



MINUTES

GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING MARCH 19, 2025 – 5:00 P.M.

The Governing Board Meeting was held on Wednesday, March 19, 2025, at 5:03 p.m. in the MHSA Administrative Office located at 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.

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
Wendy Lau, City of La Verne, Vice-Chair
Lorraine Canales, City of Pomona, Board Member
Sandra Grajeda, City of Claremont, Board Member
Elizabeth Ontiveros-Cole, City of Pomona, Board Member

ABSENT: Carolyn Cockrell, City of La Verne, Board Member
Paula Lantz, City of Pomona, Board Member

STAFF

PRESENT: Ontson Placide, Executive Director
Steven Flower, General Counsel
Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer
Elizabeth Renteria, Chief Clinical Officer
Seeyam Teimoori, Medical Director
Dana Barford, Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services
Natalie Majors-Stewart, Chief Compliance Officer
Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

Chair Leano pulled Consent Calendar out of order to allow recipient of award to arrive at the meeting.

CONSENT CALENDAR

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

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

1. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE FEBRUARY 19, 2025, GOVERNING BOARD REGULAR MEETING

Recommendation: “A motion to approve the Minutes of the Governing Board Regular Meeting of January 15, 2025.”

2. ONTSON PLACIDE, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

3. DIANA ACOSTA, CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

4. LIZ RENTERIA, CHIEF CLINICAL OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

5. SEEYAM TEIMOORI, MEDICAL DIRECTOR MONTHLY REPORT

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

6. DANA BARFORD, DIRECTOR OF MHSA AND ETHNIC SERVICES MONTHLY REPORT

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

7. NATALIE MAJORS-STEWART, CHIEF COMPLIANCE OFFICER MONTHLY REPORT

Recommendation: “A motion to receive and file.”

8. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 772 APPROVING THE PURCHASE OF 15 LAPTOPS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$30,351.69 FROM INTELLI-TECH; AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE ANY RELATED PURCHASE DOCUMENTS

Recommendation: “A motion to adopt Resolution No. 772 authorizing the purchase of 15 laptops from Intelli-Tech in the amount of \$30,351.69; and authorizing the Executive Director to execute any related purchase documents.”

9. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 773 APPROVING THE SECOND AMENDMENT TO THE AGREEMENT WITH CAPSTONE SOLUTIONS CONSULTING GROUP, LLC FOR COMPLETION OF THE DRUG MEDICAL CERTIFICATION FROM THE CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE SERVICES (DHCS), AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR TO EXECUTE THE AMENDMENT

Recommendation: “A motion to adopt Resolution No. 773 approving the Second Amendment to the Agreement with Capstone Solutions Consulting Group, LLC; and authorizing the Executive Director to execute the Amendment.”

NEW BUSINESS

10. CONSIDERATION OF RESOLUTION NO. 774 APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH YOUTH CREATING CHANGE IN THE AMOUNT OF \$43,140.00 TO CONDUCT PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES THAT SUPPORT TCMHA’S PROGRAMMING CORE ACTIVITIES FOR YOUTH SUICIDE PREVENTION AND INTERVENTION EFFORTS

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Barford discussed the Directing Change Project, stating that the contract with Youth Creating Change would be to provide support for the year 2025. She explained that they help the youth create the programs, awareness, and provide technical support, workshops, and informational webinars, and also host and maintain content; and noted that it is a wonderful opportunity for the youth.

Board Member Ontiveros-Cole inquired if this is high school only. Lisa Naranjo said high school age up to college.

Board Member Canales asked what the deadlines were. Lisa Naranjo, MHSA Program Supervisor -PEI, stated the deadline was March 1, 2025, for this fiscal year 2024-25; however, the agreement is for next Fiscal Year 2025-26.

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

There being no further comment, Board Member Lau moved, and Board Member Canales seconded, to approve Resolution No. 774 approving an Agreement with Youth Creating Change in the amount of \$43,140.00; and authorizing the Executive Director to execute the Agreement. The motion was carried by the following vote: Board Members Canales, Grajeda, and Ontiveros-Cole; Vice-Chair Lau; and Chair Leano. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: None. ABSENT: Board Members Cockrell and Lantz.

GOVERNING BOARD COMMENTS

There was no comment.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Sara Rodriguez, MHSA Projects Manager, announced the MHSA Annual Update for Fiscal Year 2025-26 was posted online and was under the 30-day public review, and that its Public Hearing will be held on April 8, 2025 at 3:30pm.

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Barford stated it was Green Ribbon Week and the month of March was Mental Health Awareness Month; and that flyers, ribbons, and wrist bands were available to promote mental health awareness.

PRESENTATION

AN AWARD OF RECOGNITION WAS PRESENTED TO OUTGOING GOVERNING BOARD MEMBER RONALD T. VERA, FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AND DEDICATED SERVICE TO TRI-CITY MENTAL HEALTH AUTHORITY FROM FEBRUARY 2017 – JANUARY 2025

Chief Financial Officer Acosta thanked Mr. Ron Vera for the years of service and dedication to TCMHA on the Governing Board; and commented that his questions were informative and kept staff on their toes.

Dr. Teimoori thanked him for being a relentless advocate for medical team and supporting the psychiatry team. Mr. Vera stated there was such a need for psychiatric doctors in community.

Chief Clinical Officer Renteria thanked Mr. Vera and his wife for keeping the board focused to serve the underserved and on severe mental illness and advocacy.

Chief Compliance Officer Majors thanked Mr. Vera for his years of service, stating that he championed the quality and compliance effort, and his questions always clarified and inspired. Mr. Vera commented that he remembers Chief Compliance Officer Majors when he started and expressed excitement for seeing her progress.

Director of MHSA & Ethnic Services Barford thanked him and his sense of humor and stated that he made her feel comfortable and confident and helped lighten the meeting, noting that his questions were important and needed to be asked.

JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos thanked Mr. Vera for his support and stated that she appreciated his prompt responses and how his questions made everyone think; and that he will be missed. Mr. Vera stated JPA Administrator/Clerk Olmos kept him on his toes.

General Counsel Flower thanked Mr. Vera for bringing him on board and making him feel welcome and for demonstrating the qualities that made TCMHA a great organization, noting that Mr. Vera made it a joy to work here.

Executive Director Placide stated Mr. Vera was a part of his welcoming committee and thanked him for his time; and then stated that Mr. Vera led with purpose and that he was appreciated and will be missed. Mr. Vera stated his wife reminded him of why he served.

Board Member Canales thanked Mr. Vera and his wife for educating her and for their dedication to mental health, and pointed out that Mr. and Mrs. Vera been helpful.

Board Member Ontiveros-Cole stated she was amazed by his questions, even seeming minute but there was reason and purpose; and stated that she admired him and has appreciated knowing him and his wife and what they have done.

Board Member Grajeda stated she has big shoes to fill but will do her best and wants to meet with him to learn what she can. Mr. Vera commented on the importance of moving forward.

Vice-Chair Lau stated she and Mr. Vera have known each other for many years, and she had always looked forward to his commentary. She stated he served because he cared, and she found out that they both have similar lived experience and how difficult it is to translate that into service; and thanked him for everything he has done.

Chair Leano stated Mr. Vera was his partner in representing Claremont and that he set an example for the level of preparation; that his level of commitment was rare and was proud to tell the community they were represented by him. He commended Mr. Vera's ability to refocus on the central question of how the action helps the community and he hoped to uphold that.

Chair Leano then presented the plaque of recognition to Mr. Ron Vera.

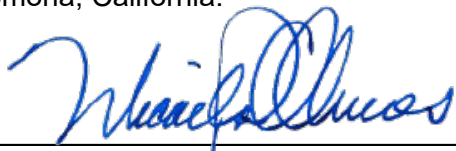
Mr. Vera invited his wife Christina Vera to stand with him, and acknowledged that when their son was diagnosed with a mental health illness, she stepped in; and when they found TCMHA, it was going through Bankruptcy and he felt that if they helped TCMHA, it would help them. He stated Mrs. Vera was a part of a committee that rewrote the charter so every board would have a community representative.

Mrs. Christina Vera stated she saved TCMHA from being taken in by the county.

Mr. Vera stated he saw what TCMHA did for the community and when he volunteered for the board, he took his role seriously and he read everything the staff presented, wanting to know what was happening in the community, noting that he wanted to guarantee TCMHA never went through bankruptcy again. He also stated he was stepping down to dedicate more time to other boards, but he was not planning on completely going away; that not everyone knows what TCMHA does, but he wanted everyone to find out; and that he felt a connection to everyone and appreciated the award and recognition of him and his wife.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5:28 p.m., on consensus of the Governing Board its Regular Meeting of March 19, 2025, was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Governing Board will be held on Wednesday, April 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m., in the MHSA Administrative Office, 2001 North Garey Avenue, Pomona, California.



Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk