

Behavioral Health Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 05.15.2008

Start Time: 3:03

Adjournment: 5:00

Location: Manzanita Place Conference Room, Chico, CA

Present:

Board Members: Salvador Ventura, Supervisor Kim Yamaguchi, Perry Turner, Dave Panchesson, David Warren-Baker, Carol Childers, Dr. Michael Shuell

Staff: Edward Walker, Lisa Cox, Elizabeth Gowan, Dr. Michael Clarke, Danelle Campbell, Kathy Freitas, Michelle Berry, Duane Henderson, Michelle Phillippi, Pamela Deditch, Julie Bartel, Mike Schultz, Cyla Nelson, Terris Holloway, Scott Palmer, Bob Tatum, Dean True, Michele Brousseau, Michelle Sallades, Christa Taylor, Lauren Cole, Deedre Doe, Scott Kennelly, Terri Laviolette, Charlie Dunn, Don Taylor, Dawn Rollins, Joanie Frericks, Daedalys Wilson, Maureen Laprezioso, Alicia Ogonowski, Lisa Wildenhaus, Mary Gordon, Catherine Riley, Paul Bugnacki, Angel Calderon, Renee' Campbell, Carole O'Gara, Loretta Carter, Dan Holmer, Judy Beckert, Dennis Armstrong, Terri Kester, Mark Bledsoe, Kathy Wendt, Brenda Mamich, Tami Brown, Mary Ann Shinn, Wayne Brandt, Kathy Kuntz, Jennifer Kim, Cara Carvalho, Sotero Amaya, Eileen Keefe, Shannon Medrano, Lisa Arnold, Linda Kiehn, Cheryl Grace, Jerry Bakus, Heidi Nalley, Geoff Davis

Visitors: Paul Steffy, Mimi Gray, Barb Foy, Nicki Herra, Merlinda Fournier, Scott Elliott, Jeff Thacker, George Siler, Bob Michels, Ted Klemm, Tami Short, Joanne Hayney, Sue Spark, Ken STeidley, Kathryn Santos, Darenia Bakus, Maija Sanchez, Katrina Boste, Shawn Blair, Bob Barram, April Backus, Linda Huffmon, Shannon Gaytan, Donna Jensen, Colleen Phipps, Larry Phipps, Kim Ainved, Craig Savage, Jason Revere, Jake Ognowski, Mike Little, Trudi Engelhardt, Jolette Watters, Christine Davis, Patricia Krause, Susan Spengler, Trishanne

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Lininger, Courtney Calkins, Cheryl Olson, Sarah Feingold, Jan Maurenhan, Vern Maurenhan, Louise Meyerfeld, Patrick Clarke, Mary Freearch, Tom Perdue, Chartel Woliges, Kathy Lentz, Dercen Sage, Jodi Gillis, Elizabeth Parra, Jennifer Rivera, Thomas Lancaster, Edith Pitcock, Teri Skow, Henry Ganzler, Tim Mossman, Kim Holbrooks, Zong Chia Yang, Kaate McReek, Nancy Collins, Becky Rivera, Torres Shelter, James Patrick Mace.

Absent:

Board Members: Tom LeBlanc, Patricia Johnson

Agenda Item/Issue:	Discussion Summary:	Result/Action/Next Steps- Person Assigned/Due Date
1) Call to Order	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quorum present. 	Called to order at 3:03
2) Approval of Minutes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Approval of 04.17.2008 Minutes 	April minutes were approved as written, minutes will be posted on Dept. website.
3) Announcements- Chair –Salvador Ventura	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Salvador Ventura reminded the Board about the May 19 Club Stairways event, “Tightening Counts.” Salvador encouraged members to participate. • Salvador reviewed the process of today’s meeting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Edward Walker, Interim Director, will present the Department Draft Budget (15 minutes) ○ Behavioral Health Board members will ask questions related to the draft budget (15 minutes). ○ Public Comments and suggestions related to the draft budget (45 minutes). • The meeting process emphasis is on making sure that all who have questions/comments have an 	

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	<p>opportunity to be heard at today's meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Questions/comments will be recorded on flip charts for review by Department Leadership Team. 	
<p>4) Department Draft Budget- Edward Walker, Interim Director</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There are no significant changes in the Governor's May Revise Budget from the initial January draft budget. • Fiscal Year 07/08 budget is \$48 million. • Fiscal Year 08/09 budget is \$45 million, with a \$5 million annualized reduction. • Background to current budget situation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expenses exceeded funding. ○ Reserve funds have been spent. ○ State payment delays added to the cash flow problem. ○ Department has been receiving County loans since Fiscal Year 06/07, continuing through the current fiscal year. ○ The County loans must be repaid to the County. • Fundamentals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ The proposed reduction is large, but the remaining budget is larger. ○ The County Board of Supervisors is fully supportive of the Department. 	

