



MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING OF THE GOVERNING BOARD SEPTEMBER 20, 2023 – 5:00 P.M.

The Governing Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, September 20, 2023 at 5:00 p.m. in the MHSA Office located at 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

CALL TO ORDER Chair Leano called the meeting to order at 5:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL Roll call was taken by Administrative Assistant Musa.

GOVERNING BOARD

PRESENT: Jed Leano, City of Claremont, Chair
Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member
Meshal "Kash" Kashifalghita, City of La Verne, Alternate Board Member
Benita Castellano-DeFrank, City of Pomona, Alternate Board Member
Ronald T. Vera, City of Claremont, Board Member

ABSENT: John Nolte, City of Claremont, Alternate Vice-Chair
Wendy Lau, City of La Verne, Board Member
Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member

STAFF

PRESENT: Rimmi Hundal, Executive Director
Steven Flowers, General Counsel
Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Chief Compliance Officer
Elizabeth Renteria, Chief Clinical Officer
Seeyam Teimoori, Medical Director
Dana Barford, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services
Sophia Musa, Administrative Assistant at JPA Administrator/Clerk Office

PUBLIC COMMENT

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JULY 19, 2023 GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING**

General Counsel Flowers notified the Governing Board that the July Minutes were not completed due to absences, and that they will be available at the next meeting. Chair Leano responded in the affirmative.

NEW BUSINESS

2. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 720 APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO A LEGAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH LIEBERT CASSIDY-WHITMORE AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE SAME

Executive Director Hundal reported that on February 19, 2020, Tri-City Mental Health entered into an agreement with Liebert Cassidy-Whitmore (LCW) to provide professional consulting services, representational and legal services pertaining to employment regulation matters; that LCW is currently assisting TCMHA in a litigation matter; that there is a proposal to renew the agreement and to continue the agreement until June 30, 2025; that the legal fees of the agreement will be covered under attorney fees; that the budget has already been approved by the Board.

Board Member Vera arrived at 5:03 p.m.

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

Board Member Lantz moved, Board Member Kash seconded to adopt Resolution No. 720 approving an amendment to a legal services agreement with Liebert Cassidy-Whitmore and authorizing the executive director to execute the same. The motion was carried by the following vote, AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; Alternate Board Members "Kash" Kashifalghita and DeFrank; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Lau and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Nolte.

3. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 721 APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH LANGUAGE LINE SERVICES, INC. FOR LANGUAGE TRANSLATION AND INTERPRETATION SERVICES

Chief Compliance Officer Majors shared that TCMHA has worked with Language Line for the past several years; that staff is requesting and recommending that the contract with Language Line be updated, so that they can continue utilizing their interpretation services for clinical operations.

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

There being no further comment. Board Member Lantz moved, Board Member Cockrell seconded to adopt Resolution No. 721 approving an agreement with Language Line Services, Inc. for language translation and interpretation services. The motion was carried by the following vote, AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; Alternate Board Members "Kash" Kashifalghita and DeFrank; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Lau and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Nolte.

4. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 722 APPROVING AN AGREEMENT REGARDING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES WITH THE SCHOOL OF ARTS + ENTERPRISE

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria reported that this is an updated agreement between Tri-City Mental Health Authority and School of Arts and Enterprise to include their collaboration and access to resources, especially mental health services for their students; that it is an update of an ongoing contract.

Board Member Lantz inquired about the end date listed on the contract and why it is written that way if services are offered throughout the year. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria responded by stating that it is to coincide with the fiscal year. Discussion ensued and it was concluded that there will be no gaps in services; that the contract will be renewed before June of 2026; that there was a gap previously due an oversight in the agreement but there was no hindrance to the services provided. General Counselor Flowers explained that there is no money exchanged per the agreement; that it is a cooperative agreement, in which the schools provide the space for TCMHA to provide services in.

Board Member Lantz inquired about referrals that are received in July and what the process is for that. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria responded by stating that once a referral is received, staff evaluates what the best course of action is so that treatment continues.

