nielsen, Perez, Stephens, and Williams; Vice-Chair Watson; and Chair Whitlock. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Capraro.

### **15. GOVERNING BOARD - APPROVAL OF THE MHSA FY 2015-16 ANNUAL UPDATE**

Governing Board Chair Lantz, on behalf of the Governing Board, thanked the public for their attendance and for their participation in the Public Hearing. She stated that it had been a remarkable process to arrive at this point and everyone's participation was greatly appreciated.

There being no further comment, Board Member Lyons moved, and Board Member Carder seconded, to approve and adopt the MHSA 2015-16 Annual Update. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

### **GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS**

There was no comment.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no comment.

MHSA Projects Coordinator Stein discussed the next steps which include the continued implementation of all current programs; and announced that the MHSA 2015-16 Annual Update will be submitted to the MHSAOAC within 30 days.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8:07 p.m., there being no further discussion, Commissioner Perez moved, and Commissioner Nielsen seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, MacLaren, Nielsen, Perez, Stephens, and Williams; Vice-Chair Watson; and Chair Whitlock. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Commissioner Capraro.

The next Regular Meeting of the **Mental Health Commission** will be held on **Tuesday, June 9, 2015**, in the Administration Building, 1717 North Indian Hill Boulevard #B, Claremont, California.

At 8:07 p.m., there being no further discussion, Board Member Martinez moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to adjourn the meeting. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Carder, Cockrell, Lyons, and Martinez; and Chair Lantz. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Nolte and Vice-Chair Leeb.

The next Regular Meeting of the **Governing Board** will be held on **Wednesday, June 17, 2015 at 4:45 p.m.**, in the Administration Building, 1717 North Indian Hill Boulevard #B, Claremont, California.



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Micaela P. Olmos, Executive Assistant