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Management Response: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ 10% reduction across the board is difficult. ○ Department Leadership Team will meet the current challenge. • Core Principles: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mandates will be met. ○ Priority clients will be served. ○ Quality care will be sustained. ○ Resources will be managed. ○ Prudent reserve will be built. • Human Issues: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Service to clients and their families is foremost. ○ Great care must be utilized to minimize the difficulty during the transition process. ○ County employee's lives and those of Contract Agencies will be disrupted; all feasible accommodations to address this will be pursued. • Highlights: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Paradise and Gridley Centers will be closed. ○ Services will be provided by contract agencies. ○ Family Bridges Memorandum of Understanding with the Butte County Probation Department will be ended. ○ Fifty-five positions will be eliminated; 22 of these positions are currently vacant; 33 are currently filled. ○ Caminar's services will be reduced (15 part time consumer positions will be lost). ○ Contract with the Oroville Work Training Center will be ended; 45 consumers in Oroville will no longer receive socialization services. 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Next Steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Recommendations made here today will be reviewed for application to this draft budget. ○ Revised budget will be presented for public review and comment at a follow up Board meeting on Thursday, May 22. ○ The follow up meeting will be held at the Chico Family Masonic Center at 1110 West East Avenue in Chico, CA from 3-5. 	
<p>5) Public Questions and Comments</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Were there any budget negotiations with the Board of Supervisors as to the percentage of reduction to the Department budget? (ex., budget saving of 3% each year for five years)- Patricia Krause • Realignment Act-have there been discussions with the Board of Supervisors, Social Services Department and/or Public Health Department regarding their contribution per the Realignment Act or is the Behavioral Health Department only responsible for providing this savings?-Patricia Krause • During budget planning, what consequences were considered as a result from closing the Gridley and Paradise offices, and how would some of those consequences be addressed? (ex., safety, past alleged fraudulent activity with contract services, lack of continuity of care, transportation issues)-Patricia Krause • The following additional other questions/comments were made by Patricia Krause: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Why is a non- revenue program, Youth Prevention, 	

