



MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION (MHC) REGULAR MEETING

“Advocacy, Accountability and Oversight in Action”

Kathleen Austria, Chair, Second District, Presiding

Regular [HYBRID] Meeting Minutes

Date: Thursday, July 27, 2023
Time: 11:00 a.m.
Location: 510 S Vermont Avenue, Los Angeles, CA 90020
Virtual: [Meeting Recording](#)

MEETING TYPE:	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Regular	<input type="checkbox"/> Special
MINUTES TYPE:	<input type="checkbox"/> Proposed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Approved

Approval Date: September 28, 2023

Motion moved by Commissioner Dalglish second Commissioner Austria

1. CALL TO ORDER

- i. The meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m.

2. ROLL CALL/WELCOME

- i. MHC Member Attendance:
Commissioner Root (P), Commissioner Padilla-Frausto (AE), Commissioner Friedman (P), Commissioner Stevens (P), Commissioner Barbour (P), Commissioner Austria (P), Commissioner Dalglish (P), Commissioner Banko (A), Commissioner Peng Xu (P), Commissioner Molina (P), Commissioner Sanabria (A), Commissioner Manalo (AE), Commissioner Cooperberg (P), Commissioner Weissman (P), Commissioner Schallert (AE), and Kyla Coates (A)- **QUORUM PRESENT**
Absent (A); Absence Excused (AE); Present (P); Present Virtually (PV)
- ii. Welcome New Commissioner:
New Commissioner Kevin Peng Xu appointed by 3rd District Supervisor Lindsey Horvath. Commissioner Xu gave a brief introduction on his background in biotech, collaboration with university, and owner of LA Weekly.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

a. Stakeholder Group Reports (3 minutes per report)

- i. SALT 1 – Jean Harris reported the SALT meeting on July 20, 2023 was online only. Dr. Darlesh Horne presented information about the SALT 1 MHSA planning process. She will be attending meetings regularly at all 8 SALTs. There was another presentation representing a peer one support group.

a. **Issues/Concerns – NONE**

A copy of the meeting minutes are available for public inspection at <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mental-health-commission/minutes/> within 15 business days for proposed minutes and within 5 business days of approval for approved minutes.



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- ii. SALT 2 – Barbara Wilson gave an update on the July 13, 2023 SALT meeting, presentation by housing advocate Robbie Montgomery, and shared board & care issues regarding a family in crisis. First in-person meeting will be in September. An upcoming event will be Hollywood 2.0 Open House on August 1st.
 - a. **Issues/Concerns** – NONE
 - iii. SALT 5 – Esiquio Reyes spoke about putting more effort into recruiting members and volunteers to coordinate the next event. First meeting will be in September 2023.
 - a. **Issues/Concerns** – Better intercommunication is needed to communicate with seniors and different people who are not familiar with the virtual world.
 - iv. SALT 8 – Paul Stansbury SALT 8 executive committee members discussed agenda items for upcoming fall and looking forward to Dr. Horne coming to discuss SALT 8 planning team and who will be representing. Also, a discussion to plan overall costs is important in the planning process, peer programs and peer certification.
 - a. **Issues/Concerns** – NONE
- b. Members of the public (2 minutes caller)**
- i. Osbee Sangster –Spoke on these topics: 1) legislative leaders are proposing a \$4.68 billion bond and modernization of the MHSA for the March 2024 ballot, 2) unveil transformation of MHSA housing, accountability, reform with results including housing and substance use treatment.
 - a. **Issues/Concerns** – NONE
 - ii. Carey Grier – Spoke about DMH providing equipment like fans and air conditioners in the clinics for clients and seniors.
 - a. **Issues/Concerns** – NONE
 - iii. Sarah Farrell, Founder, and Executive Director at Mind II – spoke about collaborating with DMH and the planning process, and her user-friendly mental health resource directory. Contact Sarah at MIND11.org.
 - a. **Issues/Concerns** – NONE
 - iv. Speaker – Represents 350 state licensed residential facilities. Spoke about the board & care AD 1766 closure list. Majority of the closures are in SA 3.
 - a. **Issues/Concerns** – NONE

4. APPROVAL OF JUNE 22, 2023 MINUTES

A copy of the meeting minutes are available for public inspection at <https://dmh.lacounty.gov/about/mental-health-commission/minutes/> within 15 business days for proposed minutes and within 5 business days of approval for approved minutes.



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- Motion made by Chair Austria, move to approve Commissioner Dagleish, second by Commissioner Molina

5. OLD BUSINESS (For Action/Discussion)- (Carried from 6/22/2023)

iii. REVOTE – MHC 2023-24 Executive Committee Election Results Executive Committee - Fiscal Year 2023-2024

- Chair – Michael Molina
- 1st Vice Chair – Brittney Weissman
- 2nd Vice Chair – Bennett Root
- Members-at-Large – Jack Barbour and Kathleen Austria

6. NEW BUSINESS (For action/discussion)

a. Community Assistance, Recovery, & Empowerment (CARE) Court

Presenter: Connie Draxler, Acting Deputy Director

On June 6, 2023 BOS gave LA County authority to implement the CARE Court plan.

Cohort 2 will implement on December 1, 2023. DMH will work with the CEO and other departments to implement the plan and report back in 90 days. Jennifer Hunt is the CARE Court lead for DMH. [See CARE Court slides for details.](#)

b. MHSA Community Planning Team (CPT) – Two members of the MHC are participating as part of the Community Stakeholder Groups category.

c. AD HOC GROUP REPORTS (Carried to September 28, 2023) - MHC will discuss whether to continue with following Ad Hoc groups:

- i. Outreach and Engagement (Members: Commissioners Dagleish and Cooperberg)
- ii. Retreat (Members: Commissioners Root, Weissman, Friedman, Stevens, and Barbour)

7. COMMISSIONER REPORTS/COMMENTS (Carried to September 28, 2023)

8. COMMISSION FOLLOW-UP ON CONSTITUENT CONCERNS/ISSUES (Carried to September 28, 2023)

9. STANDING ITEMS

a. DMH Update – Connie Draxler, Acting Deputy Director presented update on the following topics: [See DMH Director’s Update slides for details.](#)

i. DMH Overall Hiring Efforts to Date

1. DMH Hiring Efforts: Leadership Positions
2. DMH New Hire for OPS Details: May 2023
3. DMH New Hire for OPS Details: June 2023

MHC request – How is the hiring going with FSP?



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MHC question – How are the new hires are mapped to the need for services by service area and filling the gaps?

- ii. Homeless Emergency Order Update
MHC request – How to hire someone who is homeless, FSP related, and onboarding.
 - iii. Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) Update
 - iv. Overview of CalAIM
 - v. American with Disability Act (ADA) Accommodations Plan
- b. DMH Legislative Update – Elan Shultz, DMH, Director of Policy & Strategy
Elan Shultz focused on priority bills and bills of interest. [See DMH Legislative report for detail.](#)
- i. Priority Bills
 1. SB 43 – will expand the definition of gravely disabled causing complications, inadequate care to those who are put on involuntary holds.
 2. Governor’s MHSR reform proposal, announced on March 19, 2023, focus on treatment and services for mental illness, substance use disorder, and homelessness in two bills.
 - a. AB 531
 - b. SB 326
 - ii. Bills of Interest
 1. SB 551
 2. AB 459
 3. AB 289
 4. SB 11
- c. DMH Finance Report (Carry over to September 28, 2023)

ADJOURNMENT Time: 1:38 p.m.