

S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center
1050 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, SC 29902
February 1, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The February 1, 2019 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission was called to order at 10:15 a.m. by Dr. Alison Evans, Chairperson, in the Conference Room of the Coastal Empire Community Mental Health Center, 1050 Ribaut Road, Beaufort, SC. Mr. Donnie Campbell provided the invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Dr. Evans, Chair, welcomed Mr. David Zoellner of Protection and Advocacy (Charleston) and Ms. Susan vonSchenk of Capitol Information Affiliates.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Dr. Evans, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission approved the Agenda for today's Business Meeting.

All voted in favor to the above motions; all motions carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Ms. Sharon Wilson, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission approved the minutes from the Business Meeting of January 11, 2019.

All voted in favor to the above motions; all motions carried.

Dr. Evans thanked Ms. Terry Davis and others who assisted with last month's retirement celebration of former State Director John H. Magill. Dr. Evans welcomed Interim State Director Mark W. Binkley to his first Commission meeting as Interim State Director and said, "We are glad to have you serve in this capacity."

MONTHLY/QUARTERLY INFORMATION REPORTS

Mr. Alan Powell presented the items listed under Monthly/Quarterly Informational Reports, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

Of note, concerning the Public Safety Patient Protection Report, last month the oldest pending case was from April 2018 and now the oldest pending case is from December 2018, indicating many cases have been closed within the last month.

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Community Mental Health Dashboard

Ms. Deborah Blalock presented the items from the Community Mental Health Statistical Report, copies of which were provided to the Commission.

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Ms. Blalock highlighted patient accessibility to services. Of all the requests for service that came to the agency in December, 93% meet the approved standards which require that patients be seen within: 24 hours in emergency situations, two days if urgent, and within seven days if routine.

The DMH Community Mental Health Division is on track to serve significantly more patients in FY19 than FY18.

Community Update

All DMH outpatient facilities are Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) accredited, issued on a three year cycle. Per Ms. Blalock, in the past year, nine mental health centers were surveyed, and all expect to receive reaccreditation. The mental health centers surveyed received recommendations spanning from zero to a potential high of 12. Considering that there are 1,122 standards in CARF surveys, the results are outstanding. Anderson-Oconee-Pickens Mental Health Center has had two surveys in a row with zero recommendations; congratulations to Center Director Kevin Hoyle and staff.

The Community Crisis and Response Intervention (CCRI) program with 24/7 response teams is rapidly expanding across South Carolina. DMH CCRI now covers 22 counties and expects to be in all 46 counties by June 30, 2019. South Carolina will be one of the few states in the nation with a 24/7 statewide emergency response program. The new CCRI program in Columbia, SC has received high praise and support from law enforcement, Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and a local probate judge.

Ms. Blalock recently met with the Greenville Delegation and its subcommittee pertaining to the merger of Greenville Mental Health Center and Piedmont Mental Health Center. Positive feedback was given by both boards and both center directors. DMH received 100% unanimous endorsement for the approval of the resolution from the subcommittee and is moving forward with the merger. All current board members of both centers will be invited to sit on the new 15 member board. DMH is pondering names for the center and plans to post the Center Director position next week. DMH plans to complete the merger by June 30, 2019.

Forensic Waiting List Update

Dr. Versie Bellamy stated there are currently 21 patients on the Forensic waiting list. The average number of days on the wait list for long-term care patients is ten. The average wait for an admission for restoration is currently 16 days, well within the goal of no greater than 30 days. A major barrier to reducing the wait list further is the need for additional supervised community housing options for those waiting to be released. The problem is not easily solved since many factors are interconnected but staff continue to work towards moving patients across the continuum of care.

Issue Action Papers

Dr. Bellamy presented an Issue Action Paper to amend Commission bylaws, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. The Governing Body Committee for Inpatient Facilities recommended a change in its membership to add the Inpatient Services Financial Controller and the Inpatient Services Director of Performance Improvement, Risk Management, and Regulatory Compliance.

On a motion by Ms. Sharon Wilson, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, the Commission approved the Issue Action Paper regarding the addition of two members to the Governing Body Committee for Inpatient Facilities.

Issue Action Papers

Mr. Binkley presented an Issue Action Paper to approve the sale of 0.238 acre of land in Gaffney to the South Carolina Department of Transportation, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

On a motion by Ms. Sharon Wilson, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission approved the Issue Action Paper regarding the sale of 0.238 acre of land in Gaffney to the South Carolina Department of Transportation.

Veteran Nursing Home Update

Per Mr. Binkley, Governor McMaster supported requested funding for the construction of three proposed 104-bed Veteran Nursing Homes and funding for renovations of the Richard M. Campbell Veterans Nursing home.

Physical Plant Services is on track to meet federal grant deadlines pertaining to veteran nursing home construction, which falls under the leadership of Ms. Debbie Calcote. Ms. Calcote expressed great confidence in Mr. Ken Roey's supervision of these projects. Ms. Sharon Wilson asked if the same company would be hired for all three jobs. Mr. Binkley said he anticipates there will be several bidders for each of the three construction projects. The total value of the three construction projects will be approximately \$150 million.

Bull Street Update

Ms. Calcote stated there was recently a fire in the south wing of the Babcock Building and DMH is looking at bids to repair the roof of fire damage. The goal is that the roof repair may be used in conjunction with future redevelopment. The fire apparently resulted from trespassing individuals starting a fire to keep warm.

To combat the problem of vagrants camping in the buildings, a number of empty buildings are scheduled for demolition, and DMH has increased the amount of Public Safety patrols in the area to reduce building intrusions by the transient population and thrill-seeking teenagers.

Financial Status Update

Per Mr. Binkley, during the State of the State address, Governor McMaster expressed his support for school safety measures. It is the goal of DMH to provide access to School Mental Health Services in all South Carolina public schools by 2022. The Governor supported the Agency's request for additional funds for school mental health services. The Governor also recommended DMH requested funds for a variety of information technology needs; particularly for infrastructure, telepsychiatry, and telehealth.

Ms. Calcote highlighted certain information on the monthly financial report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. She also noted that recruitment of qualified personnel continues to be a challenge.

House Legislative Oversight Committee

SCDMH is one of five State Agencies under review by the House Legislative Oversight Committee in 2019. Per Mr. Binkley, the meeting of the full 16 member committee meeting last month went very well. The process has moved to the Healthcare and Regulatory Subcommittee which is scheduled to meet every two weeks for two and a half months, beginning February 5, 2019. The meetings are open to the public and televised via the legislative website. The first meeting will focus on an overview and structure of the Agency. Mr. Hiott asked that the Commission be sent copies of the information given to the Oversight committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Binkley stated Representative William G. "Bill" Herbkersman of Beaufort and Jasper Counties is the new House Ways and Means Healthcare Budget Subcommittee Chair.

Representative Heather Ammons Crawford of Horry County, also a member of the Healthcare Subcommittee, recently met with Mr. Binkley and other members of DMH leadership to learn about DMH operations. Ms. Rochelle Caton took her on a tour of Forensics and the Morris Village Alcohol and Drug Addiction Treatment Center. Dr. Bellamy stated Representative Crawford appeared interested and Ms. Caton did a great job arranging the visit and directing informative conversation.

NOTICE/AGENDA

A notice and agenda of the meeting were sent out to all individuals and news media who requested information, in accordance with State law.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11:00 a.m., on a motion by Mr. Bob Hiott, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission adjourned the Business Meeting and entered into Executive Session to receive legal advice concerning pending and threatened litigation. Upon convening in open session at 12:45 p.m., it was noted that only information was received; no votes or actions were taken.

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members

Dr. Allison Evans, Chair	Bob Hiott
Sharon Wilson, Vice Chair	Louise Haynes

Visitors/Staff

Mark Binkley, JD	Doug Glover	Dr. Judith Treadway
Dr. Versie Bellamy	Natasha Smith	Donnie M. Campbell
Debbie Blalock	Sharon Culpeper	Walter C. Kelly


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Debbie Calcote
Alan Powell

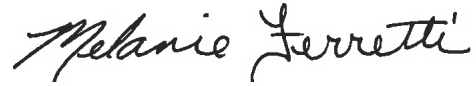
David Zoellner
Susan vonSchen

Omega Smalls-Francis

APPROVALS



Alison Y. Evans
PsyD, Chair



Melanie Ferretti
Recording Secretary