



MINUTES

GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING MAY 18, 2022 – 5:00 P.M.

The Governing Board and the Mental Health Commission held on Wednesday, May 18, 2022 at 5:01 p.m. its Regular Joint 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 5:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL Roll call was taken by JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos.

GOVERNING BOARD

PRESENT: Jed Leano, City of Claremont, Chair
Robin Carder, City of La Verne, Vice-Chair
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member
John Nolte, City of Pomona, Board Member
Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member
Ronald T. Vera, City of Claremont, Board Member (joined at 5:03 p.m.)

ABSENT: None.

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

PRESENT: Anne Henderson, Chair
Wray Ryback, Vice-Chair
Carolyn Cockrell, GB Member Liaison
Joan M. Reyes
Twila L. Stephens
Alfonso "Al" Villanueva
Toni L. Watson (joined at 5:16 p.m.)

ABSENT: Clarence D. Cernal
Isabella A. Chavez
Nichole Perry
David J. Weldon

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
Kitha Torregano, HR Manager
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

PRESENTATION

Chair Leano announced that a film called “*Monsters of Mental Health*”, which will be the subject of an award given at Mountain View Elementary on Tuesday the 24th; will be presented today.

The film “*Monsters Of Mental Health*” was shown, which was produced by Emma Pineda, Ella Castro, Madison Mendez, Avery Kurera, and Cianna Sanchez, students of Mountain View Elementary in the Claremont Unified School District; under the Category “Walk In Our Shoes.”

Chair Leano stated that he was really proud to have Madison Mendez join this meeting, and congratulated her on her award winning film.

Board Member Ontiveros-Cole indicated that she is a Pomona Council Member representing District Four, and congratulated Madison Mendez and commend her for making a video that is very important because there are a lot of kids that are going through anxiety, especially post COVID, pointing out that this is a wonderful way to help other students and thanked her for the video.

Board Member Cockrell stated she was an elementary school counselor in the Benita School District, and inquired if the film will be available to be utilized for our student population.

Madison Mendez indicated that the film could be found in the ‘Directing Change’ website.

Chief Information Officer Riomales placed the video link on the chat for anybody wishing to look at it later on.

Discussion ensued regarding the development and production of this video.

Board Member Vera concurred that this is very important video for our schools and encouraged that it be shared with other schools in our area that we serve; and thanked Madison Mendez and her fellow students for doing this.

Vice-Chair Carder commended Madison Mendez for being brave by producing this video because it takes a lot for us to step forward with our thoughts and how we are feeling, and noted that by she doing this, she will change the lives of many other students her own age. She then stated that she is also the Chair of a youth and family organization in La Verne, and inquired if she can also share the video with them to reach out to High School and Middle School students, and thanked her for putting herself out there and letting us see this video.

MHC Chair Henderson thanked Madison Mendez for a wonderful video, noting that we can promote the use of the video with our various groups in Pomona’ Promise and throughout.

Board Member Nolte thanked Madison Mendez for the video, and pointed out that the Board has control over a lot of the services and funding that goes for mental health in this region, and asked Madison if she could share one thing that she thinks the Board is not aware about mental health in persons her age.

Madison Mendez shared that a lot of kids her age, including her, sometimes hide stuff and will say that they are fine when they are not.

Board Member Nolte stated that her video brought that up quite a bit, thanked her, and also expressed appreciation for her doing that.

At 5:13 p.m., Commissioner Twila Stephens joined the meeting.

MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 12, 2022

There being no comment, Vice-Chair Ryback moved, and Commissioner Reyes seconded, to approve the Minutes of the April 12, 2022 Mental Health Commission Regular Meeting. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Board Member Liaison Cockrell; Commissioners Reyes, Stephens; Vice-Chair Ryback; and Chair Henderson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Commissioner Villanueva. ABSENT: Commissioners Cernal, Chavez, Perry, Weldon, and Watson.

