June 28, 2012
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
12:00 P.M. – 1:30 P.M.

Members Present:  Lori Ritter, Ruth Catalan, Lisa Carisio, Eleanor Keuning

Members Excused:  Janet Bibby, Jeremy Briese, Meghan Kehoe

Members Absent:  None

Guests:  Ruth Sellers, Jim Allen, Representative from the Sierra Sun Times

Quorum:  Yes

Director:  Jim Rydingsword (via teleconference)

Deputy Director:  John Lawless

Staff:  Angela Phillips, Social Worker Supervisor I
       Julia Brown, Interim Recording Secretary

I.  Call to Order:  Meeting was called to order at 12:10 p.m. by Chair, Lori Ritter.

       Public Comments – No public comments offered.

       PERSONS WISHING TO ADDRESS ANY AGENDA ITEM OR COMMENT ON ANY ITEM NOT ON THE AGENDA MAY DO SO AT THIS TIME. ANY COMMENTS WILL BE LIMITED TO FIVE MINUTES PER PERSON. PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS (OPTIONAL).

       FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA, NO ACTION WILL BE TAKEN AT THIS TIME. IF IT REQUIRES ACTION, IT WILL BE REFERRED TO STAFF AND/OR PLACED ON THE NEXT AGENDA.

II. Approval of May 3, 2012 meeting Minutes – Eleanor Keunig indicated she had discussed some name spelling corrections with Donna Shimer, Recording Secretary, and those changes had been made. Ruth Catalan made a motion to approve the May 3, 2012 Minutes. Lisa Carisio seconded the motion. Motion was carried.

III. Reports:

A.  Director (Jim Rydingsword):  Jim updated the Board on Senate Bill AB 1297. He informed the members of the Departments plan to implement a business office at the Family Services Center in order to assist clients with Medi-Cal eligibility and/or determine eligibility for other payment options for services received. The target date for establishing the business office is September 1, 2012. Jim indicated he would expound on this plan during the August, 2012
Mental Health Board meeting. Ruth Catalan asked if clients would be denied treatment if a client did not meet eligibility and had no means of payment. Jim indicated further research would be needed before having that discussion. Ruth asked if we accept private insurance for Mental Health services. Jim stated that less than two percent (2%) of our existing clients have private insurance. Lori asked what the Medi-Cal reimbursement rate is, currently. John stated it is approximately $2.00 per minute, and that we receive approximately fifty percent (50%) of that figure. He further stated that the county is responsible for coming up with the remaining 50%, out of either realignment or MHSA funds. Ruth asked Jim to provide the source of his statistics. Ruth also asked if someone could provide figures on the reimbursement rate for private insurance. Lisa Carisio pointed out that, as she understood it, the Department tried to ‘reserve slots’ for mental health care clients on Medi-Cal, who do not have the options open to them that private insured clients have.

B. Deputy Director (John Lawless) – John informed the members that he had pulled Attachment “C” from the agenda back-up material, as the Statement Letter needed to be modified. John also discussed the draft of the Proposed Agenda Item Timeline, in order to adhere to the By Laws. The timeline proposes that agenda items would need to be sent to the Chair, as well as the secretary, 2 weeks prior to the meeting date. Additionally, thirteen (13) days prior to the meeting, the MHB Chair, Human Services Director and Deputy Director, and others as requested, would meet to discuss and set the agenda. One (1) week prior to the meeting, the agenda would be finalized, and packets would be assembled and ready for pick up by members at the Human Services building. Lori proposed a modification: she would like the thirteen (13) day verbiage to reflect that the specified group would meet “as needed”, not just to set the agenda, as the By Laws state that they are suppose to meet. John will make the requested verbiage change. Ruth suggested this item would probably need to be at the discretion of the new chair – John and Lori agreed.

