

**MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION
JUSTICE SYSTEMS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES
September 19th, 2023 - FINAL**

Agenda Item / Discussion	Action /Follow-Up
<p>I. Call to Order / Introductions Committee Co-Chair, Cmsr. Geri Stern, called the meeting to order at 3:32pm</p> <p><u>Members Present:</u> Cmsr. Geri Stern, District I, Committee Chair Cmsr. Pamela Perls, District II, Committee Vice Chair Cmsr. Gerthy Loveday Cohen, District III* Cmsr. Tavane Payne, District IV (*attended via video)</p> <p><u>Members Absent:</u> Cmsr. Gina Swirsding, District I</p> <p><u>Other Attendees:</u> Angela Beck Christy Pierce Jen Quallick, (Supv Candace Andersen's ofc) Stephanie Regular</p>	<p>Meeting was held at: 1340 Arnold Drive, Ste 126 Martinez, CA and via Zoom platform</p>
<p>II. PUBLIC COMMENTS: None.</p>	
<p>III. COMMISSIONERS COMMENTS: None.</p>	
<p>IV. COMMITTEE CHAIR COMMENTS: (Cmsr. Perls) Urging for those who have not taken the Brown Act training to do so. It is important that all commissioners that have not taken this training it is very important as most have not been following the law properly. Cmsr. Perls summarized where the committee left off regarding the research on the committee goals discussion (Attachment A). They had not fully eliminated the first goal (Cmsr. Cohen reported). Care Court (Goal #3), apparently the main commission will have a presentation on this at the October or November commission meeting.</p> <p>(Cmsr. Stern) We are still waiting to hear from the State of California if the Brown Act outlining rules for teleconferencing have been modified so that more people can come because it is a bit of a hardship for everyone to drop everything to commute to be in person.</p>	
<p>V. APPROVE minutes from August 15th, 2023, Justice Systems Committee meeting:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cmsr. Tavane Payne moved to approve the minutes as is. • Seconded by Cmsr. Pamela Perls <p>Vote: 4-0-0 Ayes: G. Cohen, T. Payne, P. Perls, and G. Stern</p>	<p>Agendas/minutes can be found at: http://cchealth.org/mentalhealth/mhc/agendas-minutes.php</p>
<p>VI. RECEIVE committee member report out on preliminary research for the purpose of setting goals Cmsr. Perls reviewed the list of proposed goals that were reviewed the previous meeting.</p>	<p>Documentation on this agenda item were included as</p>

Goal 1: Behavioral / Mental health services for youth in the contra costa criminal justice system. Cmsr. Cohen reviewed this goal. This goal came out in light of the closing of the 'Ranch' (Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility) and the population shrinking at the Juvenile Hall, but still open.

<Cmsr. Stern to Stephanie Regular/Christy Pierce> Do you have any contact in the Juvenile Justice System (JJS)? (Christy Pierce) The person to speak to is Jonathan Laba, Supervisor of the Juvenile Public Defender Unit.

Goal 2: LPS (Lanterman-Petris-Short) Conservatorship amendments and the unintended impact on the hospital care. Committee decided it was a moot issues because the hospital administrators have that issue managed and are getting patients to the court instead of the court coming to the hospital. (Stephanie Regular) The hospital has been reading one of the changes to the code (unavailable at time of meeting) in a manner to extend the amount of time allowed for a 5150 hold. The purpose of the law change was not to extend that amount of time, but to actually shorten the amount of time people were being held when not at a facility designated for purposes of an acute psychiatric hold. Our county, patients are directly taken to a designated facility, the amount of time should be same as prior to the amendments. The challenges to these holds are usually handled by the patient's rights advocates, rather than our office, it has been challenging to figure out where the hospital has landed in terms of their interpretation and what has been happening because we are not involved. I am hoping this is something the committee will continue to explore. As for patients being transported to the court versus having hearings held at the hospital, I know for a while there was concern because the Sheriff was no longer transporting to court. I believe the county has contracted with a transportation service in order to take people there and back.

(Cmsr. Stern) If these are not Sheriff's, what if the patient or client becomes agitated? Are these mental health technicians? Do they have training? Who are these people? (RESPONSE: Stephanie Regular) that would be a question for the hospital, not our office as we are not arranging the transportation.

Determined to follow up with the hospital regarding the transportation and having the cases heard at the hospital vs court.

Goal 3: Care court and the development of this statute. Cmsr. Stern has reported a bit and will have a speaker at the main Commission meeting. The Committee wants to have input before it is too late to do so. This does not start until October. Set goal at six months to review and how it is running after it has been in place for a time. There are so many moving parts and it has not been implemented. Committee to set up a list of questions and concerns not covered in presentation you can ask in that presentation.

(Christy Pierce) Ellen McDonnell (Public Defender) has been a part of some of the preliminary meetings but I don't know beyond that. Cmsr. Stern to follow up on this.

Goal 4: Research/Review adequacy of behavioral and mental health (BH/MH) treatment offered in the detention centers in light of (but not limited to): stemming from the settlement, as a follow up. We will have a presentation (update) at the October Justice Committee meeting. We have submitted a long list of questions and asked that any questions Lavonna Martin does not have the authority to answer, to take it to County Counsel and we would like a written response.

handouts are available on the MHC website under meeting agenda and minutes:
<https://cchealth.org/mentalhealth/mhc/agendas-minutes.php>

<p>Goal 5: Innovative youth diversion programs, models in other states. (Still need to review); RYSE Center in Richmond has many youth diversion programs.</p> <p>Goal 6: Crisis Response Teams Review. Cmsr. Swirsding spoke about the 988 system. This needs to be a deeper dive. Beyond the issue of hiring, there should be more questions, this is might be something to keep on the list. They have already given an update this year. Follow up contact for updates on hiring and any concerns they may be having, difficulty in hiring, how many teams do they have, how many teams do they have/need between midnight and 6:00am (which is what they have been having difficulty hiring for) and weekends.</p> <p>Commissioner Payne’s research on BH/MH services for youth in juvenile justice was tabled due to meeting time constraints and is reporting out here. (Cmsr. Payne) Due to the timing between the MHC main commission meeting time and the Juvenile Justice Commission meetings, I am unable to attend their meetings and reviewing their minutes to understand what they are delving into, what they are talking about and see if it is relevant to have a representative from MHC to represent and advocate in their meetings.</p> <p>(Cmsr. Stern) I would like to make a motion to invite them to one of our meetings because (I think) we could identify areas in which we could work together; collaborate. The minutes have not been posted for quite some time. Meeting times conflict, again, with our main Commission meeting and it is in Walnut Creek in the courthouse. (Cmsr. Cohen) My son is on the Juvenile Justice Commission and I can invite him to one of our meetings. They just selected him and he will be attending his first meeting in October. She will contact the chair to see if they can come to our November meeting, as the October agenda is already full.</p> <p>Goal 7: <added by Christy Pierce in discussion> Diversion Plans and Providers.</p> <p>Follow up / Action items:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Christy Pierce to forward Manju Matthews contact info to the commission. • EA to forward info regarding RYSE Center (Richmond); A3 (CC Crisis). 	
<p>VII. DISCUSS, vote and prioritize to establish three goals for the Committee (2023-24)</p> <p>Priority 1 - Goal 4 is top priority; address October/November (Cmsr. Perls)</p> <p>Priority 2 - Combine Goals 1/5; December time frame (Cmsrs. Payne/Cohen)</p> <p>Priority 3 - Goal 3 to be addressed November/January (Cmsr. Stern)</p> <p>Priority 4 – Goal 6 with a February/March time frame (Cmsr. Swirsding)</p> <p>Priority 5 – Added Goal 7 diversion plans/providers; January (Cmsr. Perls)</p> <p>Follow up on Goal 2 (Cmsrs. Perls/Stern)</p> <p>Motion to set these goals as discussed (tentatively in order subject to change as more information is gathered):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cmsr. Tavane Payne moved to approve these goals as discussed above. • Seconded by Cmsr. Geri Stern <p>Vote: 4-0-0</p> <p>Ayes: G. Cohen, T. Payne, P. Perls, and G. Stern</p>	

<p>VIII. DISCUSS and draft action plan and timeline to achieve each of three goals</p> <p>Discussion centered around the last three months and which guests were coming to each meeting.</p> <p>The next three Justice Systems Meetings: Tuesday, October 17 – Lavonna Martin Tuesday, November 21 – Manju Mathews (TBD) Tuesday, December 19 – Cmsr. Cohen/Cmsr. Payne to speak on the Juvenile Justice Commission and Mental Health Diversion.</p>	
<p>IX. DISCUSS and draft list of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Next steps for each action plan ➤ Assignments for members of committees <p>Next steps are to continue to investigate and research. Create action plan after the new year.</p> <p>Assignments for new members: <See Agenda Items VII and VIII – Next Steps and Assignments covered></p>	
<p>X. ESTABLISH tentative timeline for each action plan for bringing Justice Committee’s conclusions and recommendations to BOS</p> <p>Table this Agenda until after the new year.</p>	
<p>XI. Adjourn: 4:59 pm</p>	