

S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
SCDMH Administration
2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201
March 1, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The March 1, 2019 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Dr. Alison Evans, Chairperson, in Conference Room 320 at the SC Department of Mental Health Administration Building, 2414 Bull Street, Columbia, SC. Mr. Stewart Cooner provided the invocation.

INTRODUCTION OF VISITORS

Dr. Evans welcomed Mr. Greg Pearce, who is expected to be confirmed as a Commission Member in the near future. Also welcomed were Mr. Adam Dalenburg, Mr. Gary Wilhelm, and Ms. Susan von Schenk.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On a motion by Ms. Louise Haynes, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, 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 Mr. Bob Hiott, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission approved the minutes from the Center Presentation of February 1, 2019.

On a motion by Ms. Louise Haynes, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, the Commission approved the Minutes from the Business Meeting of February 1, 2019.

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

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.

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Community Mental Health Dashboard

Ms. Deb Blalock reviewed data for the Community Mental Health Dashboard, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. She stated that all of the Community Mental Health Centers are showing budgets with no deficits and that thirteen (13) out of seventeen (17) Centers are currently meeting productivity goals. There are now CCRI (Community Crisis Response and Intervention) Teams in twenty-two (22) counties across South Carolina and will soon be available in two (2) additional counties. To-date, the Team has served nine hundred eight (908) clients and provided one thousand, two hundred seventy (1270) services, of which three hundred forty-two (342) were seen onsite in the communities. Ms. Blalock stated that the goal is for CCRI services to be available state-wide by June 30, 2019.

Approval of Name for Combined Greenville County Mental Health Centers

It was recommended that the name for the combined Mental Health Centers in Greenville County (Piedmont Center for Mental Health Services and Greenville Mental Health Center) be “Greater Greenville Mental Health Center”.

On a motion by Ms. Louise Haynes, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, the Commission approved “Greater Greenville Mental Health Center” as the name of the combined Centers in Greenville County, effective July 1, 2019.

Legislative Update

Mr. Mark Binkley highlighted certain proposed legislative changes, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. He stated that in regards to the Mental Health Transport Bill (S303), one recommendation that was made was that SCDMH would provide all emergency admission transports of psychiatric patients. He stated that a workgroup is being formed to review alternatives for transporting psychiatric patients. He also described the House Ways & Means Committee’s budget recommendations for SCDMH, and that those recommendations will be presented to the full House in the near future.

Forensic Waiting List Update

Dr. Versie Bellamy stated that there are currently twenty-seven (27) on the Forensic Waiting List. Restoration admissions are currently at ten (10) days, which is well below the original goal of thirty (30) days. Dr. Bellamy expressed appreciation to the DMH staff and leadership for their collaborative efforts. Mr. Alan Powell stated that there is usually an increase of orders after the holidays.

Issue Action Paper

Ms. Debbie Calcote presented an Issue Action Paper to approve the sale of the Carter Street property to the Columbia Housing Authority, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

On a motion by Ms. Louise Haynes, seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott, approved the Issue Action Paper regarding the sale of the Carter Street property to the Columbia Housing Authority.

6 Month Report of Collections

Mr. Alan Powell presented the items from the 6 Month Report of Collections, copies of which were provided to the Commission. He stated that the majority of collections for offset debt is received through seizing tax returns, which represents approximately eighty percent (80%) of the revenue that is collected. Mr. Mark Binkley stated that most individuals that do not have insurance try to make payments toward their accounts. He stated that the Community Mental Health Centers are encouraged to work with their patients that have outstanding debt.

Bull Street Update

Ms. Debbie Calcote highlighted the status of the Bull Street property, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. To-date, there have been \$ 16.5M in property sales, with an approximate net amount of \$ 16.2M being dispersed to DMH. It was noted that many of the vacant buildings continue to be used for active law enforcement training sessions including bomb squad drills, the FBI bomb squad, etc. There have been no additional property sales since February. Ms. Calcote stated that security on the Bull Street property is being reinforced by DMH and the City of Columbia. Mr. Mark Binkley reported that it is anticipated that the City Park on the Bull Street property will be completed by June and that progress is being made on Merrill Gardens, a new Senior Living development, which is located across from the Park.

Financial Status Update

Ms. Noelle Wriston highlighted certain information on the report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. The projected year-end surplus is approximately \$3.5M and is primarily the result of current staff vacancies and the challenges of recruitment. Mr. Mark Binkley stated that DMH requested \$ 1.25M for school mental health services but that approximately \$ 2.2M is being recommended to be included in DMH's budget for the expansion of school mental health services. He stated that efforts to improve hiring and staff retention include salary reviews and a potential ten (10) month contract for some school mental health employees.

House Legislative Oversight Committee

As part of SCDMH's review by the House Oversight Committee, two (2) meetings before a House Oversight Sub-Committee are held each month. Mr. Binkley stated that the history and overview of the Agency were presented in the first hearing. In the last hearing, the presentation was about the Department's Inpatient Services. During the 3rd hearing next week, the discussion will include Morris Village, Sexually Violent Predators, and the Nursing Care Facilities. He stated that all of the information that has been presented by DMH in the hearings has been well received by the Sub-Committee.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mr. Binkley stated that the three (3) new State Veterans nursing home projects are out for bids. The bid openings for Gaffney and Florence have taken place and both of the bids are approximately ten percent (10%) higher than expected. The bid opening for the nursing home to be constructed in Richland County will take place on March 5, 2019. On March 6th, DMH will meet with the Governor's Office to review the issues. Bids for the three (3) nursing homes must be awarded prior to April 1, 2019, in order to qualify for VA funding.

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 11:15 a.m., on a motion by Mr. Bob Hiott, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes, the Commission concluded the Commission Meeting and convened as the Internal Audit Committee.

At 11:30 a.m., on a motion of Mr. Bob Hiott, seconded by Ms. Louise Haynes the Commission entered into executive session to receive legal advice concerning pending litigation. At 12:30, the Commission meeting reconvened in open session. A motion was made by Ms. Louise Haynes and seconded by Mr. Bob Hiott to approve the Protection and Advocacy lawsuit settlement. All voted in favor. The attached resolution was agreed to by all Commissioners present.

ATTENDANCE

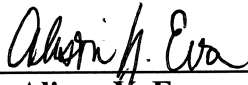
Commission Members

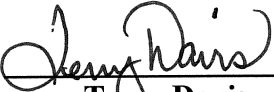
Dr. Alison Evans, Chair
Louise Haynes
Bob Hiott

Visitors/Staff

Mark Binkley	Stewart Cooner	Susan von Schenk
Dr. Versie Bellamy	Valarie Perkins	Adam Dalenburg
Deborah Blalock	Alan Powell	Gary Wilhelm
Debbie Calcote	Noelle Wriston	Sarah St. Onge
Melba Arthur		

APPROVALS


Alison V. Evans
PsyD, Chair


Terry Davis
Recording Secretary