



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD MARCH 16, 2022 – 5:00 P.M.

The Governing Board held on Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 5:00 p.m. its Regular Meeting Via Teleconference pursuant to Government Code § 54953, which allows the continuation to hold meetings without gathering in a room in an effort to minimize the spread and mitigate the effects of COVID-19 (Corona Virus Disease of 2019).

CALL TO ORDER Chair Leano called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL Roll call was taken by General Counsel Pieper.

GOVERNING BOARD

PRESENT: Jed Leano, City of Claremont, Chair
Robin Carder, City of La Verne, Vice-Chair (left at 5:58 p.m.)
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member
John Nolte, City of Pomona, Board Member (joined at 5:02 p.m.)
Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member
Ronald T. Vera, City of Claremont, Board Member (joined at 5:17 p.m.)

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Jesse H. Duff, Interim Executive Director
Darold Pieper, General Counsel
Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer
Elizabeth Renteria, Chief Clinical Officer
Seeyam Teimoori, Medical Director
Rimmi Hundal, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Chief Compliance Officer
Ken Riomales, Chief Information Officer

Interim Executive Director Duff recommended that Agenda Item No. 6 -*Consideration To Suspend The Memorandum Of Understanding With The City Of Claremont For Psychiatric Assessment And Care Team (PACT) Community Response Services*- be pulled from the Agenda and not be considered during today's meeting. He reported that Tri-City Mental Health Authority staff met with City of Claremont staff and it was his understanding that a solution to the issue was reached, which will be fair to both the City of Claremont and Tri-City; and that any recommended solution will be presented to the Governing Board for its approval at its April 20th meeting, noting that the Claremont City Council will also consider the proposed solution during its April 12th meeting.

Chair Leano pulled Agenda Item No. 6 from today's Agenda, and then he confirmed that the Claremont City Council would be considering the recommended solution to this matter during its April 12th meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no comment, Vice-Chair Carder moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Nolte, and Ontiveros-Cole; Vice-Chair Carder; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Vera.

1. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 637 AUTHORIZING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF TELECONFERENCING REQUIREMENTS DURING A PROCLAIMED STATE OF EMERGENCY UNDER GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54953 (AB 361)

Recommendation: "A motion to adopt Resolution No. 637 finding and declaring that it is unsafe to meet in person during the proclaimed state of emergency as a result of the continued threat of COVID-19, and authorizes the Interim Executive Director, or his designee, to continue utilizing teleconferencing accessibility to conduct the Authority's public meetings pursuant to Government Code § 54953."

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 16, 2022 GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Recommendation: "A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Regular Meeting of February 16, 2022."

3. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 638 ESTABLISHING THE TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY SUPPLEMENTAL PAID SICK LEAVE OF 2022 POLICY NO. I.24 EFFECTIVE RETROACTIVE TO JANUARY 1, 2022

Recommendation: "A motion to adopt Resolution No. 638 establishing the Authority's Supplemental Paid Sick Leave of 2022 Policy and Procedure No. I.24 effective retroactive to January 1, 2022."

NEW BUSINESS

4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 639 ADOPTING REVISED CLASSIFICATION AND SALARY SCHEDULE REFLECTING A 5% EQUITY ADJUSTMENT PAYROLL INCREASE FOR ALL CLASSIFICATIONS EFFECTIVE MARCH 7, 2022

Interim Executive Director Duff stated that executive management staff was recommending that the Governing Board approve an equity adjustment to payroll of 5% for all classifications and making that adjustment effective March 7, 2022. He then reported that, as the Board is aware, over the last two or three years, Tri-City has been struggling to compete in the marketplace for

professional behavioral health staff members; that the HR report shows the several positions that we have been down for several months now; that in an effort to be more competitive in the job market to retain our current staff, and to also attract talent to TCMHA, staff recommends a 5% equity adjustment to bring Tri-City more in line with market conditions, noting that this is what all of our research indicated. He then stated that in addition to this action, the adjusting the salaries and the salary classifications, based upon the study performed by Koff and Associates, will resolve a lot of the issues that Tri-City has been struggling with over the last several years and will be able to bring staff to acceptable levels. He explained that the fiscal impact for the remainder of the Fiscal Year 2021-22 will be an increase of approximately \$328,000 to salary and wages, and pointed out that a budget adjustment is not necessary at this time, given the number of vacancies that exist.

