Members Present: Yolanda Cheley, James Tucker, Catherine Lara, Dusty Luker, LuEllen Luker, Alison Grove, Bill Leonard, Bryan Blew, Sterling Cramer, Jim Mason

Members Excused: Virgil Campbell, Celeste Azevedo, Vanessa Holt, Inez Terra

Members Absent: None

Guests: Eileen Kelley, Cinnamon Fleener

Director: Jim Rydingsword

Deputy Director: John Lawless (not present)

Staff: Linda Murdock, Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Supervisor
      Cathy Kulick, Senior Office Assistant, Recording Secretary

I. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 12:31 p.m. by Vice-Chair Leonard and introductions were made.

II. Public Comments: None

III. Approval of Minutes: Vice-Chair Leonard asked for a motion to approve the November 16, 2011 Minutes. Sterling Cramer made the motion and Yolanda Cheley seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
IV. **New Business:**

A. **Review of New Membership Applications:** Copies of Cinnamon Fleener and Roberta Lindman’s membership applications were handed out to the Board for their review. Ms. Fleener was asked to comment on her application and she responded that she felt that the Board would benefit from her membership by keeping the Board up-to-date on Mariposa Safe Families activities. LuEllen Luker stated that she informed Roberta Lindman about today’s Board Meeting and was disappointed that Roberta wasn’t present. Roberta currently sits on two other community boards and would represent Mountain Crisis.

V. **Old Business:**

A. **Unconventional Resignations:** The Recording Secretary updated the Board regarding the resignations of two members. One member expressed her desire to resign at the August 17, 2011 Board Meeting and the other member noted the same in an e-mail dated September 21, 2011. Neither member, however, has sent a written resignation letter, which is required by the By-Laws. The Recording Secretary asked the Board to consider changing the By-Laws to accept these types’ resignations. Noting the busy schedules that many members have, along with the increasing use of electronic mail, the Board agreed that updating the By-Laws might be appropriate. Prior to any changes in the By-Laws (which will require County Counsel approval) members Tucker and Mason suggested that the two members mentioned above receive a prepared resignation letter, along with a stamped self-addressed envelope. All members agreed. LuEllen Luker started a motion to amend the By-Laws. After a couple of comments by the Board, she came up with the following: 1) Accept resignations via electronic mail; 2) Accept verbal resignations at scheduled Board Meetings with a quorum; and 3) Prepare a written ‘Resignation Form Letter’ for future use. Jim Mason seconded the motion. The 2011 By-Laws Committee will meet to fine-tune the amendment and present it to the Board in February.

VI. **Sub-Committee Reports:**

A. **Staff:** SUD Supervisor Linda Murdock started her report by saying, “Everything is in limbo.” Clients who are eligible for the County Medical Services Program (CMSP) may now have some Mental Health services paid for but it is unclear whether SUD services will be included. Rumor has it that the State is moving ahead with combining Mental Health (MH), SUD Programs, and Driving Under the Influence (DUI) classes, under the California Health and Human Services Agency (CHHS). Some state agencies have already combined MH and SUD programs but Lassen County has found that it’s not working very well. Apparently plans are being made to integrate these programs under CHHS during the summer of 2012. With regards to Medi-Cal reimbursement, covered SUD services include Assessments, Treatment Planning, Groups, and Crisis Intervention. Medi-Cal does not reimburse the County for SUD Case Management Services which can sometimes account for 30% - 40% of a counselor’s day. MH,
however, does receive Medi-Cal reimbursement their time. Vice-Chair Leonard added that local Tribal TANF (Temporary Cash Assistance for Needy Families) expenditures are covered by Medi-Cal.

B. Director: Mr. Rydingsword had no comments.

VII. General Discussion: While not part of the agenda, Jim Tucker directed a question to Sterling Cramer asking what impact AB 109 has had on the County. Sterling replied that so far the County has not seen the amount of State transfers to our jail like other counties have, but it is coming. The concern is based on the ‘long term inmate’ and their medical needs. Of course, these inmates will impact the Probation Department too but as Jim Tucker stated, at least these folks are covered by Medi-Cal. Sterling also noted that there has been a noticeable increase of Registered Sex Offenders in our area, especially within the transient group. Vice-Chair Leonard added to this discourse his concern regarding the possible changes in the Three Strikes Law. New felony laws may change the progression of crimes but will still add to the inmate’s medical costs in the long run. Member Cramer suggested that Chair Campbell might want to contact Chief Probation Officer Pete Judy to come and speak to Board.

VIII. Reminder of Next Meeting: The next meeting will be held on February 15, 2012, at the Human Services Center, Mariposa Room, 5362 Leme Lane, Mariposa, beginning at 12:30 p.m.

IX. Adjournment: At 1:07 p.m. Vice-Chair Leonard asked for a motion to adjourn. Jim Tucker made the motion and Yolanda Cheley seconded. Jim Mason noted that he will be out-of-town for the February meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Cathy Kulick, Recording Secretary