



State of California

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES OVERSIGHT AND ACCOUNTABILITY COMMISSION

Minutes of Meeting
January 28, 2016

OAC
Darrell Steinberg Conference Room
1325 J Street, Suite 1700
Sacramento, California 95814

866-817-6550; Code 3190377

Members Participating

Victor Carrion, M.D., Chair
Tina Wooton, Vice Chair
Khatera Aslami-Tamplen
John Boyd, Psy.D.
Sheriff Bill Brown
John Buck
David Gordon
Larry Poaster, Ph.D.
Richard Van Horn

Members Absent

Senator John Beall
Paul Keith, M.D.
Assembly Member Tony Thurmond

Staff Present

Toby Ewing, Ph.D., Executive Director
Brian Sala, Ph.D, Deputy Director,
Evaluation and Program Operations
Norma Pate, Deputy Director,
Program, Legislation, and Technology
Filomena Yeroshek, Chief Counsel
Peter Best, Staff Services Manager
Kristal Antonicelli, Associate Governmental
Program Analyst
Sheridan Merritt, Research Program
Specialist
Cody Scott, Staff Services Analyst
Moshe Swearingen, Office Technician

CONVENE

Chair Victor Carrion called the meeting of the Mental Health Services Oversight and Accountability Commission (OAC or Commission) to order at 9:12 a.m. and welcomed everyone. Filomena Yeroshek, Chief Counsel, called the roll and announced that a quorum was present.

Announcements

Chair Carrion noted that the meeting materials had been uploaded onto tablets for Commissioners to use during meetings to save on paper. He requested feedback on their utility.

Chair Carrion thanked John Buck for his service as vice chair last year and welcomed Tina Wooton as the new OAC vice chair. He applauded her strong advocacy, unshakeable support for peers and family, and energy.

Chair Carrion stated that Ralph Nelson has resigned as Commissioner. He thanked him for his many years of service and his work, especially with the Client and Family Leadership Committee.

Chair Carrion announced the names of the chairs and vice chairs of Committees for 2016.

- **Client and Family Leadership Committee (CFLC)**
Khatera Aslami-Tamplen, Chair; Tina Wooton, Vice Chair
- **Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee (CLCC)**
Khatera Aslami-Tamplen, Chair; Tina Wooton, Vice Chair
- **Evaluation Committee (EC)**
Richard Van Horn, Chair; Paul Keith, M.D., Vice Chair
- **Financial Oversight Committee (FOC)**
John Boyd, Psy.D., Chair; John Buck, Vice Chair
- **Services Committee**
David Gordon, Chair; Christopher Miller-Cole, Psy.D., Vice Chair

ACTION

1A: Approve October 22, 2015, OAC Meeting Minutes

Action: Commissioner Van Horn made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Brown, that:
The Commission approves the October 22, 2015, Meeting Minutes.

Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, and 1 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INFORMATION

1B: [October 22, 2015, Motions Summary](#)

1C: [Evaluation Dashboard](#)

1D: [Calendar](#)

ACTION

2: [Amend the Rules of Procedure: Legislation Authority \(First Read\)](#)

Presenter:

Filomena Yeroshek, Chief Counsel

Ms. Yeroshek presented a proposal to amend the Rules of Procedure that would authorize the executive director, or a designee, to engage in legislative discussions on behalf of the Commission, (1), when legislation is consistent with an officially approved position of the Commission or, (2), at the direction of the Commission chair when the legislation furthers the interest of the Commission.

Commissioner Questions and Discussion:

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen spoke in support of number one, but stated that number two is not necessary. It is important that Commissioners are apprised prior to taking a direction rather than made aware of actions after the fact.

Chair Carrion stated that the second half can only be in effect when legislation furthers the interest of the Commission. It assumes the chair and executive director have conferred with Commissioners and made a decision.

Executive Director Ewing stated that the second half was to recognize that the Commission is often asked to assist legislative offices in shaping legislation or to

provide technical assistance where there is not time to bring the issues to the Commission. Staff is looking for a mechanism for accountability that is flexible, timely, and at the discretion of the Commission chair.

Commissioner Poaster stated that the second half is broad. He stated that legislation sometimes moves quickly and suggested adding language that would ensure everyone is in the loop, such as requiring that the chair or executive director inform the Commission, at the next meeting, of positions taken that the Commission as a whole has not looked at. There is a danger of compromising the Commission’s statutory responsibility to advise the governor and the Legislature by becoming one of the hundreds of organizations that take positions on legislation.