Vice-Chair Carder inquired if the \$328,000 from this year's budget will be from March until December, or is it just until the end of June. Chief Financial Officer Acosta replied that it would be until the end of June, and that the cost until December would be more, since the \$328,000 is only one-fourth of the grand total amount. Vice-Chair Carder further inquired if this amount can be afforded. Chief Financial Officer Acosta replied in the affirmative, noting that what we cannot afford is not to do something like this.

Interim Executive Director Duff explained that since we have been down drastically in our clinical staff, which are staff that provide direct service to our clients, their case loads are much larger than we would like to see; therefore, when clinical staff are scrambling to meet with all of their clients to provide services, which for Tri-City is priority number one, unfortunately, billing takes second place. He then stated that he is hopeful that with this equity adjustment, more staff will be hired and we will see an increase in billing, which in turn will offset some of this additional costs for the equity increase.

Chair Leano sought clarification regarding Tri-City not efficiently collecting our billing cycle. Interim Executive Director Duff replied in the affirmative, pointing out that it is unfortunate; however, the fact is that staff currently has the largest caseload and the priority is to serve clients which sometimes it does not leave sufficient time to do all the required billing; thus, Tri-City is losing revenue because of the lack of billing, noting that it is not any fault of our clinical staff which are performing their jobs admirably.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Lantz moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 639 authorizing a 5% equity adjustment increase to payroll for all classifications as reflected in the revised Classification and Salary Schedule for Tri-City Mental Health Authority effective March 7, 2022. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Nolte, and Ontiveros-Cole; Vice-Chair Carder; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Vera.

5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 640 ADOPTING A REVISED SALARY RANGE FOR CLINICAL THERAPIST I/II AND CLINICAL SUPERVISOR I/II POSITIONS; AND ESTABLISHING THE AUTHORITY'S MASTER CLASSIFICATION AND SALARY SCHEDULE TO REFLECT THIS CHANGE EFFECTIVE MARCH 7, 2022

Interim Executive Director Duff stated that Item No. 4 and Item No. 5 are somewhat coupled with the same purpose, and indicated that two years ago Tri-City contracted Koff and Associates for a classification and compensation study, which supposed to last 18 months; however, it has taken two years to complete because of the interruption caused by the pandemic. He then explained that staff's recommendations are based upon all the data gathered by Koff and Associates; and reported that it was discovered that our lower salary ranges were close to 30% under market, which is just not competitive; that the maximum salary ranges are close to being competitive at the maximum level; and that salary ranges and classifications should be more in line with what is common with cities and counties based on a six step classification program; therefore, the recommended salary schedule shows a 30% increase from the minimum 30% range and all the way to the maximum with a 5% difference between each step for six steps structure.

At 5:17 p.m., Board Member Vera joined the meeting.

Interim Executive Director Duff stated that it is being recommended that this salary structure be implemented in two phases, the first is to approve salary classification and adjustments for the clinical staff because it is where we have an immediate and urgent need to address this part of Tri-City's operation; and that in September or October, staff will recommend approving salary classifications for the remainder of the organization. He said that he believes, this will complete the recruitment and retention program and hopes that this will bring Tri-City back to full staffing levels.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Vice-Chair Carder moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 640 authorizing a revised Salary Range for Clinical Therapist I/II and Clinical Supervisors I/II positions as reflected in the Master Classification and Salary Schedule for Tri-City Mental Health Authority effective March 7, 2022. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Nolte, Ontiveros-Cole, and Vera; Vice-Chair Carder; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

AGENDA ITEM NO. 6 WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA.

7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 641 APPROVING SUBCONTRACT AGREEMENT NO. 7460-CA MOBILE CRISIS-TRICITY-01 WITH ADVOCATES FOR HUMAN POTENTIAL, INC. (AHP) FOR BEHAVIORAL HEALTH MOBILE CRISIS AND NON-CRISIS SERVICES (MOBILE CRISIS) PROJECT NO. 21-10349 WITH THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES (DHCS); AND AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THEREAFTER

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported that Tri-City applied for a mobile crisis planning grant and was awarded \$200,000; that the DHCS subcontracted with Advocates For Human Potential to implement the grant; and that staff was recommending that the Board approve and authorize executing the agreement with Advocates For Human Potential to do Tri-City's mobile Crisis planning process so that we can eventually bring mobile crisis services more fully for youth into our communities. She then said that at the end of the planning process Tri-City will be eligible for additional funds to implement the plan.