CONSENT CALENDAR - GOVERNING BOARD

Chair Leano pulled Agenda Item No. 3, the Minutes of April 20th; which will be brought forth for approval at the Governing Board Meeting in June. He then opened the meeting for public comment. Gilbert Saldate congratulated Rimmi Hundal on her new position.

At 5:16 p.m., Commissioner Tony Watson joined the meeting.

There being no further comment, Vice-Chair Carder moved, and Board Member Nolte seconded, to approve the Consent Calendar. The motion was carried by the following vote, with Board Member Lantz abstaining from approval of Items Nos. 4 and 5: AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, Nolte, Ontiveros-Cole, and Vera; Vice-Chair Carder; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: None.

2. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 653 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. 653 finding and declaring that it 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.”

AGENDA ITEM NO. 3 WAS PULLED FROM THE AGENDA.

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE APRIL 26, 2022 GOVERNING BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Special Meeting of April 26, 2022.”

5. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE MAY 3, 2022 GOVERNING BOARD SPECIAL MEETING

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Special Meeting of May 3, 2022.”

6. APPROVAL FOR THE E-RECYCLING OF OBSOLETE OR DAMAGED I.T. EQUIPMENT

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the e-recycling of the obsolete or damaged I.T. equipment as listed on the I.T. Equipment List for Disposal-May 2022.”

CONTINUED BUSINESS – GOVERNING BOARD

7. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 654 AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE FIRST AMENDMENT TO THE AUDITING SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH EIDE BAILLY THROUGH FISCAL YEARS ENDING JUNE 30, 2022, AND 2023, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$36,428 PER YEAR, RESPECTIVELY

Chief Financial Officer Acosta stated that at its last month’s meeting the Governing Board authorized management to extend the agreement with our existing audit firm Eide Bailly for auditing services for an additional two years; and that accordingly, staff is recommending that the Governing Board authorize the Interim Executive Director to execute the Amendment.

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

There being no further comment, Board Member Vera moved, and Board Member Cockrell seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 654, authorizing the Interim Executive Director to execute the First Amendment to the Agreement with Eide Bailly, LLP through Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2023. 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.

NEW BUSINESS – GOVERNING BOARD

8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 655 AUTHORIZING AN EMPLOYMENT AGREEMENT WITH RIMMI HUNDAL FOR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR POSITION WITH AN ANNUAL BASE SALARY OF \$243,895.69 EFFECTIVE MAY 30, 2022

Interim Executive Director Duff reported that during the last six months, Tri-City conducted a very extensive search for the next executive director of Tri-City Mental Health Authority; that it was and

exhaustive process in which input was received the public, stakeholders, Tri-City staff and executive team, the Mental Health Commission, and the Governing Board Members; that the search was quite extensive and after two rounds of interviews by the Governing Board, Rimmi Hundal was selected as the next Executive Director; that the proposed employment contract has been negotiated for the Board's consideration.

Tri-City Counsel Pieper stated that the agreement is virtually identical to the agreement with the prior executive director, except for the compensation figures, the dates and times.

Vice-Chair Carder pointed out that that the signature block needed to be updated to reflect Board Chair Leano, and to include new Tri-City's logo; however, the content is correct.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment.

Dana Barford, Tri-City's MHS Projects Manager, congratulated Rimmi Hundal, noting that she has known her for 20 years and that she was her supervisor; and expressed excitement to see how she has come along, and being a very consistent presence, demonstrating respect for staff and very encouraging ideas from everyone, and said that she is optimistic and looking forward to where the agencies going to go.

Gilbert Saldate congratulated Rimmi Hundal and congratulated the Governing Board for its very wise decision, noting that he is looking forward to hearing a lot of great things from Tri-City.

Board Member Vera echoed Interim Executive Director Duff's comments and stated that he is very confident that Rimmi Hundal is the right person for this agency at this time. He then said he wants to meet with her to promote Tri-City to Pomona Valley Hospital and other healthcare leaders in this community, and to introduced her to the City of Claremont as the Community representative, and extended his best wishes to her.