Board Member Vera inquired about the funding for this program. Executive Director Hundal responded by stating that it is money from the State level and it is from the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission grant that TCMHA applied for.

There being no further comment. Board Member Cockrell moved, Board Member Vera seconded to adopt Resolution No. 722 approving an agreement regarding mental health services with the School of Arts + Enterprise. The motion was carried by the following vote, AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; Alternate Board Members "Kash" Kashifalghita and DeFrank; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Lau and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Nolte.

5. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 723 APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH THE BONITA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT REGARDING MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria Acosta reported that this agreement between Tri-City Mental Health Authority and Bonita Unified School District is to improve collaboration access, especially mental health services for students.

Chair Leano inquired about the end date of the agreement as shown in the staff report. General Counselor Flowers clarified that per the agreement, the end date is June 30, 2026. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria responded in the affirmative, stating that there is a typo on the staff report.

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

There being no further comment, Board Member Cockrell moved, Board Member Lantz seconded to adopt Resolution No. 723 approving an Agreement with the Bonita Unified School District regarding mental health services. The motion was carried by the following vote, AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; Alternate Board Members "Kash" Kashifalghita and DeFrank; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Lau and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Nolte.

6. APPROVAL AND ADOPTION OF THE INNOVATION PROJECT PROPOSAL, COMMUNITY PLANNING PROCESS FOR THE INNOVATION PROJECT(S) FROM FISCAL YEARS 2023-2024 TO 2025-2026

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford informed the Board that the plan was recently adopted by the Mental Health Commission; that Workforce, Education and Training Supervisor Colt will be presenting the new Innovation Project. She also introduced the new MHSA Projects Manager, Sarah Rodriguez.

Workforce Education and Training Supervisor Colt began by sharing about the path to the Community Planning Process Plan; that initially, the Restorative Practices for Improving Mental Health project was denied by the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (MHSOAC) due to a lack of stakeholder participation; that staff went back to the drawing board and held various workgroups between 2022 and 2023; that there was a decrease in stakeholder participation at each meeting; that it led to a lot of discussion about the lack of stakeholders and if it was possible to use Innovation funds for the Community Planning Process that is done every year. She explained that staff found out that funding could be added to the Community Planning Process and they began to build the project; that it is a three year project; that the plan will focus on embedding focus groups in the community to get feedback regarding mental health, Tri-City Mental Health Authority, and any services they may be interested in; that there will also be a focus to develop relationships with cultural brokers; that they would like to develop stronger peer involvement so that those who utilize services would participate in the stakeholder process. She explained that the goal is to glean feedback from all the focus groups to develop innovation ideas for future projects as well as inform decisions for the three-year plan, Annual Update, and Cultural Competency Plan; that they are requesting \$675,000 to spend across three years; that the goals for the community planning process are to increase community participation; that a lot of effort is being put forth to increase participation in the community; that they would like feedback from the target populations; that they want to know their awareness of mental health and services that TCMHA provides, the best way to reach them, the type of resources they need, any areas of concern; that they also want to gain a better understanding of the issues faced by persons with substance abuse disorders, as well as people experiencing homelessness. She mentioned that they also want to increase their marketing and communication through marketing materials and social media, since they know a lot of community members are on social media; that they would like to apply all the knowledge that is learned through the process to develop new ideas for the Innovation plan, the three-year plan and the annual updates. She shared the learning questions for the project that inquire about the effects of peer-led focus groups, peer involvement, longevity of peer involvement, in-person meetings, marketing strategies and more; that they would like to focus on the target populations which include anyone who lives, works or goes to school within the Tri-City Mental Health Authority area of La Verne, Pomona, Claremont, as well as peers and

clients, African American Adults and Youth, Spanish Speaking Adults and Youth, Asian American/Pacific Islander Adults, Older Adults, People experiencing homelessness and Substance Abuse Disorders, LGBTQ+, Transitioning Adolescent Youth and Adults, Family/Loved ones of persons served by Tri-City and Law Enforcement and First Responders.

