



**MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION  
MARCH 14, 2017 – 3:30 P.M.**

The Mental Health Commission met in a regular meeting on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at 3:35 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 N. Indian Hill Blvd. # B, Claremont, California.

**CALL TO ORDER** Chair Watson called the meeting to order at 3:35 p.m.

**ROLL CALL** A visual roll call was taken.

**PRESENT:** Toni L. Watson, Chair  
Donald R. Perez, Vice-Chair  
Cheryl Berezny  
Arny Bloom  
Rubio R. Gonzalez  
Anne Henderson  
Elmer Vidaña  
Alfonso "Al" Villanueva  
Davetta Williams

**ABSENT:** Twila L. Stephens

**STAFF:** Toni Navarro, Executive Director  
Diana Acosta, Chief Financial Officer  
Mica Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk

**I. APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE JANUARY 10, 2017 MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING**

Vice-Chair Perez moved, and Commissioner Henderson seconded, to approve the Mental Health Commission Meeting Minutes of January 10, 2017. The motion was carried by the following vote: AYES: Commissioners Berezny, Bloom, Henderson, Vidaña, and Williams; Vice-Chair Perez; and Chair Watson. NOES: None. ABSTAIN: Governing Board Liaison Gonzalez and Commissioner Villanueva. ABSENT: Commissioner Stephens.

**II. PRESENTATION**

**A. AN OVERVIEW OF TRI-CITY'S BUDGET**

Chief Financial Officer Acosta provided an overview of Tri-City's budget and explained how services are billed and funding is collected under each revenue account pointing out that Tri-City has three major sources of revenue: (1) 1991 *Realignment*, from the State, out of sales taxes and vehicle license fees, which provided the first dedicated permanent funding for mental health services.

(2) *Medi-Cal* which is made up of two programs, Medicaid -from the federal government (FFP – Federal Financial Participation); and *Early & Periodic Screening, Diagnostic and Treatment* (EPSDT) for recipients who are children under age 21. She explained that for each unit of service (or each minute) provided to Medi-Cal eligible recipients, Tri-City is reimbursed by the State (through the County) the FFP at 50% (the other 50% is paid through Realignment or MHP funding if client is eligible for FSP programs) and EPSDT at 43.19%. (3) Mental Health Services Act (MHSA), which Tri-City started receiving funding since Fiscal Year 2008-09. She reported that Tri-City collected last year 4 million in Realignment funds, 6 million from Medi-Cal, and 9.3 million from MHSA funding which is received a fiscal year ahead and then approved for spending for the following fiscal year. She then provided in depth information regarding how funding covers Tri-City's services and how funding is collected and disbursed to the different Tri-City programming since legislation is very clear about how funding must be allocated and spent, noting that there are seven finance staff members designated to have specific jobs to ensure that all monies are properly and accurately allocated.

Discussion ensued regarding audit requirements, when, and how Tri-City is audited; about why Tri-City does not receive any money from the County, and that funding only passes through the County from the State to Tri-City; about the recently adopted No Place Like Home (NPLH) legislation under which Tri-City, as a Medium-size county, is eligible to receive a one-time allocation of 1.5 million for permanent supportive housing, regardless that Tri-City will be contributing approximately \$600,000 on an annual basis for the next 5-10 years (it is unknown at this time for how long); about Measure H, a Los Angeles Countywide ¼ sales tax that was approved by voters last Tuesday, which will be used to fund rental subsidies and wraparound services for persons who are homeless and might have mental and substance abuse issues; about Medicaid expansion, for single adults between the ages of 19-64 who are living below the poverty line and do not have medical insurance, under which Tri-City will be reimbursed 100% for the first 3 years, 95% at year 4, and 90% at year 5; about Tri-City's goal to help clients, those who qualified under SSI, be classified as disabled in the event that Medicaid expansion is eliminated by the new Administration; and about payment reform from Medicaid, which Tri-City has been focusing on being ready and on the best position when it begins in 2020.

The Commission thanked staff for their presentation.

### III. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR REPORT

Executive Director Navarro stated that under NPLH, counties will be given approximately \$100,000 funding (to medium-size counties) for technical assistance to plan the *Plan*; provided a housing update; reported that Tri-City is celebrating 'Green Ribbon Week' and talked about the different activities throughout the community, noting that Tri-City was featured at the CalMHSA website.

### COMMISSION ITEMS AND REPORTS

Commissioner Villanueva announced that Karl Hilgert of the Claremont Homeless Advocacy Program will be retiring.

Board Member Liaison Gonzalez reported that he had met with Richard Yochum, President of Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center, and noted that Mr. Yochum had expressed concern about the lack of sufficient mental health crisis services.

Executive Director Navarro reported that for the past 8 years Tri-City has been reaching out to Pomona Valley Hospital Medical Center (PVMC) about this issue and had offered Tri-City's assistance; however, it seemed that PVMC had always other projects which had more priority and never considered Tri-City's offer. Nevertheless, through emergency staff members, Tri-City had established a referral form for mental health crisis services, pointing out that this is when Tri-City's Intensive Outreach and Engagement Team was created to assist PVMC. She also stated that the emergency hospital staff had reported to be extremely satisfied with the mental health crisis services that Tri-City provides.

#### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 5:00 p.m., on consensus of the Mental Health Commission its meeting of March 14, 2017 was adjourned. The next Regular Meeting of the Mental Health Commission will be held on Tuesday, April 11, 2017 at 3:30 p.m. in the Administration Building, 1717 North Indian Hill Boulevard, Suite B, Claremont, California.



---

Micaela P. Olmos, JPA Administrator/Clerk