MHC Vice-Chair Ryback congratulated Rimmi Hundal and shared that the recruiting firm took their feedback into consideration, noting that she could not be happier for her our community.

Christina Vera, on behalf of NAMI Pomona Valley, congratulated Rimmi Hundal, all of Tri-City, and the new leadership; and stated that she looks forward to the continued good practices and to the evolution of new and emergency practices.

Chair Leano thanked all of his Board Member colleagues for an outstanding process, pointing out that everyone worked really hard in vetting the entire pool of applicants; that because they put in so much energy and investment in the vetting of the applicant pool, he has absolutely no doubt that the person selected as our executive director is the right person to lead this agency; and congratulated Rimmi Hundal, stating that he is looking forward to working with her.

JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos reported that several staff extended their congratulations in the chat room to new Executive Director Rimmi Hundal.

There being no further comment, Board Member Lantz moved, and Vice-Chair Carder seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 655 authorizing the Employment Agreement with Rimmi Hundal for Executive Director position with a base salary of \$243,895.69 beginning May 30, 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.

Rimmi Hundal expressed that she was truly honored to be where she is today, and thanked the Governing Board for its support and promised that she will serve our communities with her full dedication and hard work.

9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 656 AUTHORIZING CONSULTANT AGREEMENT WITH JESSE H. DUFF FOR TEMPORARY, LIMITED TERM MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT OF \$22,144

Interim Executive Director Duff reported that the Governing Board had expressed an interest in having him stay to ensure there is a seamless and smooth transition with Rimmi Hundal as the new executive director; that he is proud to do that; and that the agreement is for two additional months beginning on May 30th through the end of July, wherein he will be in the office two days per week.

Vice-Chair Carder shared that she has known Mr. Duff for a long time; that he has been a wonderful city manager and continues to serve as an interim for a lot of our cities; that she is thrilled that he is willing to stay and guide Rimmi Hundal. She then shared his personal attributes that are helpful to our organization.

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal shared that she was recruited by Jesse Duff for the job she previously had; that he has served as her mentor throughout the years; that she has learned so much from him; that she is looking forward to continuing to work with him; and thanked him for staying on.

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

Chair Leano thanked Mr. Duff for leading the Governing Board through the transition; that Mr. Duff was given a deadline, he met it and delivered, pointing out that he did a fantastic job guiding the Board through it.

There being no further comment, Board Member Nolte moved, and Board Member Vera seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 656 authorizing the First Amendment to the Agreement with Jesse H. Duff for temporary, limited term management services in the approximate amount of \$22,144. 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. 657 AUTHORIZING THE INTERIM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE AN ADDENDUM TO THE SOFTWARE SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH WELLIGENT FOR ONE-YEAR FOR AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED OF \$115,266 EFFECTIVE JUNE 18, 2022

Chief Information Officer Riomales reported that Tri-City is currently underway with the EHR implementation, noting that there are very few projects that are larger or more impactful than an enterprise EHR or implementation for any organization; that during our process of implementing this new product, there are many things for consideration and one being considering is

maintaining our continuum of care and our ability to serve the needs of our clients; that during this time, extending our Welligent contract will allow us to maintain that level of service, avoid the risk of not having the historical data or accessibility to properly document our clients during our implementation, and prevent having the inability to provide appropriate services because of lack of documentation; and that staff is asking for the approval to extend the agreement with Welligent to give us the ability to be more feasible with our documentation.

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. 657 authorizing the Interim Executive Director to execute an Addendum to the Software Services Agreement with Welligent in the approximate amount of \$115,266 for one year effective June 18, 2021. 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 we are making headway with adding staff, as there were seven new hires and three separations in April; and that we are trending in the right direction, and expressed being hopeful that it is going to get better in the months ahead.

12. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Acosta reported that the finance department is currently heavily involved in assisting and supporting the implementation of the new Electronic Health Record; and that they were working also on the budget and preparing for the financial audit.

Board Member Vera referred to the CalAIM update included in the monthly report and inquired if she was able to see other costs surveys that other counties have submitted to the State as a compass, to find out whether we are in the range when this new billing program is in operation in January.

Chief Financial Officer Acosta replied in the negative, noting that we do not have access to that information; however, staff has asked that they provide additional information; that at this time there are more questions than answers; and that staff is continuing to engage in all of the monthly meetings to find out if there are any additional updates.

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal shared that the CBHDA is collecting the rates from all the counties and they are going to compile a report together and then advocate on behalf of the counties.

13. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria shared that in response to the news that are coming out, we are expecting more youth and young adults to experience mental health issues; that as a result of the pandemic, we engage our staff in a training module called the transition towards independence

program or process which is as a way to learn techniques to engage youth and young adults in their mental health care and to help them with future's planning about becoming successful while transitioning to adults; that approximately 50 of our staff members were trained in the first part of that program in April; that the second part of the training will occur in June; that the feedback from staff is it's been very helpful; that we continue to trend in a positive direction for staffing, and it is anticipated that we will have a full staff roster in the summer and be able to continue the higher level of care that we have been providing prior to the staffing issues we experienced during the pandemic.

14. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Medical Director Dr. Teimoori reported that he provided data on the services provided during the month of April and was happy to answer any questions about said data.

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

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal announced that May is mental health awareness month and AAPI (Asian American Pacific Islander) Heritage month. She then talked about the CARES Court and its impact on Tri-City which includes sustainable funding; staffing shortage, sanctions, and the lack of housing availability; she explained that counties had hoped that the governor would have some implementation funding at its May revised budget; unfortunately, that did not happen; that there is staffing shortages around the state in mental health; that the lack of available housing is an impact because housing is a part of CARE Court; and there will be sanctions if we are unable to provide the care within the time limit that is provided to us, noting that the requirement is two weeks for engagement in treatment and sometimes it takes us longer than two weeks to engage a client to come into treatment or even to talk to us; that CBHDA is advocating on behalf of counties for the State to take the sanctions away because it is \$1 million per day which is a high amount; that there is more information to come and she will keep the Board posted. She then provided the history of how and when AAPI heritage month was adopted; reported that the Native American Council is under development; that ADELANTE! hosted a webinar for targeting monolingual Spanish speakers and supporting reducing stigma in the Latin community; that for mental health awareness month of the stigma reduction campaign did various events in the Community in various schools and colleges and community locations; and that the Wellness Center hosted another job fair.

MHC Vice-Chair Ryback sought clarification regarding the CARE Court. Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal stated that it is a proposed framework, but it is not going to be a part of legislation, rather it will be included in the Governor's may revise budget, pointing out that if the budget is approved, then the CARE Court will get approved with the budget; that there is no funding for mental health because there is an assumption that counties have enough money to implement this; that under CARE Court, Tri-City will be also required to take care of privately insured clients, without the ability to get reimbursed from private insurances; and that it has not been much talk about it because it has moved so fast within the last month. MHC Vice-Chair Ryback commented that it seems like a heavy lift under this framework. Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Hundal concurred.

Board Member Vera commented that MHC Vice-Chair Ryback plays an important role model in the Pomona Valley Hospital, and they both will have to follow up when this rolls out because it is going to have a huge impact you at the emergency department.

16. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER REPORT

Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart started that in this month's report, she wanted to more clearly demonstrate how compliance and quality are interconnected with the EHR project; that she wanted to illustrate how the best practice team is working to build the framework for the future on how compliance and quality will be upheld with every data element and every piece of documentation action that is entered by staff; that it will go from the point of service requests through discharge and every action in between, and also from the point of service to the point of service claim, which is how we get our funding; that she will be providing in the near future a reintroduction and overview of the best practices division and how quality and compliance have evolved over the years.

