



MINUTES

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

The Governing Board held on Wednesday, November 16, 2022 at 5:03 p.m. a 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 5:03 p.m.

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

GOVERNING BOARD

PRESENT: Jed Leano, City of Claremont, Chair
John Nolte, City of Pomona, Vice-Chair
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member (joined at 5:11 pm)
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member
Wendy Lau, City of La Verne, Board Member
Benita DeFrank, City of Pomona, Alternate Board Member

ABSENT: Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member
Ronald T. Vera, City of Claremont, Board Member

STAFF

PRESENT: Rimmi Hundal, Executive Director
Darold Pieper, General Counsel
Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer
Liz Renteria, Chief Clinical Officer
Seeyam Teimoori, Medical Director
Dana Barford, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Chief Compliance Officer
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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

1. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 680 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. 680 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 Executive Director, or her designee, to continue utilizing teleconferencing accessibility to conduct the Authority’s public meetings pursuant to Government Code § 54953.”

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE OCTOBER 19, 2022 GOVERNING BOARD regular MEETING

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Regular Meeting of October 19, 2022.”

3. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 681 ADOPTING TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY’S PUBLISHED RATES EFFECTIVE FY 2021-22

Recommendation: “A motion to adopt Resolution No. 681 establishing Tri-City’s Published Rates effective Fiscal Year 2021-22.”

NEW BUSINESS

4. REVIEW OF THE ISSUANCE OF THE AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 2022

Chief Financial Officer Acosta introduced Kinnaly Soukhaseum, Auditor Partner at EideBailly, to present the annual independent audit of Tri-City’s Financial Statements.

Kinnaly Soukhaseum reported that EideBailly had completed its audit for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2022; and discussed their responsibility under Generally Accepted Auditing Standards and the results of their audit. She indicated that their scope of the audit was to provide an opinion on Tri-City’s Financial Statements and have issued an unmodified opinion, in other words a clean opinion, which is the highest level of assurance over Tri-City’s Financial Statements as part of their financial statement audit. She explained that they considered Tri-City’s internal controls in their audit procedures to gain reasonable, but not absolute assurance, over the financial statements; they perform tests of compliance with laws, regulations, contracts, those which could have a direct and material effect on the determination of the financial statement amounts; they reviewed the required supplementary information to ensure that the amounts contained in those sections are consistent with the information that is presented in the basic financial statements. She also said that the significant accounting policies used by Tri-City are disclosed in Notes to the Financial Statements, noting that a new accounting statement that was implemented in the current year, GASB Statement No. 87, also known as ‘Leases’; that prior to the implementation of this Statement, Leases were classified as either operating and capital, and there were roles on whether to present these Leases into the Financial Statements or not; however, now all of those roles have been removed and now the Leases are required to be presented on the Financial Statements as either an asset or a liability, stating that Management’s estimates were used to prepare the financial statements. She also said that the most sensitive estimates affecting the

financial statements relate to third party payer settlements; the amounts related to Tri-City's pension liability; and amounts related to the inflows and outflows of resources, related to the Net Pension Liability; that these estimates are sensitive to the underlying actuarial assumptions used, including the discount rate, the investment rate of return, and also management's estimate of future disallowances for these third party pay or settlements for the pension amounts; and that a one-percent increase or one-percent decrease to that discount rate could have a material effect to the net pension liability calculation. She also reported that they did not have difficulties or disagreements with management and staff during the course of the audit; that they did not have consultations with any outside accounting firms.

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

There being no further comment, Vice-Chair Nolte moved, and Board Member Lau seconded, to accept and file the final issued audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year ended June 30, 2022. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member DeFrank; Board Members Lantz and Lau; Vice-Chair Nolte; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Cockrell, Ontiveros-Cole, and Vera.

At 5:11 p.m., Board Member Carolyn Cockrell joined the meeting.