Commissioner Boyd made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Van Horn to waive the second read process and add the language that reflected Commissioners Poaster and Aslami-Tamplen’s intent.

Commissioner Brown suggested noting when a piece of legislation is detrimental to the mental health community, so the Commission will have the ability to oppose it.

Public Comment:

Michael Helmick, Assistant Director, Racial and Ethnic Mental Health Disparities Coalition (REMHDCO), spoke in support of the motion.

Action: Commissioner Boyd made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Van Horn, that:

Pursuant to Rule 4.13 of the Rules of Procedure, the Commission waives the 2nd read for the adoption of the new Rule 2.5 of the Rules of Procedure.

Motion carried 7 yes, 0 no, and 2 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action: Commissioner Boyd made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Van Horn, that:

The Executive Director, or his or her designee, is authorized on behalf of the MHSOAC to advocate on legislation: (1) when the legislation is consistent with an officially approved position of the Commission; or (2) at the direction of the Chair and when the legislation furthers the interest of the Commission.

The Executive Director shall give an update of all advocacy efforts taken on behalf of the Commission at the next Commission meeting following the advocacy efforts.

Motion carried 7 yes, 1 no, and 1 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ACTION

3: Legislative Proposal for 2016: Administrative Savings Fund

Presenter:

Toby Ewing, Executive Director

Executive Director Ewing stated that the Commission has begun to discuss what happens to state administrative Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funds that were provided to state agencies but not expended before the budget authority that covers those funds expires. Staff has been working with the Department of Finance (DOF) to better understand this question. It is not yet clear, but it seems that the unspent administrative funds, which remain in the MHSA fund, are then distributed to the counties through the normal distribution process. This is different from unspent General Fund dollars, which stay in the General Fund and are available to the Legislature to allocate in future years.

There are always unspent funds, but there is no process to incentivize or track them. Executive Director Ewing asked for the authority to work with the Legislature, DOF, and the Controller to establish a fund to capture unspent state administrative MHSA funds in a savings fund to create an incentive for state agencies to save administrative dollars if

they cannot be prudently spent. This process would increase transparency and allow the Legislature to roll unspent funds over to a future year.

Commissioner Questions:

Commissioner Poaster asked about the amount of funding that has reverted to the counties from the administrative fund. Executive Director Ewing responded that there is currently no mechanism in place to track those funds. He approximated that the funds total \$3 million annually.

Public Comment:

Stacie Hiramoto, Director, REMHDCO, spoke in support of the motion. She thanked the Commission for taking this up. She agreed that the question of the amount is confusing and stated that REMHDCO was potentially hurt by the lack of funding this year.

Haydée Cuza, Ed.D., Executive Director, Peers Envisioning and Engaging in Recovery Services (PEERS), stated that the language “capture unspent MHSA administrative funds and make them available for allocation through the state budget process” addresses two separate items. She asked where the stakeholder process will be in the process. She stated that she was concerned about moving away from the robust stakeholder process that the MHSA was founded on.

Executive Director Ewing stated that there is currently little understanding about the amount of funding that was made available, spent, and left over. The intent of the proposal is to better understand the funding allocated and spent at the state level and it will go through the legislative process, which includes stakeholder input.

Commissioner Boyd stated that the line between peers, consumers, and family members is blurred. Everyone has a lived experience. The Commission’s passion and commitment is to improve community engagement even more at the local level.

Susan Gallagher, Executive Director, Mental Health America of Northern California (NorCal MHA), asked that the recaptured funding be used for oversight and accountability. She stated that there is a mission drift away from the primary mission of the OAC.

Commissioner Boyd stated that there is no mechanism to track allocated funds, how they were used, and the amounts left over. This proposal will bring the work in oversight into the Commission for better understanding and to begin the discussion about how to more effectively use the funding.

Commissioner Discussion:

Vice Chair Wooton suggested adding an amendment to bring it back to the Commission for review.

Ms. Yeroshek stated that the Executive Director is already required, under the motion approved earlier today, to bring back to the OAC updates on advocacy efforts.

Commissioner Brown suggested, for capturing the unspent funds and making them available for allocation, adding the words “mental health-related” before “allocation”.

Ms. Yeroshek stated that the MHSA is specific about how funds may be used.

Action: Commissioner Boyd made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Poaster, that:

The Commission directs the Executive Director to work with the Legislature to develop a legislative proposal to capture unspent Mental Health Services Act funds that are allocated for state administration.

Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INFORMATIONAL

4: Overview of Governor’s Proposed Budget for 2016-17

Presenters:

Sandra Gallardo, Assistant Secretary, California Health and Human Services Agency
Karen Baylor, Deputy Director, Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder Services, California Department of Health Care Services
Carla Castañeda, Principal Program Budget Analyst, Department of Finance

Executive Director Ewing stated that Ms. Gallardo and Ms. Baylor had to leave due to other obligations since the agenda was running behind.

Carla Castañeda, Principal Program Budget Analyst, DOF, presented her report:

MHSA Revenues

DOF projects an \$84 million increase for 2014-15, a \$200 million increase for 2015-16, and a \$2.1 billion increase for 2016-17 since the May Revise in Mental Health Services Fund (MHSF) revenues. The DOF is less certain of these forecasts due to the slow economic recovery.

The Administrative Cap

The administrative cap for 2015-16 is \$101.4 million and the DOF projects \$102.6 million for 2016-17. As Executive Director Ewing mentioned earlier, the Governor’s budget has appropriations that have carried over from prior years. The estimate for 2015-16 is \$134.4 million and is projected to be \$83.3 million for the budget year.

The Governor's Budget Proposals

Given its volatility, the administration has not proposed significant new expenditures from the MHSF. The Governor's budget proposals:

- The MHSF proposal for the OAC for three positions and \$396,000 to address the workload of the innovation plans.
- The General Fund proposals to increase technical assistance and oversight of the specialty mental health services. The Department of Health Care Services (DHCS) received additional resources to address that. The local assistance estimate for Medi-Cal also provides resources for counties to meet the new requirements of the five-year waiver.
- There are also resources in the budget for the performance outcomes system. This is the monitoring system for children's mental health services, both mild to moderate services in specialty mental health services. There are also local assistance resources to provide county funding for staffing as those projects are implemented.

Commissioner Questions and Discussion:

Chair Carrion asked about the total mental health resources. Ms. Castañeda stated that the MHSA funds for counties are projected at about \$1.3 billion, 1991 and 1992 Realignment funds are projected to be a little over \$1 million each, and federal funds are approximately \$2 million.

INFORMATION

5: Presentation on California Community Mental Health Funding

Presenter:

Mike Geiss, President, Geiss Consulting

Mike Geiss, President, Geiss Consulting, the fiscal consultant to the OAC, provided an overview, by way of a PowerPoint presentation. He provided an overview of community mental health services funding, the primary sources of mental health revenue, where the sources come from, and nuances of the different revenues. He stated that the majority of community mental health service revenues are driven by the economy and not by the need for services. In general, the revenues are countercyclical to when the need is greatest. He stated that there is a need for reserves to ensure continuity of programs and services.

Commissioner Questions and Discussion:

Commissioner Gordon asked if there is available data on the amount of reserves counties have in MHSA funds from year to year. Mr. Geiss stated that the data is in the Revenue and Expenditure Reports.

Executive Director Ewing added that staff has gathered three fiscal years (FY) of Revenue and Expenditure Reports and put them on an Excel spreadsheet. There are challenges in availability for some of those reports, so staff has scheduled meetings with the counties, DHCS, and DOF to ensure the accuracy of the data.

ACTION

6: Review and Adopt MHSA 2016 Financial Report

Presenter:

Peter Best, OAC Staff

Peter Best, Staff Services Manager, provided an overview, by way of a PowerPoint presentation, of the 2016 Financial Report. The report included mental health funding at the local level, total MHSA revenue received, MHSF distributed to counties, the MHSA housing program, and MHSA administration funds by department.

Action: Commissioner Buck made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen, that:

The OAC accepts the January 2016 Financial Report.

Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

ACTION

7: Outline of Request for Proposals for Stakeholder Contracts

Presenter:

Angela Brand, OAC Staff

Angela Brand, Associate Governmental Program Analyst, provided an overview, by way of a PowerPoint presentation, of the background; lessons learned; overall principles, proposed scope of work, proposed minimum qualifications for all bidders and for each population; and the next steps of the Requests for Proposals (RFP) for stakeholder contracts.

Commissioner Questions:

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen suggested dropping the “or” from the “and/or” phrases for the minimum qualifications for the first three RFP contract populations: clients/consumers, families of clients/consumers, and children and youth and their families/parents/caregivers.

