



**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND RECOVERY SERVICES**  
**Behavioral Health Board Meeting and MHSA Public Hearing**  
**301 E. 13<sup>th</sup> Street**  
**Merced, CA 95341**  
**August 7, 2018**

## Minutes

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**Present:** Micki Archuleta, Chair; Darrel Hall, Vice-Chair; Mary Ellis, Secretary; Supervisor Lee Lor; Keng Cha; Vince Ramos; Audrey Spangler; Kim Carter; Iris Mojica de Tatum; Norma Cardona; Bruce Metcalf; Sally Ragonut

**Absent:** Paula Mason

**Others Present:** Yvonna Brown; Sharon Jones; Manjit Kaur; Jennifer Jones; Robert Porta; Chris Kraushar; Kathryn Holland; Mark Henja; Dejannae Mayo; Maria Santos; Jasmine Quiroz; Jose Mario Lopez; Scott Goda; Andrea Lane; Rhonda Prater; Stacy Salinas; Paola Torres-Ortiz; Irvin Guzman; Babette Eagle; Cierra Alvear; Carol Hulsizer, Recorder

### **Call to Order / Flag Salute / Roll Call**

Chair Micki Archuleta called the meeting to order at 3:00 p.m. Roll call was taken.

### **Mission Statement**

The Mission Statement was read by Micki Archuleta.

### **Approval of Minutes from July 10, 2018 (BOARD ACTION)**

**Recommendation/Action:** M/S/C (Mojica de Tatum / Metcalf) to approve the minutes from June 5, 2018 with one abstention, Norma Cardona.

### **Opportunity for public input. At this time any person may comment on any item which is not on the agenda.**

- Vince commented that there are new Board members and he recommended that they look up the Welfare & Institution Code, California Code of Regulations and Prop. 63. This will help guide them in helping the clients.
- Sharon Jones stated she would send the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) statute and the California Code of Regulations to Carol and she can then send out to the Board members.
- Yvonna announced that this Department and she are being acknowledged with an award for the excellent work the Department has done in improving local mental health programs. There will be a reception on November 15<sup>th</sup>. She emphasized that this award is because of her staff and the work they have done. The Department is being honored at the State level. Copies of this letter were passed around to everyone.

**Recommendation/Action:** As noted above

### **Behavioral Health Program Updates**

- a. Financial Report, Wellness Center Expenditures and Outings – Sharon Mendonca
- b. Presentation on Wellness Centers and Activities – Jennifer Jones and Consumer Advisory Committee (CAC) Chairs

**Discussion/Conclusion:** a. Manjit Kaur was present for Sharon Mendonca. Manjit discussed the information on the PowerPoint presentation. These numbers were for Fiscal Year 2017/2018. The information was listed separately for each Wellness Center. First she went over the figures for the Merced Wellness Center, followed by figures for the CUBE, the Dual Diagnosis Wellness Center and lastly the Los Banos Wellness Center. Sharon Jones emphasized that these figures do not include the staffing; these figures are



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strictly services and supplies. Manjit then went over a slide showing Summary of Expenses for all the Wellness Centers. Yvonna asked for clarification on the Travel/County Vehicle and what it encompasses. Manjit stated that transportation and travel cost shows when a County employee uses their own vehicle and are reimbursed for the mileage. The transportation and travel-County vehicle is when a County vehicle is used and the Department has to pay the Department of Public Works (DPW) for the maintenance of the County vehicle and gas. These costs also include travel outside the County including field trips. Manjit continued with a slide showing what was budgeted versus what was spent. A question was asked about the Special Department Expense line item; Manjit explained that this is for items that are not categorized anywhere else such as insurance for the trips that the clients take. The question was asked why consumers are made to pay a portion of a field trip when there is enough budgeted money to cover the entire cost. It was explained that the consumers like to contribute to some of the activities. The whole program is to empower the consumers, not to enable. Manjit continued explaining all the different items that are purchased for the Wellness Centers. She then discussed all the trips that were taken for all the Wellness Centers. A question was asked if there are limitations on how many clients can go on a field trip. Jennifer Jones explained that in Los Banos they have a point system which determines who can attend. The consumers decide which trips they want to go on and not all consumers want to go on all the trips. If extra transportation is needed, a van is borrowed from another location. A question was asked if the Youth Wellness Center budget is locked in or is there an opportunity to receive more. Yvonna responded that it is because it is based on what the Mental Health Services Act (MHSa) has approved. Each Wellness Center gets 10% of the approved budget; it is always locked in based on what is approved. b. Dr. Jennifer Jones stated she is very excited about the work being done in the Wellness Center. Their goal is to improve what they have been working on. The staff and consumers are doing amazing things. She prepared this presentation by asking the consumers and staff to speak on the different Wellness Centers and what they are doing. The question was asked about staffing patterns. Jennifer talked about the different positions located at each site. They don't work in silos; everyone works together. At the CUBE the consumers do not have to be open to services; at the adult Wellness Centers, they do have to be a BHRS consumer. There are a few slots set aside for individuals who are not BHRS consumers but are experiencing severe mental illness and has a practitioner that has referred them to BHRS. Consumers from the CUBE, the Merced Wellness Center and the Los Banos Wellness Center then came forward giving testimonials and explaining how the Wellness Centers have helped them and greatly improved their life. They also discussed all the different programs, groups and classes each Wellness Center has and how they help the consumers. The consumers also discussed the different trips that they have gone on. Jennifer was asked what the daily attendance is for the Merced and Los Banos Wellness Center; Jennifer responded that in Merced it is about 62-67/day, Los Banos is about 20-25/day and the CUBE is 10-15/day.