5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 682 AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE PEABODY COMMUNICATIONS FOR WRITING SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000; AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria stated that in March, 2022, Tri-City received a grant to do a planning grant for a Mobile Crisis Unit to be implemented in the next year for the three cities of Pomona, Claremont, and La Verne. She explained that part of the grant funding, there is money allocated to be spent with vendors to assist us with the planning process; that staff is asking the Board to consider approving a contract with Peabody Communications to assist staff in developing the various policies, protocols, and workflows, which will be in compliance with both State and Federal regulations, and rules regarding mobile crisis units, and be able to implement Tri-City's mobile crisis program.

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

There being no further discussion, Board Member Lantz moved, and Vice-Chair Nolte seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 682 authorizing the Executive Director to execute an Agreement with Peabody Communications for policy, procedure, and task flows writing services in an amount not to exceed \$50,000.00, effective November 16, 2022. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member DeFrank; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Lau; Vice-Chair Nolte; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole, and Vera.

6. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 683 AUTHORIZING AN AGREEMENT WITH SISSON DESIGN GROUP FOR REMODELING CONSTRUCTION SERVICES IN AN AMOUNT OF \$30,000 AT PROPERTY LOCATED AT 2001 N. GAREY IN POMONA; AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AGREEMENT

Chief Financial Officer Acosta stated that staff had introduced the project to the Governing Board and to our stakeholders back in March 2020, during the last Board meeting in-person before shutdown due to the pandemic; therefore, there was a long pause, and now have gone through the process and these consultants have prepared an official design, and now will manage the construction portion of the project; and that staff was asking for the Governing Board to approve the contract to move forward with this project.

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

There being no further discussion, Alternate Board Member DeFrank moved, and Board Member Lantz seconded, to adopt Resolution No. 683 authorizing the Executive Director to execute an Agreement with Sisson Design Group for Remodeling Construction Services for \$30,000 at MHSA Building located at 2001 N. Garey in Pomona, effective November 16, 2022. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Alternate Board Member DeFrank; Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Lau; Vice-Chair Nolte; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Ontiveros-Cole, and Vera.

MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS

7. RIMMI HUNDAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Hundal reported that the grand opening of the Genoa Pharmacy, located at 2008 N. Garey, had a ribbon cutting ceremony on Tuesday, October 25th at noon, followed by lunch for staff, clients, and anybody that was in the facility; that the ribbon cutting was done by City of Claremont Mayor, and Board Chair, Jed Leano; that also in attendance was Commissioner Joan Reyes, a representative from Supervisor Hilda Solis' office. She explained that the vision behind the pharmacy is to help improve client outcomes, increase access, and also adherence to prescribe drug therapy regimens and create efficiencies in the healthcare delivery model. She then talked about new hires, noting that the momentum is increasing on the hiring, and we are experiencing a lower turnover rate than we have in the past month, and expressed excitement for having more people interested in applying for jobs at Tri-City.

Chair Leano stated that it is good to see that we are filling some vacancies; that he is aware that we are aggressively pursuing personnel; and inquired about the status in recruiting efforts, and what specific areas we are seeing the most action in terms of recruitment. Executive Director Hundal replied that the most action in recruiting is in the clinical department, pointing out that most of the positions that have been posted are mainly clinical staff, noting that it is unique to Tri-City and that it is happening everywhere in the in the State and in the country, with the shortage of mental health workers.

8. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Acosta stated that with the presentation of EideBailly, Tri-City's audit of its Financial Statements is now complete; that the new Accounting Standard requires us to now record our Leases on the face of our financial statements, which it is highlighted on page two of her report; that on page three, she provided an update on CalAIM and indicated that staff still does not know what the rates are going to look like, but will hopefully find out at the next meeting with CBHDA on Monday; and that on page seven lists the two remaining projects that we have:

1) the Garden Project, and 2) the remodel of the administrative building at 2001 Garey Avenue, which contract was just approved to move forward with this project.

9. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported that Tri-City's children's clinical department is almost completely staffed, noting that this has never been the case even prior to the pandemic; thus, we should see an improvement and wait times for children and families. She noted however, that we do continue to see an increase in people wanting services, so staff is also mitigating that piece which is a little challenging as we continue to have more need. She also reported that staff is also making progress in the recruitment for adult clinic as well; and staff will be making some progress on being able to track clients more efficiently and develop some workflows as we get to learn the Cerner system.

Board Member Lantz asked to elaborate a little bit on the system and the effect on policies and procedures, noting that it was her understanding that it was a new method of recording medical records, as opposed to a system that creates an extra step in terms of intake or tracking hospitalizations. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria replied in the affirmative that it is a new way to record medical documents; that staff is just learning to do it more efficiently, since there is a natural learning curve which caused a little bit of a delay when learning a new software; but after this learning curve, staff is becoming more efficient with the tool, noting that she did not mean that it created additional steps; that it was a slow time for the staff as they were learning this new software system.

10. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Medical Director Teimoori reported that looking at all the options that we have to improve the overall health of our clients, and one of the main principle that we have been trying to implement, and we have been actually implementing it, is the life assignments in which is a newer concept in medicine and mostly it was unknown for preventing disease; that now it is moving toward even treating disease; that about two years ago they were provided with some references for some medicine which was the first textbook in the life assignments to all doctors, and since then we have been constantly having discussions, and not just about educating, but about applying this information to whatever they think is practical for clients in terms of their budget and their preferences of level of activity.

11. DANA BARFORD, DIRECTOR OF MHSA AND ETHNIC SERVICES REPORT

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford stated that there were three open positions in the Navigator Program and two offers have been sent this week; that one offer has been accepted, and the other one is pending; that she hopes it will be fully staffed soon. She then reported that that Henri Mascorro, a Native American Indian, will host a presentation scheduled for staff tomorrow, which will fulfill part of staff's requirements for two cultural competence trainings required annually, noting that she will bring artifacts and the dancing, and everything that all these aspects that has a strong connection with the native American community. She expressed excitement for the opportunity that this presents in engaging this population, and for us to learn more to be able to improve our services as well.

Board Member Lantz commented that Henri Mascorro lives in La Verne, and is a local Native American and it is really nice to have that kind of connection, noting that she has known her and her family for a long time.

12. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER REPORT

Chief Compliance Officer Majors-Stewart provided an overview of the Cerner post 'Go live' health check that staff went through at the end of last month; she indicated that staff reviewed every aspect of the system to make sure it was functioning; that now they focus more on system functioning than workflow, but there was some overlap in workflows; that staff identified pretty much what is green light, yellow light, and red light, what we are clear on what we can strengthen; that there are some outstanding items, yellow things that they need to circle back around that were identified during the health check, which are primarily related to reports and recording functions, noting that staff has continued to work on them to make sure that we can resolve these elements. She indicated that staff anticipates that they will be fully resolved and do not anticipate that it will be a stopping point; and that she will provide an update to the Board if there is any relevant update.

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

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

GOVERNING BOARD COMMENTS

There was no Governing Board comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

CLOSED SESSION

At 5:37 p.m., the Governing Board recessed to a Closed Session pursuant to Conference With Legal Counsel – Existing Litigation (Gov't Code § 54956.9); Patricia Kears v. Tri City Mental Health Authority, Warkitha Torregano, et al.; Case Number: 21PSCV00953; Venue: Los Angeles Superior Court.

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

At 6:40 p.m., the Governing Board reconvened to an Open Session.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

Chair Leano reported that the Governing Board has directed staff, and authorized, the use of a consultant for litigation related matters.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:41 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board its meeting of November 16, 2022 was adjourned. The Governing Board will meet next in a Regular Joint Meeting with the Mental Health Commission to be held on Wednesday, December 21, 2022 at 5:00 p.m., via teleconference pursuant to Government Code §54953.



Micaela P. Olmos, PA Administrator/Clerk