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	<p>retained in the budget while revenue producing programs are eliminated?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Why are staff allowed to attend school on County time and/or not working and filing alleged fraudulent time cards? ○ Misuse of County funds in budget (ex., Tattoo removal, pg. 70 of 137, \$10,853) ○ Misuse of County funds in budget (ex., Veterinary Care, pg. 70/137, and pg. 67/37, \$5,000) ○ Positions lost due to retaliation (ex., Certified Nurse Practitioner) ○ Position taken out of budget on pg. 11/137, then put back into budget on pg. 18/137, Forensic Coordinator. ○ Program Manager position, at top step, for Community Services, pg. 18/137, paid more than other same classified position, pg. 20/137. ○ Inappropriate use of license staff (ex., certified nurse not working in a revenue producing position). ○ Why are there not any eliminations of middle and upper management positions, Supervisors, Program Managers, and Assistant Director, and Admin. Support Division positions with the closure of two offices. The agency can not absorb nor has the need for all of these positions. ○ And what is the non-revenue producing position of Administrative Coordinator? ○ Will there be lay off notices or will staff be reassigned? 	
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Why aren't the politicians cutting their own perks rather than services to clients?-James Rosencranz • Clinics like the Shalom Free Clinic can not absorb the impact of the proposed reduction in services. How can we figure how to meet the budget rather than cut it?-Dr. Fred Jones • Why aren't the needs of the children being met? (ex., Individualized Education Plans)-Joan Haynes • Why are we in debt, and why don't we have emergency funds?-Lia Anleblo • Are other services taken into consideration?-Ken Slaley • How do we know the skill level of new providers (contractors) will be the same as existing providers (County employees)?-Merlinda Fournier • In response to the draft letter of recognition on former Director Dr. Bradford Luz: Dr. Luz's management of the Department was a "disaster." References were made to past situations that demonstrated to him a lack of oversight, accountability. The choice is up to the community to "make some real noise."-Greg Fagen • Salvador Ventura suggested to the audience that the Board has openings as a call to action for those concerned with the current situation. • Patricia Krause responded to Salvador Ventura, expressing appreciation for his invitation, but declined on the grounds that she is more effective in such matters as a "free agent." • The Mental Health Board was once effective in the 1970s (ex., Short Doyle Legislation), but is now "in the dark."-Greg Fagen • As an employee of the Gridley Center, many things have been accomplished over its 13 year history. Examples include establishment of a Spanish-speaking Alcoholics Anonymous and a 	
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	<p>Dual Diagnosis Clinic. The need to continue providing services to Spanish-speaking clients is immense. It would be “very cold” to cut this facility. As it is, some counselors have 150 clients in their caseloads. “Be objective, not angry.”-Angel Calderon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Board of Supervisors is welcome to see the “wonderful job” the Paradise Treatment Center staff does. The community needs the facility. How are you going to insure that the same level of care continues after the proposed transition?-Kathy Santos • Because of Paradise Community Counseling Center Staff, my daughter has received help the help she needed (thanks were offered to Dr. Carolyn Kimura). –Shery Laney • The daughter of the above speaker shared her experiences as a consumer, and the importance of the medications she currently receives. “Please don’t let (the proposed closing of the center) happen.” • An expansion of the In-Patient and Crisis Unit is needed.-Sergeant Rucker • Loss of the services provided by the Paradise Treatment Center would result in increased police and crisis intervention.-Jodie Gillis • The Transition Program at Magalia Elementary has been very helpful in helping my boyfriend’s son, and in my understanding his needs.-Sharon Gayla • Real problem is President Bush.-name unknown • The Paradise Treatment Center has provided the best care I have received in 36 years. The current quality of care must be maintained by keeping it in the County.-Ray • Shared experience of a chronically in-crisis consumer’s experience with the Paradise Police, and how the services of the Paradise Treatment Center could 	
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	<p>have prevented this particular consumer from having to go to the In-Patient Unit in Chico. The consumer later received care voluntarily from the Center.-Manoj Cheevers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The difficulty in making cuts needs to be recognized and appreciated. It doesn't seem realistic that revenue-producing positions should be cut. There has to be other ways to meet the demands of the budget. Millions of dollars in currently contracted services should be brought back into the County. Staff is here to meet the challenge. A reduction in staff work hours could be part of the solution.- Mark Bledsoe • "Smells some bad stuff" going on. Called for an audit of the past number of years' financial records and an audit of the current budget. Youth are the future taxpayers of this country. Where are the contractors who are as qualified, dedicated, and experienced as the current Department staff?-Ole Quiberg. • What is the plan to cover Gridley's behavioral health needs?-Paul Steffy • Spoke about her work as a psychiatric technician at both the Oroville Out-Patient and the Gridley Center. Is willing to go to a 36 hour work week.- Michelle Phillippi • As an In-Patient client, he was put in restraints. Experienced what he considered to be poor employees, but also noted that there are others who do their job at the In-Patient Unit. The Paradise Treatment Center was able to provide him the care he needed after his experience at the In-Patient Unit. Expressed hope that the In-Patient will change.-name unknown • The true loss with the closing of the Paradise Treatment Center is the loss of trust by the community when its 	
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	<p>members do not know where to go in times of need/crisis. Expressed hope for other solutions than those proposed. It will cost more to restart the programs later than to continue to maintain them as they are now.-Patrick Mace.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How does cutting vocational and socialization programs work with the recovery model?-Dave Mahn • The cuts would be a terrible loss for consumers. Spoke about her work first as a volunteer with the Department and now as an employee and consumer. Started a computer training program that has served over 20 consumers.- Cheryl Grace • Thanked the Gridley Center, and Sotero Amaya in particular, for the care she has received.-Elizabeth Parra • It took 13 years to build the Gridley Center up to what it is today. Gridley is the “step child” of Butte County. Shutting down the Gridley Center would be “devastating” for Gridley. Services to consumers would be logistically impossible with its closure.-Nicki Herra. • Supportive of the Paradise Behavioral Health Centers (both Adult and Youth)-name unknown • Where is our soul?-Scott Elliott • The Paradise Treatment Center has been a cornerstone of the Paradise Community; look deep, don’t let it fall through the cracks.-Patricia Booth • The Hmong population in Butte County is under-served. A real trust issue exists amongst the Hmong community. Cuts in services would result in more post traumatic stress disorder amongst Hmong consumers.- Pai Vang • How can a transition to contracted services be possible given all of the success of current Department 	
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	<p>clinicians?-Tim Mossman</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Has there been any discussion of merging the Department of Employment and Social Services with Public and Behavioral Health Departments? This might help prevent any proposed cuts from happening. Passed out notes/observations of the draft budget to Board members.-Brent Roden (Copies of his notes are available from Geoff Davis, Behavioral Health Board Secretary) • Speaking on behalf of contracted agencies, contractors generate Federal and State Funds. Contracted agencies are grassroots organizations that are part of the fabric of the community they serve. Services can be provided by contracted agencies are at lower cost than County facilities. Contracted agencies should not be considered as the “bad group.”-George Siler 	
11) Adjournment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prior to the adjournment, Edward Walker reminded the Board and the public that the revised budget will be distributed in the same manner as the draft budget was last week. • Supervisor Kim Yamaguchi spoke about how the budget is not yet finalized. More will be known when the State presents the County with its final budget. The County and the Department are doing its best in this atmosphere of crisis. Supervisor Yamaguchi expressed his appreciation for everyone’s input at today’s meeting. • Meeting was adjourned at 5:00. 	<p>The next meeting will be at the Chico Family Masonic Lodge on May 22, 2008, from 3-5.</p>

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