Board Member Vera sought clarification regarding the planning grant and the performance period from September 15th baseline. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria explained that the September 15, 2021 baseline is when the DHCS and the Advocates For Human Potential said the project started; thus, there would have been community meetings to offer technical support to communities; that Tri-City is just now presenting the contract to the Board because staff recently received it from the Advocates For Human Potential, even though Tri-City was awarded the grant some time ago. Board Member Vera further inquired if this grant was previously approved or if Tri-City go out to bid, noting that he wanted to find out how we end up with this contract. Chief Clinical Renteria explained that the contract was through DHCS, which is contracting with the Advocates For Human Potential to do the grant; that Tri-City applied for the grant and as Tri-City became a recipient, we have to contract with the subcontractor that DHCS selected to get the funds.

Board Member Lantz expressed being confused about the process since there is another agenda item related to this one; and shared that she does not recall any meetings being conducted by this group in our community, and that she also was not aware if they have been meeting with Claremont or La Verne; however, she expressed concern about not having the meetings since there is a timeline that goes back to six or eight months ago, noting that the Board is just agreeing to the contract in the middle of March and theoretically it started at a time when no activity was being done; thus, she was not comfortable approving the contract which has dates that are so out of sync with reality; that the time is limited; and that according to the contract, they can change the time frames and the scope of work at any time without Tri-City's approval. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that she shared the same concern; that those dates were decided by the funders when the project started; that she had conversations with the Advocates For Human Potential, and that Tri-City's funding period can be adjusted to roll over, depending on the date of execution, noting that it was communicated to her via email.

Discussion ensued regarding the concern about the cost of the plan; about the way DHCS envision having plans, which must be with planning and engagement of the community, before they award the implementation funding piece; about how the planning grants are the way the DHCS moves forward with big project implementation; and that community engagement and planning cannot start in the Tri-City area until the Agreement is executed.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further discussion, Vice-Chair Carder moved, and Board Member Nolte seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 641 approving Subcontract Agreement No. 7460-CA MOBILE CRISIS-TRICITY-01 with AHP for Behavioral Health Mobile Crisis and Non-Crisis Services Project No. 21-10349 with the CA DHCS, and authorizing the Interim Executive Director to execute the agreement and any amendments thereafter. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Nolte, and Ontiveros-Cole; Vice-Chair Carder; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Board Members Lantz and Vera. ABSENT: None.

- 8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 642 APPROVING GRANT AGREEMENT NO. 21MHSOAC061 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,820,932.00 FOR MENTAL HEALTH STUDENT SERVICES ACT (MHSSA) WITH THE MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES AND OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION (MHSOAC); AND AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT AND ANY AMENDMENTS THEREAFTER**

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported that the Mental Health Student Services Act funding was a grant that became available to local mental health counties in the fall of this year; that Tri-City applied and was awarded \$3,820,932.00 over the course of four years ending in June 30 2026; that these funds will be used to improve mental health services for children, youth and young adults and within school integration; that there is a planning period and some of the funds will be used for that; and that the remaining funds will be used to employ some staff to provide direct services, train various people in the community, including teachers; and that some funds also will be made available to community partners that want to do some additional services to support the mental health for children, youth and young adults.

Board Member Cockrell inquired what would be the oversight in the implementation of this program. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied that it was very specific in the grant application, the creation of a Community Stakeholder Committee that will make sure that services are designed from stakeholder input and then implemented according to that design, and pointed out that we have a number of processes that we are designing in place to make sure that we are listening to the needs of the community and also making sure that we address the plan as outlined by the Community. Board Member Cockrell further inquired that when those pieces are in place, if there would be regular opportunities for community partners to give input. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied in the affirmative, indicating that the reason they have such a lengthy planning processes is because they want to establish an ongoing community group that is monitoring the implementation and making sure that the needs are met as identified by the Community; and that there will be things like a needs assessment that will be part of the process. Board Member Cockrell further inquired if the local schools will have a place at the table. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied in the affirmative, as well as a lot of community providers, including law enforcement.