Executive Director Ewing stated that, if there were organizations that qualified on the board level but did not have 51 percent on the staff level, it may preclude them from participating.

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen agreed and suggested using the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) definitions for family-and-consumer-run organizations. She stated that organizations that are not at 51 percent on the staff level are not qualified to apply for resources that are dedicated for consumer-and-family-run organizations. She requested that the Commission be consistent with the federal-level SAMHSA definitions.

Commissioner Gordon asked if these requirements apply to subcontractors whose work would be controlled by the primary contractor. Executive Director Ewing agreed that it is helpful to consider if the primary contractor must meet the requirements or if the subcontractors enable the primary contractor to meet the definition. He stated that it is important that the primary contractor who is in control of the funding should meet the definition.

Commissioner Buck stated that, from a small company standpoint, there are significant advantages to having some degree of latitude for organizations to present their case. He disagreed with allowing only those who have contracts to bid. He stated that competition makes organizations work harder for the good of the communities they serve.

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen agreed and stated that the voice of the specific stakeholder populations is important – organizations’ missions, bylaws, boards of directors, leadership, and staff must be invested in including the stakeholder voice.

Commissioner Buck agreed with Commission Gordon’s view not to exclude subcontractors when the contracted organization finds advantage for the communities they serve by subcontracting with organizations that may not meet all the requirements. He suggested that subcontractors be looked at closely by the evaluation team to verify that the implementation will be consistent with the Commission’s philosophies and values, including representation by the constituent population.

Commissioner Gordon suggested writing the RFPs in such a way that the federal definitions are advisory instead of exclusionary.

Chair Carrion suggested that staff prepare the RFPs based on the feedback given today and present them to the Commission in the February meeting. Ms. Brand stated that presenting the RFPs again in February would shorten the timeline but was still doable.

Executive Director Ewing stated that the contracts were targeted to come back for Commission approval in the May meeting. He suggested adding a Commission meeting in June since the timeline will be delayed if changes are made today.

Commissioner Gordon stated that moving the process along so work can begin as soon as possible is of utmost importance. He stated that he trusted staff to craft the RFP language from feedback received today so the Commission can approve the contracts in May to give the awardees enough time for start-up.

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen agreed but emphasized the need to drop the “or” for the first three categories. Vice Chair Wooton agreed.

Chair Carrion asked Commissioners if they would like to incorporate the SAMHSA definition or drop the “or.”

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen asked to drop the “or.”

Executive Director Ewing stated that staff received a letter from the California Association of Mental Health Peer-Run Organizations (CAMHPRO) recommending the use of two standardized definitions – one was from SAMHSA.

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen stated that it is critical that the staff is also 51 percent consumers, because consumers want employment.

Executive Director Ewing suggested using the SAMHSA definition, which more clearly defines the required percentages, and adding “and they employ peer workers in staff and management positions.”

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen and Vice Chair Wooton stated that they support that definition with Executive Director Ewing’s added language.

Ms. Yeroshek summarized the Commissioner requests: there is a need for definite standards as well as a need to build in flexibility to open the opportunities for different entities. She stated that one way that it has traditionally been done in the past is to have minimum qualifications and desired qualifications. The minimum qualifications are established so that organizations can be included in the scoring process. The desired qualifications will enhance an organization’s points in the scoring, as mentioned by Commissioner Gordon.

Chair Carrion stated that what some Commissioners would think is a minimum qualification, other Commissioners would think of as desirable.

Vice Chair Wooton stated that there are two Commissioners who are sharing the consumer viewpoint. She stated that she and Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen have worked in the system for a long time and have experienced that, over time, things have a tendency to get watered down. She emphasized the need for the minimum qualification and the standard to be that 51 percent or more of the directors and management staff be consumers, with Commissioner Gordon’s suggestion of a point value to open it up to organizations in the future.

Public Comment:

David Bain, Executive Director, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) Sacramento, asked that the Commission not put additional hoops to jump through for MHS funding. He stated that his appreciation for the MHS funds NAMI does receive to help pay for

trainings. Training facilitators and supporting group teachers and presenters are a significant cost for some counties. NAMI operates primarily through donation funding and volunteer workers. OAC stakeholder contracts help the community through organizations such as NAMI that provide services for consumers and their families.

Juanita Peña, member, NAMI Solano, shared her daughter's story. She stated that she joined the NAMI Solano support group because her county had none. She is now the Board President for the new NAMI Napa. NAMI is a strong foundation for family members to stand on.