Board Member Vera inquired about the inclusion of healthcare providers in the area. Executive Director Hundal responded by stating that the healthcare providers used to attend the meetings but have stopped coming since the COVID pandemic; that the goal is to reach out to them again in hopes that they will join the meetings again; another goal is to increase participation at Governing Board meetings and the Mental Health Commission meetings. Board Member Vera inquired about a master list containing the contact information of psychologists in the Tri-City Mental Health Authority area. Executive Director Hundal responded in the affirmative, stating that the Community Navigators have that information. Board Member Vera reiterated the goal of the project for clarification, stating that the project is to increase stakeholder outreach and participation. Executive Director Hundal responded in the affirmative and added that it is also to include stakeholders in future projects and plans as well. Board Member Vera asked if it was possible to incentive stakeholders in some way. Executive Director Hundal responded in the affirmative stating that it is possible through stipends such as a raffle or meals. Discussion ensued and it was concluded that medical professionals including dentists would be added to the target population list.

Workforce, Training and Education Supervisor Colt explained a breakdown of the budget for the project; that over the course of three years, the budget includes direct salaries for staff; that they would like to hire peer consultants who are local and familiar with the community; that it is someone who can help build the peer base; that they will also be hiring a marketing consultant; that they would like to provide stipends and meals as an incentive for those who participate in the stakeholder meetings; that supplies and transportation vouchers are also included in the budget, which totals out to \$675,000. Workforce Education and Training Supervisor Colt concluded by sharing a roadmap of how the project started and where it is going; that the Restorative Practices for Mental Health was denied in June 2021; that workgroups were held from 2022-2023; that the plan was drafted at the beginning of 2023, then it was sent to the Mental Health Services Oversight Accountability Commission for technical support and to make sure the project was on the right track; that they offered some input to add substance abuse disorder and homelessness to the plan; that the plan was sent to the TCMHA executive team for their review and input; that it went to the Mental Health Commission for approval and the final step before implementation is to get approval from the Governing Board. Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford clarified that it will be going to MHSOAC in October as well.

Board Member Vera inquired about the timeline for that process. Workforce Education and Training Supervisor Colt responded by informing him that it will go to the MHSOAC in October. Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford added that they have a consultant assisting with the plan and they are hoping it should be on the consent calendar.

Chair Leano inquired about the denial of the initial Restorative Mental Health Practices plan, asking if the stakeholder engagement will be around the Restorative Mental Health Practices again. Workforce Education and Training Supervisor Colt responded in the negative, stating that the project is to increase stakeholder engagement in the overall

community planning process. Executive Director Hundal added that at the time, the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission did not see how the initial plan would work in a mental health practice; that it was denied for that reason; that staff learned from the experience that it would be valuable to utilize the technical assistance provided by the MHSOAC from the beginning. Chair Leano inquired about the initial plan process for clarification. Discussion ensued and it was concluded that the new Innovation Project Proposal was an effort that started from the ground up after the initial denial; that the focus will now be to increase stakeholders and participation; that TCMHA staff will be mindful of community members and how to best implement their feedback. Alternate Board Member Kash inquired about the Innovation Project process. Discussion ensued and it was concluded that outside of financial incentives, it is important to bring stakeholders in who are passionate about mental health and want change; that other counties, such as Fresno and Orange county have successfully increased their stakeholder participation and it is possible for TCMHA as well.

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment.

MHSA Project Manager Rodriguez commented in support of the Innovation Project Proposal stating that the effort will be towards increasing stakeholder participation overall, including Board Meetings and Mental Health commission meetings, to get the feedback that represents the whole community.

Staff Member Sproul commented in support of the Innovation Project Proposal emphasizing the importance of peers and their role in the mental health and substance abuse recovery field; that she is highly motivated for the project and that it will make a great difference for the substance abuse and mental health gap.

A member of the public, LMilner, began to comment about a non-agenda related item. Chair Leano informed her that the comment must be regarding the Innovation Plan Proposal. The member of the public commented regarding stakeholder engagement; that she was a stakeholder for many years; that she felt like she was not being heard regarding budget allocations; that she does not feel that staff is doing what is best for the community members that suffer from mental illness.

Board Member Vera inquired about the staff member who will be taking the lead on the Innovation Plan Proposal Project. Executive Director Hundal responded by stating that MHSA Program Coordinator Paulina Ale will be taking the lead.

There being no further comment. Board Member Lantz moved, Board Member DeFrank seconded to approve and adoption of the Innovation Project Proposal, Community Planning Process for the Innovation Project(s) from Fiscal Years 2023-2024 to 2025-2026. The motion was carried by the following vote, AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; Alternate Board Members "Kash" Kashifalghita and DeFrank; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Lau and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Nolte.

7. APPROVAL OF TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY'S MEMBERSHIP IN CALIFORNIA BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DIRECTORS ASSOCIATION (CBHDA)

Executive Director Hundal explained that the California Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA) is a nonprofit association that provides leadership advocacy programs and support to the behavioral directors from California's 58 counties, the City of Berkeley, and Tri-City Mental Health Authority. She asked the Board if TCMHA can continue the partnership with CBHDA; that the yearly due is \$52,611; that the yearly fee would be covered under the Realignment and MHSA funds.

Board Member Kash inquired about the benefit of this membership. Executive Director Hundal responded by stating that with this membership TCMHA is able to stay aware and up to date with what is happening at the State level regarding mental health; that it is helpful when deciding which position to take on certain legislative processes; that there are many other committees that staff members participate in; that she will be attending a two-day meeting in the next couple days; that she will also be participating in a strategic planning meeting with other directors as well. Board Member Vera added that it is similar to the League of California Cities.

Board Member Vera inquired about the annual fee and if it is based on population. Executive Director Hundal responded in the affirmative, stating that it is a new formula.

There being no further comment. Board Member Vera moved, Board Member Kash seconded to approve Tri-City Mental Health Authority's membership in California Behavioral Health Directors Association (CBHDA). The motion was carried by the following vote, AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; Alternate Board Members "Kash" Kashifalghita and DeFrank; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Lau and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Nolte.

8. APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 724 ADOPTING A REVISED MASTER CLASSIFICATION AND SALARY SCHEDULE AND REVISED JOB DESCRIPTIONS FOR VARIOUS CLASSIFICATIONS INCLUDING DEPARTMENT HEADS AND THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Human Resources Manager Torregano explained that this item is the second half of the completion of the total classification and compensation survey that was conducted by the Board approved consultant, Koff and Associates. She shared the background information stating that in March of 2022, the Governing Board approved the split of the study into two parts; that the first part was for the difficult to recruit positions including the clinical therapists one and two, as well as the clinical supervisors, one and two; that the second half of the study represents about 70% of TCMHA staff. She shared that in the second half of the study, the consultants reviewed classifications and compensations in comparison to other agencies such as LA County, Orange County, Riverside county, city of Ontario, city of Covina, and city of Pomona; that within that study, Koff and associates found that approximately 20% of the 53 benchmark classifications were below marketing; that those classifications represent the program support assistants; that Koff and Associates also found that approximately 45% of the positions were actually above market, which represents the mental health specialists, clinical program managers and more; that about 32% of the positions at TCMHA are so unique that there was not a comparable at other agencies; that those positions represent the wellness advocates, community capacity organizers, quality improvement specialists, gardener, and crisis manager. Human Resources Manager Torregano continued to share that over the last

several weeks, HR and Finance staff have used this data to move the remaining classifications to the new Board approved six-step salary schedule, where the current clinical therapists and supervisors reside. She referred to the staff report and the attachments that have been prepared by staff for approval by the Board. Human Resources Manager Torregano reported that this is the first time Tri-City Mental Health Authority has ever done anything like this; that with the approval of the new salary structure and adjustments, TCMHA can continue to attract and retain qualified behavioral professionals in the future. She continued by thanking staff for their patience and diligence in participating in the surveys and referred to Finance staff to add any other details. Chief Financial Officer Acosta reiterated that this was brought to the Governing Board in March of 2022; that a decision was made to retain the clinical staff and clinical supervisors at that time; that they moved forward with the first half of the study and then retroactively paid those who remained with Tri-City during the study; that the dollar amounts represent an accumulation of dollars.

Board Member Vera inquired about minimum wage legislation and the effects of that on Tri-City Mental Health Authority. Executive Director Hundal responded by stating that CBHDA is constantly advocating for TCMHA at the state level; that there is money set aside at the state level for that; that most of the positions mentioned in the study are above minimum wage. Human Resources Manager Torregano added that the minimum wage increase happening at the state level in January has been accounted for.

Board Member Vera inquired if staff had captured all the costs associated with the increases including pension costs, sick leave, and etc. Chief Financial Officer Acosta responded in the affirmative stating that staff is still finalizing, which is why there is a range in the staff report.

Board Member Vera commented that at this workplace, they recognize the critical need for healthcare workers and to stay competitive they have created a policy to set the base level salary at 50% above the existing market rate at all times; that for those where is a critical need the threshold is at 75%; that it is something to keep in mind.

Board Member Vera commented regarding the Executive Director classification, stating that he would like to have the Board retain the level to change the Executive Director classification or job description, rather than having it set as a group.

Board Member Lantz commented about the costs in relation to the vacancies; that one of the reasons for this study is to fill the vacancies; that the vacancies could make up offsets at 1.5 million. Controller Bogle responded by adding that he neglected to include the split between the realignment side (27%) and the MHSA side (73%); that eventually those vacancies will not be there to cover the costs but on the realignment side, specialty mental health rates under CalAIM payment reform have been designed to help all County Behavioral health departments to recover set costs at market rates. Chief Financial Officer Acosta added that it was previously mentioned that MHSA would experience a significant influx this fiscal year; that TCMHA received a payment in August that was almost equal to a year's worth of MHSA dollars; that there are still three years to spend that money; that the influx of funds will help; that 73% of the employees that are being made whole will be covered by MHSA dollars. Discussion ensued and it was concluded that TCMHA can absorb most the vacancies since they are funded by MHSA; that staff needs to be a little more cautious on the realignment side even though there are less than 30% of the

positions covered by realignment; that next year's budget will be carefully evaluated in December depending on the projections, vacancies, and cash inflow.

Board Member Kash inquired about the type of positions. Human Resources Manager Torregano responded, stating that they are permanent, full-time positions.

General Counselor Flowers reported that this item includes the Executive Director's position; that it is specified in Resolution no 725 as well; that per the Brown Act section 54953, calling for a oral summary of recommendation for final action on salary or compensation paid to any local agency executive, that the Executive Director position is grouped with the rest of the executive team positions; that in order to comply with the Brown Act, he added a provision to the resolution and is giving an oral report for the Board to adopt. Board Member Vera inquired about amending the Executive Directors contract. General Counselor Flowers responded in the negative, stating that the contract does not need to be amended for a change in salary; that the item does change the salary; that if staff would like to make changes to the agreement, they can do so in June of 2024 when the contract is up for renewal.

Workforce, Training and Education Supervisor Colt commented in support of the item; that as an employee, she emphasized the benefits of this new salary schedule; that this also allows her to recruit people to the field by offering a competitive market salary.

Mental Health Commissioner Stephens inquired about what the steps represent.

Human Resources Manager Torregano responded by stating that there will be six steps on the new schedule; that it is based on years of experience and what step someone is hired into.

There being no further comment. Board Member Lantz moved, Board Member Kash seconded to approve Resolution No. 724 adopting a Revised Master Classification and Salary Schedule and Revised Job Descriptions for Various Classifications including Department Heads and the Executive Director. The motion was carried by the following vote, AYES: Board Members Cockrell, Lantz, and Vera; Alternate Board Members "Kash" Kashifalghita and DeFrank; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Member Lau and Ontiveros-Cole; and Vice-Chair Nolte.

MONTHLY STAFF REPORTS

9. RIMMI HUNDAL, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Hundal reported that State Bill 326 has passed, and it will be on the ballot as Proposition one; that it was an initiative by the Governor to reform mental health services in California; that this initiative has gone through several amendments and revisions to the original proposal; that the name will be changing from Mental Health Services Act to Behavioral Health Services Act, to include substance abuse as well; that under the BHSA, there will be three buckets instead of five buckets as there were in MHSA; that Chief Clinical Officer Renteria and Executive Director Hundal have a meeting LA County to discuss funding and how Tri-City Mental Health Authority will be able to deliver services under BHSA. Executive Director Hundal explained that this will be on the March 5th ballot for approval; that the executive team has been monitoring this bill closely;

that they are waiting for the final draft of the bill; that if it is passed, staff will continue to provide programming and services at Tri-City Mental Health Authority although the structure and funding will change. She added that they will go through the stakeholder process and bring any changes to the Governing Board; that if it passes, TCMHA will hold a Community Forum in March of 2024 and provide an update regarding State Bill 326.

Board Member Vera inquired if there is a guarantee that the MHSA funding will still be given to County Mental Health Agencies, including Tri-City Mental Health Authority. Executive Director Hundal responded by stating that she does not know what the final bill states; that once she knows she will update the Governing Board.

General Counselor Flowers added that since State Bill 326 will be on the ballot, he will be circulating advice to staff and the Governing Board about certain limitations the State law places on what are deemed electioneering activities; that public agencies are to be sources of information, not sources of advocacy.

Board Member Vera inquired if the Association of Psychiatrists in California has taken a position on State Bill 326. Executive Director Hundal responded by stating that she does not know but that there is a workforce, education, and training component at the State level.

10. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Financial Officer Acosta announced that the staff has provided a copy of the financial statements to each Board member. She referred to the financial statements and shared that TCMHA received \$10 million in MHSA dollars in August; that they are in the middle of an audit; that there is an independent audit of the financial statements each year. She explained that a couple months back, staff brought a couple items related to a new Governing Accounting Standard (GASB 96); that this year, all governmental agencies are required to implement GASB 96; that there is an added complication with implementing GASB 96, which is why they have hired consultants; that the process will take a little longer than usual and the Board can expect the independent audited financial statements in November or December. She shared that they received the news that LA County will be moving forward with outstanding items that will help TCMHA with cash flow; that there have been some outstanding settlements on some previous cost reports. She added an update on facilities projects; that the ongoing project is the Therapeutic Community Garden; that she expects the project to be done by the end of this calendar year; that there have been delays due to low supply of materials. She announced that staff recently posted the Request for Proposal for the remodel of the Tri-City Mental Health MHSA Administrative Building; that they received a bid and staff hopes to bring a contract and proposal to the Governing Board by November the latest.

Board Member Lantz inquired about the remodel and where the Governing Board meeting will be held. Chief Financial Officer Acosta responded by informing her that the Governing Board meetings will still be held in the same room.

Board Member Vera inquired if staff has received the formula from LA County offering realignment funds on cost reimbursement. Controller Bogle responded by stating that there have not been any official amendments provided to any of the legal entities at this point, but they have received billing rates; that LA County just opened up their ability to

bill on September 7th; that the first packets went through and staff is working on those processes right now; that claims are being approved and reimbursement percentages are in line with the previous year; that as far as adoption of the rates, no amendments have come through yet.

11. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER REPORT

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria updated the Board about the two-day Housing Summit presented by staff; that it was a training for staff members on housing and the housing program. She explained that housing continues to be a discussion that TCMHA is involved in; that it is certainly a primary issue for clients. She shared that the feedback was positive.

Board Member Lantz inquired if TCMHA was also an inputter for HMIS. Executive Director Hundal responded in the affirmative. Board Member Lantz mentioned that she is on the County's HMIS Committee; that staff can share concerns with her and she can share them with the County at the next meeting.

Chair Leano inquired if it was possible for staff to present a summary of Tri-City Mental Health Authority's current housing portfolio. Chief Clinical Officer Renteria responded in the affirmative, stating that she could get that ready for the next quarter.

12. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR REPORT

Medical Director Teimoori referred to the data provided on his staff report.

Board Member Vera inquired about the IOET program data, specifically the total number of clients outreached. Medical Director Teimoori clarified that those numbers represent community members.

Executive Director Hundal added that those numbers include current clients who are not currently engaging in treatment as well as new ones.

Board Member Vera inquired about the clients that are homeless and their eligibility for programs such as full-service partnership (FSP). Discussion ensued and it was concluded that those experiencing homelessness are eligible for services and that it takes time to build trust and begin services with them.

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

Director of MHSA and Ethnic Services Barford reported that staff is working to establish a baseline on community engagement; that with the new Innovation project, they are looking at past strategies and tracking numbers to see if there will be a change. She shared that the public hearing meeting was held last Tuesday at 3:30 in the afternoon; that they reached out to over 870 individuals in over 40 organizations through attending meetings, passing out flyers, and more. She added that the actual attendance was 30 that were present, 12 were community members, 18 were staff, and that 15 members were present online. She announced that they will begin the stakeholder process by hosting two Community Forums, one will be a morning session and one will be an evening session, one on October 17th and one on Thursday the 19th; that they will provide dinner and then hold the forum afterwards. She added that the first meeting will be in La Verne, then in

Pomona, and then in Claremont; that they do not have dates yet for Pomona or Claremont. She mentioned that once the Innovation Project is approved then they will begin focus groups with the target populations embedded in the community.

14. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER REPORT

Chief Compliance Officer highlighted the agency-wide central scheduling project, stating that staff have been transitioning from a decentralized schedule model to a centralized scheduling model; that they are using a data-driven QI approach to strengthen it. She explained that there are many benefits to centralized scheduling including appointment standardization and consistency, improving access to services, reducing the administrative burden from service providers, and increasing service, utilization and monitoring and tracking. She commended the staff involved, stating that they have been very supportive of the pilot project. She concluded by noting that they would like to eventually expand the pilot into other programs outside of the Adult Outpatient Program.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Leano opened the meeting for public comment.

Member of the public on Zoom, LMilner, commented about the need for appropriate treatment for the community. She shared details about a specific experience regarding TCMHA and her family member.

Chair Leano notified member of the public, LMilner, that her time is up. He inquired if staff had the appropriate contact information for the issue to be resolved. He noted that the Governing Board could not respond to the comments due to the Brown Act, since they were not on the agenda.

CLOSED SESSION

At 6:53 p.m., the Governing Board recessed to a Closed Session pursuant to:

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL – EXISTING LITIGATION

(Gov. Code § 54956.9) (One case – Patricia Kears v. Tri-City Mental Health Authority et al., L.A. Sup. Ct. Case No., 21PSCV00953)

CONFERENCE WITH LEGAL COUNSEL—ANTICIPATED LITIGATION

(Gov. Code § 54956.9(d)(2) (One case).

RECONVENE TO OPEN SESSION

At 7:22 p.m., the Governing Board reconvened to an Open Session.

CLOSED SESSION REPORT

There was no reportable action.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:22 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board its meeting of September 18, 2023 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, November 15, 2023 at 5:00 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.



Sophia Musa, Administrative Assistant
JPA Administrator/Clerk Office