**Recommendation/Action:** Information only

### **Approve Annual Report for FY 17/18 (Board Action)**

**Discussion/Conclusion:** Iris commented that the report now includes the Strategic Plan that was recently held. Sally commented that Iris' "Forward from the Chair" needs to be changed; last paragraph states, "I look forward to working with each of your during the 2017/18 year".

**Recommendation/Action:** M/S/C (Mojica de Tatum / Ellis) to approve the Annual Report for FY 17/18 with the removal of Iris' sentence from the "Forward from the Chair".

### **Chair's Report – Micki Archuleta**

**Discussion/Conclusion:** Micki stated that the Board needs to start working on the six objectives from the Strategic Planning meeting recently held. She feels that getting these six objectives completed will be her job this coming year. Yvonna stated that one of the discussions in the Annual Report is the list of Committees that the Board has; this needs to be updated. Some of the Committees should be redesigned – deciding which Committees the Board actually wants. At the Strategic Planning meeting there were only three Committees that are actually needed and the remainder should be liaison. Supervisor Lor stated that the three Committees were identified at the Strategic Planning meeting; Yvonna stated that is true, but the Board did not solidify this. Yvonna suggested that the



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agenda for September Board meeting be finalizing the Strategic Planning meeting; discuss the six objectives and establish the three Committees.

**Recommendation/Action:** Making the September Agenda a working meeting – discussing the six objectives and establishing the three Committees.

**Supervisor’s Report – Supervisor Lor**

**Discussion/Conclusion:** The only item Supervisor Lor planned on discussing was the recognition that Yvonna and BHRS Department will be receiving in November; Yvonna already discussed this at the beginning of the meeting. Supervisor Lor thanked Yvonna for the work she and her staff do to make this recognition happen.

**Recommendation/Action:** Information only

**Director’s Report – Yvonna Brown**

- a. Update on Housing and Homeless Initiatives (B Street Housing Project)

**Discussion/Conclusion:** a. Yvonna reported that the Outreach and Engagement Center she reported on last month is still moving forward. Hopefully they will be launching a semi-transition by mid-September. Recapping – the Outreach and Engagement Center is an opportunity for people to come in and find links to services in the community. Initially it will be Human Services Agency (HSA), Behavioral Health and maybe Workforce Investment. The City is working on a plan to build a facility (once finances are secure) a 120-unit affordable housing/30-unit supportive housing complex on the B Street campus. Yvonna spoke at the Continuum of Care meeting last week and gave them an overview of what they are doing as a County in regards to the Outreach and Engagement Center.

**Recommendation/Action:** Information only

**Reports / Updates**

- a. Executive Committee – Micki Archuleta
- b. QIC – Mary Ellis
- c. Ad-Hoc Committee Report on Recidivism

**Discussion/Conclusion:** a. Micki stated that the Exec Committee met and they are helping her in her new role as Chair. Yvonna stated that this is part of Micki’s transition to her role and it is a great opportunity to help her develop in this new role. b. Mary briefly went over her notes from the Quality Improvement Committee meeting on July 24<sup>th</sup> (copies had been passed out). c. Sally read the ad-hoc committee report on reducing recidivism (copies had been passed out). A question was asked regarding someone being discharged from Marie Green and whether they are immediately connected to someone who can provide information on housing resources or if they do have to wait for their first appointment to get this information. Robert Porta stated this is something that needs further investigation because the person that knows more about this is at Marie Green. Yvonna stated that the Innovative Strategist Network (ISN) program has the target population to deal with the homeless individuals being discharged. ISN was designed to engage that population and hopefully will connect with this population before being discharged. October 1<sup>st</sup> is the go-live date for ISN.

**Recommendation/Action:** Information only

**Announcements**



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**Discussion/Conclusion:** Chris Kraushar questioned the Public Comment Card located by the sign-in sheet. Yvonna stated that this is for the public that want to discuss something that is not on the agenda. This gives them the opportunity to write down their question or thoughts; Yvonna will then make sure it is given to the appropriate staff and is answered.

**Recommendation/Action:** Information only

**Adjournment:** The meeting ended at 5:13pm.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_ *Signed* \_\_\_\_\_  
Carol Hulsizer  
Recording Secretary

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ *Signed* \_\_\_\_\_  
Mary Ellis, Secretary  
Merced County Behavioral Health Board

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *9/7/18* \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_ *9/4/18* \_\_\_\_\_