Heidi Strunk, advocate for CAMHPRO, thanked Executive Director Ewing for referencing their letter where they quoted the SAMHSA definition. She agreed with removing the "or" from the minimum qualifications to adhere to the meaning of consumer-run organization.

Poshi Mikalson Walker, LGBTQ Program Director, NorCal MHA, stated that the California LGBTQ Reducing Disparities Project directed a research study that confirmed the assertions of the Department of Mental Health (DMH): the LGBTQ population experiences mental health challenges at a much higher rate than the general population and are not counted or tracked within the public mental health system. Now that Phase I of the CRDP has ended, there is no longer an essential platform and no funded statewide stakeholder advocacy voice for LGBTQ mental health. She requested that a contract be funded for LGBTQ stakeholder advocacy as soon as possible.

Leslie Molera, of NAMI Solano, shared that her son was needlessly killed by police officers. She stated that her other son is a police officer working with the mentally ill, but he has never been crisis intervention team (CIT) trained. She stated the need for change in the way law enforcement deals with mentally ill consumers. Senate Bill (SB) 11 and SB 29 were signed by the Governor for additional CIT training for law enforcement, but there is not enough funding to implement it.

Commissioner Boyd asked if funds becoming available from SB 82 in June or July would be applicable to the kind of initiative Ms. Molera is talking about promoting in the state.

Vice Chair Wooton stated that many counties used the workforce, education, and training (WET) funds for CIT trainings, but does not know if CIT trainings can use crisis funding.

Commissioner Brown stated that the problem is the funding for officers to go to the training – to get the overtime or the backfill to ensure patrol officers are on the street while trainings are in session. He asked the Commission to consider crafting some way to assist law enforcement agencies to provide not only the eight-hour training for all officers, but a forty-hour training block for individuals who would be members of the CITs to respond with mental health professionals in the field. CIT training would be a good use of the MHSAs dollars.

Nancy Clark, member, NAMI Yolo and NAMI Tulare, shared her family's story. She expressed her support for NAMI's Family-to-Family program.

Ms. Hiramoto spoke in support of Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen's comments about the requirements, but stated two concerns: the qualifications and the issue of automatically awarding contracts to past recipients. She stated the concern for past recipients that are dependent upon continued contracts with the OAC who may not be awarded a contract this year. There has not been enough discussion prior to this meeting. She spoke in support of an additional LGBTQ contract.

Laurel Benhamida, Ph.D., of REMHDCO and the Muslim American Society – Social Services Foundation (MAS-SSF), spoke in support of Ms. Hiramoto's comments and stated her appreciation for REMHDCO for helping the MAS-SSF find a place at the table in mental health in the state of California. She encouraged the Commission to carefully word the RFPs to show evidence of capacity to engage communities reflective of California's diverse population so that stigmatized groups are not ignored.

Chuck Helget, Executive Director, California Association of Veterans Service Agencies (CAVSA), spoke in support of the competitive process that staff is proposing.

Commissioner Boyd asked what the downside would be if the Commission decides to require 51 percent representation to ensure organizations that were contracted to do this work were comprised of that same percentage. He also asked, if the Veteran's Administration was awarded a contract, whether veterans at the table making decisions for care and treatment of veterans is 51 percent.

Adrienne Shilton, Director of Intergovernmental Affairs, County Behavioral Health Directors Association of California (CBHDA), spoke in support of the CAMHPRO recommendations and the direction the Commission is taking today.

Kiran Savage, Director of Legislation and Advocacy, NAMI California, stated that NAMI circulated an impact report to Commissioners. NAMI would like to see an expansion of the work that is being done and the outcomes seen with the current RFP process. She stated that NAMI has done a lot of work with CIT training and law enforcement because NAMI believes in the value of the lived experience and the impact that can have on systems change. She stated the hope that the RFPs give space for organizations to propose programs like working with law enforcement, hospitals, and health systems to change their practices with regards to mental health. NAMI would like to see the 51 percent added throughout the categories.

Matt Gallagher, Program Director, California Youth Empowerment Network (CAYEN), asked for flexibility within the transition age youth (TAY) population. Most, if not all, of the CAYEN board members have lived experience. He stated that he did not know how the RFP would work for CAYEN because they fall under the umbrella of another company.

