

S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING
SCDMH Administration
2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201
May 3, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

The May 3, 2019 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission was called to order at 10:28 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 Ms. Susan von Schenk, Capitol Information Affiliates.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

All voted in favor to the above motion; motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

On a motion by Mr. Pearce, seconded by Ms. Haynes, the Commission approved the minutes from the Center Presentation of April 5, 2019.

On a motion by Ms. Haynes, seconded by Ms. Sharon Wilson, the Commission approved the Minutes from the Business Meeting of April 5, 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.

Mr. Powell reported a total of 17 pending SLED investigations: four (4) were assigned to SLED, nine (9) were assigned to Long-term Care Ombudsman Office, three (3) were assigned to the Attorney General's Office, and one (1) was assigned to local law enforcement.

DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE

Community Update/Dashboards

Ms. Deborah Blalock presented the Community Dashboard spreadsheets, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

Expansion of Crisis Services Update

Ms. Blalock distributed a handout to the Commissioners and gave a brief overview about SCDMH crisis prevention, intervention and stabilization strategies. She reported 76,834 patients were served by CMHS through the end of March, 2019.

Ms. Blalock reviewed the data regarding Crisis Stabilization Centers, EMS Telehealth Program, and CCRI, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. She shared a list of 29 counties participating in CCRI mobile services throughout the state.

Forensic Waiting List Update

Dr. Versie Bellamy reported that as of April 30, 2019 there were thirty-five (35) patients on the Forensic Waiting List, an increase of eight (8) compared to last month. The average number of days on for defendants on the forensic waiting list is 17 days, which still remains below the goal of 30 days or less.

Dr. Bellamy talked about the challenges of the increase in the numbers of individuals being referred by the criminal justice system for evaluation, and a percentage of those being found to lack the capacity to stand trial and are being referred for hospitalization, resulting in an increase in demand for forensic hospital beds. There was discussion. Dr. Bellamy suggested giving a forensic presentation in the future. The Commissioners agreed.

Financial Status Update

Ms. Noelle Wriston highlighted certain information on the monthly financial report, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. Ms. Wriston reported DMH is projected to end the fiscal year with a positive balance of approximately \$5 million.

Issue Action Paper

Ms. Calcote presented an Issue Action Paper requesting Commission approval to increase the daily resident per diem for the Department's State Veterans Home facilities to \$38.52. If approved, the rate increase will be effective July 1, 2019, and notice provided to the current residents and their families at least 30 days prior to the increase.

Ms. Calcote's presentation additionally included a request that the Commission grant Department staff authorization to increase the daily resident co-pay rate annually by an amount corresponding to the percentage increase of any future per diem rate increases to the maximum per diem for State Veterans Homes, as published by the VA.

On a motion by Mr. Pearce, seconded by Ms. Wilson, the Commission approved to vote on each recommendation separately.

On a motion by Mr. Pearce, seconded by Ms. Wilson, the Commission approved the increase of the daily resident per diem for the Department's State Veterans Home Facilities to \$38.52.

No motion was made concerning the second recommendation.

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Legislative Update

- The Commission was provided a copy of the May 3, 2019 edition of *Legislative News*. Mr. Binkley reported the Mental Health Transport Bill (S.303) crossed to the House and received a favorable recommendation from the Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Subcommittee. However, the Full Committee voted to adjourn debate. The Bill will not move further during the 2019 legislative session.
- The Physician Assistants Act of 2019 crossed to the House, and received a favorable report from the Medical, Military, Public and Municipal Affairs Committee on May 1, 2019.
- The House Legislative Oversight (HLOC) process continues. Another HLOC hearing is scheduled for May 7th.
- The Senate passed the State budget which included additional recurring funds for SCDMH of \$800,000 for Crisis Stabilization Units, and an additional \$1.75 million for community supportive housing. As those appropriations were not included in the House passed budget, the agency will have to await the outcome of the final budget deliberations to know whether those funds will be received.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Department, for the third year in a row, received a deficiency free audit of its financial services procedures from the State Auditor. Mr. Binkley recognized the following personnel from Financial Services staff for their work on the audit conducted by the State Auditor's Office during the month of March: Audrey Bates, Julie Bonnette, Chris Faure, Sheila Haney, Karen Jones, Kathleen Peterson (Information Technology), Johnny Robinson, Tarah Coolidge, and Liza Duncan. Also recognized but not present were: Anita Walburn, Steve Pullie and Sally Cargile. Mr. Binkley announced the Commissioners will receive a copy of the audit report in the near future.

Mr. Binkley reported the following:

- The Carter Street property was sold to the Columbia Housing Authority. DMH will be a financial partner in the rehabilitation of the property and in return a portion of the apartments will be reserved for affordable housing for patients referred by Columbia Area Mental Health Center.
- He is continuing the practice of the State Director meeting with the Advocates every other month. At last month's meeting, the Advocates agreed to help with publicizing the merger of the Piedmont and Greenville Mental Health Centers under the new name of the Greater Greenville Mental Health Center.
- NAMI Midlands Carolina Walk will be held tomorrow, Saturday, May 4, at Finlay Park. SCDMH will have tables offering information about available agency services.
- Senior Staff met with leadership of the S.C. Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services (DAODAS) this past week.
- A meeting will be scheduled in the very near future with DMH leadership and the new DSS Director and that agency's leadership.
- The annual ceremony to recognize the Agency's Outstanding Employees and to present the Hassenplug Award is today at 1:00 p.m. at Morris Village.

Mr. Pearce expressed appreciation to Ms. Deborah Blalock and Dr. Versie Bellamy for the hospitality extended to him when he met with the Mental Health Centers Directors and Hospital Directors last month.

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 11:46 a.m., on a motion by Ms. Haynes, seconded by Ms. Wilson, the Commission adjourned the Business Meeting and entered into Executive Session to discuss the recruitment for a permanent State Director. Upon convening in open session at 12:30 p.m., it was noted that only information was received; no votes or actions were taken.

ATTENDANCE

Commission Members

Dr. Allison Evans, Chair
Sharon Wilson, Vice Chair
Louise Haynes
Greg Pearce

Visitors/Staff

Mark Binkley, JD	Stacey Rhodes
Dr. Versie Bellamy	Susan von Schenk
Debbie Blalock	Noelle Wriston
Debbie Calcote	Valerie Perkins
Alan Powell	Janie Simpson
Eleanor Odom	
Dr. Robert Bank	
Dr. Kimberly Rudd	

APPROVALS



Alison Y. Evans
PsyD, Chair



Kim Ballentine
Recording Secretary