C. Board Chair (Lori Ritter) N/A

- Additional Information - Ruth asked if it would be possible to add Angela Phillips to the August agenda. She also asked for feedback (Stats) on how the R.O.A.D. House is doing and what makes folks eligible. Ruth also asked for information on the Heritage House relocation and wanted to know if more folks would be eligible for the R.O.A.D. House services. Ruth asked Angela to pass the word that the Mental Health Board needs more “consumer” board members. Applications can be made available at the R.O.A.D. House. A discussion ensued regarding the option of posting flyers or having an announcement made regarding Mental Health Board Membership. It was mentioned that a Dr. Gilger was living in our area and is establishing a graduate program that will provide interns and that he might be a possible committee member. The Board was informed that applications can be provided by Donna and that the Mental Health Board can make recommendations to the Board of Supervisors but the Board of Supervisors makes the final decision.

IV. Old Business: N/A

V. New Business:

A. New Format - Meeting Packets - discussed above under Deputy Director Report.

B. MHSA Plan for Repayment of Funds - Lori asked if the figures were corrected and requested verification as to whether it was a 6-year plan or a 5-year plan. Jim stated that yes, the figures were corrected and that the copy the board currently has is the newest copy. He also stated that some of the plan is 6 years and some of the plan is 5 years. Ruth made a motion to submit the plan to the Board of Supervisors with the recommendation from the Mental Health Board to be sent to the State and approved by the State before the Board of Supervisors and the Mental Health Board take any further actions. Lisa seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

C. Discussion of Appointment of MHSA Governing Committee - Lori reported that Ruth will be on the committee. Lori nominated herself to be on the committee. She verified with
John that he will be on the committee and has asked Bill Davis to be on the committee. Bill is to get back to her to let her know. Lori stated that she wants to know what this committee will look like and how it will be structured. Ruth suggested that the committee meet to figure out what the expectations of the committee will be and if they want to report to the Mental Health Board every month.

D. Approval of WET Plan - Ruth made a comment that she doesn’t think they can approve - just make recommendations. Ruth made a motion to recommend the WET Plan be submitted to the Board of Supervisors for their approval with the caveat that the committee can question how the money is being spent and that the money is being directed where it is suppose to be directed and being used for its intended purpose. Eleanor seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

E. Mental Health Board Nomination Committee Report and Election - Lori announced that the committee, which consisted of Janet Bibby, Emma Levy (who is no longer on the Board) and she would like to nominate Meghan Kehoe as Chair and Jeremy Briese as Vice Chair. Nominations were opened for discussion. Ruth made a motion to close nominations. Eleanor seconded the motion and the motion was passed. Lori then opened for a motion to vote on the nominations. Ruth made a motion to vote for Meghan Kehoe for Chair and Jeremy Briese for Vice Chair. Lisa seconded the motion and the motion was passed.

F. Statement Letter Approval & Declaration of No Income Survey- was pulled from the agenda for corrections by the Behavioral Health Staff to be added to August, 2012 agenda. Also to be changed from “Approval” to “FYI” at the next meeting.

G. Rescind Prior Action and Approve New Action in Accordance with Bylaws - Lori gave a brief statement stating that this is on the agenda again due to the last time the board approved the changes there wasn’t enough time between the change request and the first vote of the change. The change to the By-Laws is Article VI Section 30, bullet 2 - “Arrange for each meeting to be noticed in the local paper seven (7) days prior to the meeting” Ruth made a motion to approve the change in the By-Laws. Lisa seconded the motion and the motion was approved by the board. Ruth asked if the board needs to submit the By-Law changes to the State. Lori asked Julia to see if John or she could check with Steve Dahlem.

VI. Committees Meet/Report (Time Permitting)

Suicide: [Lori Ritter (Chair), Janet Bibby, Jennifer Gamble, Jeremy Briese]

Homeless: [Ruth Catalan, Emma Levy, Eleanor Keuning]
• Eleanor has invited Jan Codd and Cinnamon Fleener to speak on the Homeless at the August 2nd meeting. Has asked Donna to put them on the agenda.

VII. Adjournment: Lisa made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 12:50pm. Ruth seconded the motion and the motion was carried.

Reminder: The next meeting will be held on August 2, 2012 at the Mariposa County Human Services Mariposa Room, 12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

Submitted,

Julia Brown
Intern Recording Secretary