Board Member Vera stated that he knows the executive director of Octopod, pointing out that he used to be the development officer at the Fairplex when he was on its board; and inquired if we solicited services from Octopod for the planning purposes or if they reached out to us to implement; and asked about the relationship with Octopod. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that we are hoping to work with Octopod to do the planning for both the Mobile Crisis grant and this MHSSA grant; and explained that both grants had the recommendation of contracting with an outside provider to do the facilitation; that staff wanted to keep it with somebody local that knew our community, was already established, and that had participated in other community planning events; that former executive Director Toni Navarro put her in contact with Mr. Belafonte to maybe identify potential people that would be able to assist us in anticipation of receiving the grant that resulted in having two contracts for the two pieces of work (Mobile Crises and MHSSA); and that we are hoping to do planning in concert with one another so that the same group of people is not called several different times to give the same kind of input.

Board Member Lantz referred to one of the requirements of having at least one school district participate, and inquired if we have buy in. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied in the affirmative, indicating that one of the requirements was to submit letters of intent of collaboration or support; and that Tri-City received these letters from all the local school districts, including our school of arts. Board Member Lantz stated that the services or the program will be located on site; however, some of the folks that are their target recipients of service are not necessarily going to be on the school site; and inquired if they are exclusive to school sites or will they have an off-campus presence as well. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that there will be both, on or close to school site, and also other locations in the community and do some community-based outreach.

Board Member Cockrell inquired if they will be able to go out to homes to assist those students who perhaps are having difficulty being at school. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that it is certainly one of our hopes, noting that the reason for having a planning process requirement by these grants, is to obtain community input and to plan for the needs, as people see.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further comment, Vice-Chair Carder moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 642 approving Grant Agreement No. 21MHSOAC061 in the amount of \$3,820,932.00 for MHSSA with the MHSOAC, and authorizing the Interim Executive Director to execute the agreement and any amendments thereafter. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Nolte, Ontiveros-Cole, and Vera; Vice-Chair Carder; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 643 AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH OCTOPOD SOLUTIONS, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$60,000 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION OF A MENTAL HEALTH STUDENTS SERVICES ACT (MHSSA) PROJECT FOR TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (TCMHA)

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported that the contract for consideration with Octopod is for the planning grant MHSSA project; that part of the Mental Health Service Oversight Accountability Commission and MHSSA grant, is to contract with Octopod to do the planning piece for the execution of this grant which involves community stakeholder involvement, getting their input, buy in, and what we ultimately translate into an action plan and an accountability plan for the implementation of providing additional mental health services to children, youth and young adults in our catchment area; that the grant specifically required to use facilitators to do this type of work in the community; and that through the recommendation of our former executive director, it is recommended to enter an agreement with somebody local that understands the community and could work as soon as possible.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Vera moved, and Board Member Ontiveros-Cole seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 643 Authorizing the Interim Executive Director to execute an Agreement with Octopod Solutions, Inc. for the development of a MHSSA Project for TCMHA in an amount not to exceed \$60,000. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Nolte, Ontiveros-Cole, and Vera; Vice-Chair Carder; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

10. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 644 AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH OCTOPOD SOLUTIONS, INC. IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$70,000 FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A STRATEGIC IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERVENTION CRISIS CARE MOBILE UNITS (CCMU) FOR TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY (TCMHA)

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported that this in reference to the Mobile Crisis planning grant; that the contract with Octopod is to facilitate the stakeholder involvement feedback session so that we can inform the plan for mobile crisis services freeze in our Community.

Board Member Vera sought clarification if Octopod will be doing two community participation processes. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied in the affirmative, noting that both of these grants have community participation as part of their requirement; that since both grants are for youth primarily, it is anticipated that we were probably going to be calling on the same group of stakeholders, with a few differences here and there, and rather than confusing the community with two very divergent processes, Octopod will work on both of these projects and use the information gathered from one stakeholder meeting and another stakeholder meeting and kind of commingle them so that we are not creating redundancies for our community and staff, and we are gleaning from both these processes.