17. KEN RIOMALES, CHIEF INFORMATION OFFICER REPORT

Chief Information Officer Riomales stated that the framework, or the target, with regards to interoperability and data exchange as it relates to CalAIM and other related programs, is starting to take a little shape as far as Tri-City is concerned and we are getting a better sense of what our capabilities and requirements are going to be, noting that we may be the beneficiaries of not qualifying for one of the aspects of data exchange; however, there is still a lot of work being done, and a lot of discussion underway on a State level to finalize the ruling around data exchange; that Tri-City should be compliant based on the preliminary information that has been shared; and that a final update will be provided when it is confirmed what will be required of us.

Vice-Chair Carder expressed happiness for Mr. Riomales being part of Tri-City staff and having a part of our meetings, noting that he keeps the meetings run smoothly with the calls and who has their 'hands' raised, since Mica has got so much going on such as taking Minutes; and expressed appreciation for what he has done; she then inquired how can she view the video presented earlier.

Chief Information Riomales indicated that he placed the link in the chat room and will place it again so that it is in the forefront.

Chair Leano asked JPA Administrator/Olmos to share the video link via email with the Board and the Commission.

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 receive and file the month of May 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: None.

GOVERNING BOARD / MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION COMMENTS

Vice-Chair Carder congratulated Rimmi Hundal for being selected Tri-City's Executive Director, noting that over the last 13 years, she has watched Ms. Hundal grow and grow; expressed appreciation for Ms. Hundal always answering questions with a smile; and commented that she is especially happy and content that her very last major action as a board member was hiring Ms. Hundal as Executive Director.

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Hundal thanked Vice-Chair Carder for her comments and reiterated that she is truly honored to be here; and that she will continue to do the work that she has done in the last 13 and a half years.

Commissioner Reyes reported that public housing waiting list for older adults is open until June 30th offered by the county development authority for persons over the age of 62, and more information is at lacda.org; that she is a member of the institutional review Board for Pacific Clinics and it merged with Uplift family services, will be covering 17 counties and it will be the largest community health agency in California; and that in the last month's MHC Minutes it was written that Faith plays an important role in many of our clients lives, thus, she shared an article in the LA Times dated May 14th, titled "Patron Saint of Mental Health Is having a Renaissance."

Board Member Nolte congratulated Rimmi Hundal and echoed everyone's comments; and stated that she can be confident that she build a real competitive field; and that he is confident that she is the right person for the job and he looks forward to that. He then inquired when it would be Vice-Chair Carder's last day serving on the Governing Board.

Vice-Chair Carder it will be June or possibly July if the election is certified at the end of July.

Board Member Vera commended Commissioner Reyes for helping clean up.

Commissioner Reyes thanked Board Member Vera for his comment, noting that she tries to do it clandestinely.

Board Member Vera inquired if there is a possibility to hold the June meeting in-person.

Tri-City Counsel Pieper stated that the Governing Board cannot make a decision at this time; however, the Chair and the Executive director can decide whether or not the meeting is virtual or in-person.

Interim Executive Director Duff reported that as a health care agency, Tri-City is governed by CalOSHA, which its directives may be different from what the cities are required to comply with; and noted that protocols for the coronavirus are under review and that this time we are not in a position to go to in-person meetings.

Chair Leano directed staff to find out if there anything prohibiting Tri-City from conducting the meeting at one of our member agencies facilities, like a Community Center or City Hall.

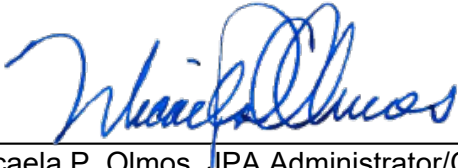
Tri-City Counsel Pieper indicated that the only limitation is that it has to be within one of the three cities.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Christina Vera stated that she appreciates rules and regulations, but when it comes to celebrating the transition to new leadership for Rimmi Hundal, she encouraged the Board Members and the Commission to celebrate in-person.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:08 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board and Mental Health Commission, its Joint Meeting of May 18, 2022 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, June 14, 2022 at 3:30 p.m. via teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic, pursuant to Government Code § 54953. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, June 15, 2022 at 5:00 p.m., via teleconference due to the COVID-19 pandemic, pursuant to Government Code § 54953.



Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk