

August 1, 2018 Plumas County Behavioral Health Commission Meeting

Call to Order/ Roll Call: Commission members: Vicki Chestnut, Joyce Claire, Henry Eisenman, Reverend Kendrah Fredricksen, Gina Rock-Strong, Lori Simpson, Estres Wellings, Valerie Sheldon

Guest: Johanna Downey, Trish foley, Marian Liddell, Michael Looney, Denise Pyper, Heidi Wakefield, Camille Williams

Staff: Liz Brunton, Tony Hobson, Ph.D.; John Posch

Additions to or deletions from the Agenda:

Add: Quality assurance needs. Delete: NAMI, Lassen County, not able to attend today due to illness. Motion to approve, Reverend Kendrah Fredericksen, second Estres Wellings.

Public Comment Opportunity:

Heidi: Appreciates the Wellness Center in Greenville. Requests Tele-med made available at the Greenville Wellness Center. Note, Greenville Rancheria is located close to the Greenville Wellness Center, and does offer Tele-med. Is it possible the Wellness Center could contract with the Rancheria to allow providing Tele-med for Greenville Wellness Center clients?

Marian: Concern communication problems. The Chester Seneca Hospital is unaware of the Chester Wellness Center; or of the Veterans Stand Down. Seneca Hospital's board of directors has seven board members up for re-election. Seneca Hospital is unaware of this Commission. Marian encouraged Seneca Hospital directors to attend Commission meetings. (Ken Crandell) And has a concern service be available and provided for those in need who are not currently served or are not receiving adequate services.

Introductions were made among those attending today's meeting.

1. Behavioral Health Commission

A. Joyce Claire moved to approve July 11, 2018 Commission meeting minutes including CORRECTION: Page One--1. Behavioral Health Commission, B. "Drop-In-Center has activities for clients. Community Care Licensing only licenses single-story board-and-care facility and Sierra House is two-story, was 'grandfathered' in. Staff of Sierra House: one is employed at Greenville Wellness Center, the other is working with Rich Johnson as a case manager and also is working as a house manager." Page Two. MOTION: Joyce Claire moved to accept the recommendation of director Tony Hobson, Ph.D., with the action temporarily closing Sierra House. The Sierra House is not currently being used. Dr. Hobson will contact Community Care Licensing in regards continuing licensing Sierra House be on hold if possible to allow future possibilities--the department is dependent on government funding that would determine if a construction upgrade would be possible for Sierra House for a board-and-care or some other use. Vicki Chestnut seconded. 3. Behavioral Health Department, A. MHSA Program. Thirty-day review and comment period includes newspaper ads and notice to the public of a public hearing scheduled for September 5, 2018 [the next scheduled Commission meeting to be held at

the Quincy public library, noon.]"Vicki Chestnut seconded the July 11, 2018 motion. Joyce Claire moved to approve the July 11, 2018 meeting minutes including corrections. Gina Rock-Strong seconded.

B. 2016-2017 and 2017-2018 draft of Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors, a copy was available at today's meeting, should be presented to the August 14, 2018 Board of Supervisors meeting. A annual report has not been made in two years. The present report is two pages. Reverend Kendrah Fredricksen moved to approve, Joyce Claire seconded.

C. Public hearing of MHSA Reversion update is scheduled for noon, September 5, 2018 at the Quincy public library, downtown Quincy. Reverend Kendrah Fredricksen moved to approve the time, Estres Wellings second.

D. Plumas County Wellness Center supervisor Elizabeth Brunton introduced two peer advocate specialists and their assistance to the function of the Wellness Centers. Peer advocate specialists are empathetic guides and coaches who understand and help direct the process of recovery and healing offering moral support and encouragement to people who need it. Helping achieve an improvement for Wellness Center visitors to achieve greater compliance with treatment/services, better health, lower usage of emergency services, use of fewer medications, and feel a higher sense of purpose and feel a higher sense of purpose. Plumas County B.H. Dept. currently has three trained peer advocate specialists: One at each center: Chester, Greenville, Portola. Hope to have two peer advocate specialists at each center. Since 2013 certified peer specialists have been certified and employed in thirty-one states and with the Federal Department of Veteran Affairs. California passed by assembly and senate, but awaits the Governor's signing. When signed, these provided services will be Medi-Cal bill-able. The peer advocate specialists who attended today and spoke made a very favorable impression. Director of PCIRC complimented the Portola Wellness Center peer advocate specialist. Noted Quincy PCIRC last week welcomed 348 walkin visits.

Discussion ensued. The Drop-In-Center is a closed environment intended for clients. Quincy has PCIRC, but does not have a Wellness Center. Portola has two locations for its Wellness Center. Mental Health Services Act was designed to tend early intervention and those with moderate mental health need. Realignment and Medi-Cal fund use is very proscribed. The Plumas County B.H. Dept. is attempted to address needs. Emphasized stigma fences some off from seeking services. Since spring 2018, the Wellness Centers have kept record of percentage of need of clients.

E. Options of location, time of meeting, staff support, live streaming, etc.--for this Commission. If the Commission meetings occurred at the Courthouse Board of Supervisor chambers though it would allow live stream broadcast of the meeting, lunch would not be available. Lunch, as well as recording could occur at the library conference room. But would have to purchase a recorder. The live stream or recording would be available at the <www.countyofplumas.com> web page, behavioral health department section. If there occurred streaming or recording, telephoned in comment and questions would be a violation of the Brown Act. There has been an attempt to live stream all County commission meetings. Conflict of interest in regard member voting, was mentioned. Even the appearance of a conflict of interest. What time to convene is convenient for the community to attend

these Commission meetings? The meeting minutes should focus on action taken, a vote, and in bullet format. The current Commission chair would like another person to assume the Commission chair position.

Assertion this Commission may be operating without a quorum since it has thirteen member positions but has only eight approved members, all eight are attending today. A clarification will be sought. Members have a three year term.

F. August 25, 2018 Saturday, two Commission members are scheduled to attend the California Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards and Commission training in Redding. With the current forest fire there, will the training session occur? Mileage is reimbursed.

The Data Notebook project will be discussed at the next Board of Supervisors meeting, is emphasized by CA Assoc. of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions. The data notebook is due November 30, 2018.

2. Informational Announcements & Reports.

A. Co-chairs report and announcement. Pizza was dutifully ordered and present at noon. Any other food item request?

B. Client Advocate report. Visitors, clients to the Wellness Centers have available a suggestion box and can make complaints and have. The client advocate noted has not received a need request in six months. But there are parameters providing client advocacy. Classification as a mental health client is one. The client advocate volunteers and receives a stipend.

C. Secretary-Treasurer report. Mr. client advocate, visit the secretary-treasurer's former husband in jail.

D. Plumas County did have a NAMI chapter once. The national organization requirements for establishing a chapter were not pursued, but an attempt was made to be a satellite of Butte County NAMI but financial documentation precluded continuing.

E. Quality of care improvement Committee. The State is asking for more and more improvements on the department providing data but the local department is strained providing those resources. PIP (performance improvement), intends to improve department efficiency and the department is currently looking on the AOD services. Improvements to the input of data is important. Quality improvement committee meets every two weeks. Contact <nursejclare@yahoo.com>

3. Behavioral Health Department: MHSA Program report, AOD Update, Director's report--in one.

The department budget is a challenge. Adjustments are needed and decisions need to be made soon. August 21 and 22, 2018, a State B.H. finance guide will visit, and consider the September MHSA reversion. Peter Livingston received guidance from this financial guide. This Commission is supposed to review all department contracts. There should be posts on <www.countyofplumas.com> The State is

emphasizing the county be drug Medi-Cal certified. and sent along a large document minus a few pages. Adjustments are being made on policy and protocol. The seriously-mentally-ill are most often in jail having broken the law. With proper behavioral health intercession many in jail might have been able to avoid being in jail. And those discharged from jail some are discouraged and without resource become homeless. Judge Hilde met with Dr. Hobson to agree for improved communication, and improvement in understanding. The District Attorney has noted an alternative sentencing program. The local newspaper op/ed page letter from the D.A., noted a recent law to enlist behavioral health department support to help assuage those with mental illness from criminal activity. The original bill included a divergence treatment program that would allow remaining out of jail if established the crime occurred as a result manifestation of a mental illness other than pedophilia, or anti-social behavior. Currently if the accused is considered incompetent to stand trial can languish in jail eight months. The legislation does promote collaboration court efforts such as veteran's court, mental health court, etc.

Services are required to be available to anyone in Plumas County, a forty-five-minute drive from the nearest care provider. Would like improvement in this stipulation before winter.

The Plumas County B.H. Dept. currently is allocated 74 staff positions but does not have all filled, nor funding available to obtain all 74.

A plan to have Tele-med available at Chester, Greenville, and Portola is being considered.

Public Comment Opportunity included some of the above with a lament of a younger relative who due to untended mental illness committed a crime, was released, is homeless. And perhaps an improvement would be to have the relative in prison where mental health service can be available.

Adjournment.

Next scheduled meeting is September 5, 2018, noon at 455 Jackson Street, downtown Quincy public library.