Board Member Lantz commented that it appears as if Octopod will be having X number of meetings, and they will be utilizing the information that they gather at those meetings to plug into whichever of the programs that information is focused on. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that this is correct and that information can be shared. Board Member Lantz then expressed concern for paying twice for the same meetings, noting that while she understands that they take the money and resources and come out with different reports and evaluations, as it relates to the focuses of each of those grants, still seems like we are paying them twice. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria explained that there will be different questions and there might be differences in the convening of the groups since one is mostly for Mobile Crisis grants and the other one is for more direct regular on-going services. Board Member Lantz noted that it sounded like staff did not want to confuse people with one meeting focused on this and another meeting focused on that. Chief Clinical Office Renteria explained that for continuity, having the same facilitator do both of these requirements would help the community build trust, noting that there may be some subtle differences, but for continuity, having the same facilitator would be helpful.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

There being no further discussion, Board Member Nolte moved, and Vice-Chair Carder seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 644 Authorizing the Interim Executive Director to execute an Agreement with Octopod Solutions, Inc. for the development of Intervention CCMU for TCMHA in an amount not to exceed \$70,000. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Nolte, Ontiveros-Cole, and Vera; Vice-Chair Carder; and Chair Leano. NOES: Board Member Lantz. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS

11. JESSE H. DUFF, INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Interim Executive Director Duff reported that consultant Wendy Brown Creative Partners (WBCP) launched the recruitment for the executive director on February 24th; that one and a-half weeks into the launch they have received 23 applications; that they recently sent out direct mailers to 263 potential candidates; that all the dates that were previously discussed are still on schedule, noting that the shortlist meeting with the Governing Board will take place on April 7th; that the first round of interviews is scheduled on April 26th; and that the interviews for the finalists for the position will be held on May 3rd.

At 5:58 p.m., Vice-Chair Carder left the meeting.

Board Member Vera inquired what will be discussed during the April 7th meeting. Interim Executive Director Duff indicated that WBCP will discuss with the Board the interview process; provide an overview of their findings of the preliminary discussions with the lead candidates; and probably make recommendations of the candidates that would be invited to the first interview on April 26th.

Board Member Cockrell inquired if the interview questions will be shared with the Board. Interim Executive Director Duff replied that probably there will be some discussion about the questions that WBCP will draft and share with the Board.

Chief Information Officer Riomales reported that there is a delayed question regarding the previous resolutions from an anonymous attendee.

Chair Leano inquired of Counsel Pieper about the appropriate procedure here.

Counsel Pieper stated that it would be appropriate to respond to the question, noting that it is a question about staffing shortages and the interaction with these resolutions. He then read the question: “how will current staffing shortages impact Tri-City’s ability to implement and perform resolutions 641 and 642, have those barriers been resolved.”

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that with the resolutions that were passed to improve staff salaries, Tri-City will be able to recruit staff and meet the needs, noting that a program analyst has already been hired to assist with the implementation; and that the first portion of both grants is planning, thus, there will not be a lot of direct hiring in the beginning phase, and reiterated that we do have staff ready to help with the implementation.

12. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Acosta reported that currently Finance’s attention has been the remainder of the implementation of the classification and compensation study; that their attention is also being turned over to the budget; that it is insurance renewal season, thus they are currently filling out applications which is an annual process; that facilities projects continue to be underway; and that they are also involved with the Cerner implementation of going live on the new electronic health records program.

Board Member Lantz thanked Chief Financial Officer Acosta for responding to her questions about the time frames of some of the projects that the Board approved a couple of years ago.

13. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stepped away to take a critical call.

14. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Medical Director Dr. Teimoori reported that in addition to the service data, he provided some information about current stats of mental health, which show the services that we provide really matters; and thanked the Board for its support by addressing the shortage of staff.

15. RIMMI HUNDAL, DIRECTOR OF MHSA AND ETHNIC SERVICES REPORT

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal announced that March is women's history month and is celebrated with the goal of highlighting achievements and contributions made by women in a variety of fields and who have changed the world in so many different ways; that Tri-City's various advisory councils have taken time to address women that have made history in their culture; that a few months ago the Board approved the Diversity Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Coordinator position and reported that Andrea Espinosa had been hired for the position, noting that she comes with a lot of experience, that she is a first generation college student, and that she has a passion for working with unserved and underserved populations. She then reported that she sent the Board an email this week with a link to the MHSA Annual Update and the new Innovation Project, which have been posted online for a 30-day public comment period; that the MHSA public hearing will take place during the next Mental Health Commission meeting; and if approved, it will be presented to Board at its April 20th meeting for its approval and adoption, noting that the Innovation Plan will required further approval from the Mental Health Oversight and Accountability Commission; and that the goal is to get on their agenda before the end of June start the implementation process in July. She also reported that it is the season for Tri-City's Community Wellbeing grants; that the applications are due by April 1st via email which will be reviewed by a panel of Community Members and staff; that after the review process, applicants will be invited to participate in an interview process on May 11th and 12th. Lastly, she said that we are in the middle of Green Ribbon Week, and this year's theme is #TalkToHeal, pointing out that the goal is always to eliminate stigma so people can come in for services and not be shy about talking about mental health or mental illness.

16. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER REPORT

Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart reported that in Best Practices, staff continue to place more focus on preparing for the implementations of both the Electronic Health Record transition, and the next phases for the CalAIM requirements, which are both set to be implemented around July this summer; that that these two combined changes are very significant in terms of the planning that is going into the learning that will need to be acquired by Tri-City staff and the significant changes to the workflow; that although it is anticipated that these changes will be beneficial for staff in terms of making their work easier, it will also expedite our ability to see and document our services for our clients; that staff is taking into consideration the significance of these changes and are very mindful in how we are approaching all phases of these implementations in light of our current staff challenges. She then reported that, in terms of specific best practice and compliance protocols, staff is making sure to keep things very steady and current existing structure, avoiding adding new projects, and also pulling back on non-essential changes on projects in order to give enough space, enough time, and attention to these two large implementations; and indicated that she will provide more information within the next few months on the key details related to CalAIM policy and documentation, which also encompasses how we approached the quality of our documentation and how auditing will be done.

17. KEN RIOMALES, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER REPORT

Chief Information Officer Riomales stated that in addition to basic operational updates provided on his monthly report, he will provide a status of the Cerner implementation, and reported that staff is now moving forward into the next major milestone of 'super user' training, which is the first level of training that Tri-City staff will be receiving to become somewhat subject matter experts on

the Program in the agency moving forward; and that training for the agency as a whole will occur approximately in two weeks from now, followed by our 'end user' training beginning in the month of May. He also stated that he previously reported that staff would be utilizing a 'train the trainer' approach, which would utilize super users to conduct the training; however, after consulting with various key stakeholders and further analysis, it was determined that it would not be the most conducive a strategy to deploy due to our current staffing; and that instead, a centralized training approach will be utilized; and he, along with Natalie Majors-Stewart, and other various key stakeholders, are currently in the planning phases of that; that he will provide an update in the coming months along those lines; and that staff is preparing questions and coordinating efforts so that we can get clarity from LACDMH regarding our requirements for IT interoperability, a key function that we are looking to explore and make sure that we are fully compliant on, pointing out that anecdotally our functionality should make Tri-City compliant with any kind of interoperability requirements; however, staff still wants a definitive clarification to make sure that in fact it will satisfy all of our needs.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment; and there was no public comment.

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

GOVERNING BOARD COMMENTS

Board Member Vera announced that NAMI –National Alliance on Mental Illness- has an annual fundraiser, NAMI Walk, scheduled for Saturday, May 21st; and noted that in the past Tri-City has had its executive director and staff volunteer as marshals and stated that it would be nice to have Tri-City staff involved again this year and explore the possibility of Tri-City being a fiscal sponsor for the Walk.

Jed Leano directed staff to coordinate the scheduling of a Special meeting of the Governing Board for the purpose of adopting a resolution to conduct virtual meetings.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:15 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board its meeting of March 16, 2022 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, April 20, 2022 at 5:00 p.m., via teleconference pursuant to Government Code § 54953.



Micaela P. Olmo, JPA Administrator/Clerk