Zima Creason, CEO, Mental Health Association in California (MHAC), spoke in support of moving away from sole source to an RFP. She stated that no one should be making decisions about any population without that population leading the charge. When MHAC applies, CAYEN and REMHDCO, which are programs of MHAC that have boards and staff with close to 100 percent lived experience, will be included.

Ms. Gallagher spoke in support of an LGBTQ mental health advocacy agency because it is desperately needed. For the RFPs, she suggested considering any agencies with a statewide presence. She asked what would happen if an advocacy agency had a difference of opinion or policy with the OAC. She suggested putting in the contracts that there would be no retaliation to those agencies by threatening to withdraw funding if they disagree with the OAC.

Steve Leoni, consumer and advocate, spoke in support of removing the “or” from the first three categories. Traditionally, stakeholder contracts have provided a voice at the state level for policy issues before bodies like the OAC. That piece is missing from the scope of work.

Patricia Wentzel, a NAMI support group facilitator and warm line staff for NorCal MHA, stated that if competition was going to produce stakeholder participation, it would have done so and it did not. She stated the need for flexibility because there are entities that may not have 50 percent staff. She spoke in support of Commissioner Gordon’s recommendation to look at minimum and desired qualifications. It will provide an incentive to create more and better organizations that have greater representation of stakeholders in them because they will strive for the desired qualification scores. She spoke in support of adding services for LGBTQ and the elderly. She asked that there be no delay in the process.

Commissioner Discussion:

Chair Carrion stated that there are issues of language, gaps, and funding options. He agreed that there should be no delay in the process.

Executive Director Ewing stated that there was \$1.954 million available and that the Legislature gave an augmentation of an additional \$1 million. That money has not yet been made available for this FY. The intent was that the augmented amount will be ongoing and will be built into the OAC base for a total of \$2.954 million annually for the RFP. It is anticipated that the augmentation will occur at the end of the FY and the funds will be rolled over to the following FY, making an additional one-time \$1 million beyond what is available annually. The OAC will borrow \$400,000 against the one-time \$1 million for research on disparities and veterans work, leaving \$600,000 – or \$1 million, if the OAC repays the \$400,000 – next year in one-time stakeholder advocacy dollars.

Commissioner Boyd suggested adding a seventh RFP category for LGBTQ not to exceed \$200,000 annually.

Chair Carrion suggested adding a category for law enforcement CIT training. Commissioner Brown stated that this may not be the funding vehicle for this project. Statewide law enforcement training would require significant resources to provide meaningful CIT training statewide.

Commissioner Poaster stated that he is not opposed to Commissioner Boyd’s motion, but there may be other groups that might be part of this discussion that did not know it was going to be discussed today.

Commissioner Brown suggested putting this item on the February agenda to vote on again.

Commissioner Poaster suggested a friendly amendment adding a category for organizations that provide services to seniors. Commissioner Boyd rejected that as a friendly amendment but suggested treating seniors as a separate category.

Action: Commissioner Boyd made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gordon, that:

Contingent on the availability of funds, the Commission directs staff to issue a Request for Proposals for a stakeholder contract for LGBTQ communities in an amount not to exceed \$200,000. The funds for this stakeholder contract shall not be taken from the \$2.954 million allocated for the six other stakeholder contracts.

Motion carried 8 yes, 1 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Executive Director Ewing provided three funding options: equal distribution, preserve historical funding, or gradual adjustment.

Commissioner Brown suggested a blend of preserving historical funding and equal distribution of additional funds that become available so no population suffers a significant cut.

Public Comment:

Reina Florez asked the Commission to contact her about working with county board members for collaboration and accountability. Chair Carrion stated that a staff member will speak with her at break.

Commissioner Boyd asked when Sacramento County last presented at a Commission meeting or was involved in a community forum. Commissioner Gordon stated that they presented in a meeting about a year ago. Vice Chair Wooton stated that requests for community forum locations go through the Community Forum Work Group.

Ms. Creason spoke in support of a separate contract for LGBTQ and a gradual adjustment to equal distribution of the funds.

Ms. Hiramoto spoke in support of preserving historical funding moving towards equal distribution. She stated her concern over the scoring of the proposals due to the

retirement of the Commission's most culturally competent staff member. Just because a person is of color does not mean they are culturally competent or that they understand how to reduce disparities. She also cautioned against a conflict of interest among the members of the scoring team.

Ms. Mikalson Walker spoke in support of flexibility in the contracts due to programs that are subcontracted. She gave the example that the LGBTQ Reducing Disparities Project was run 100 percent by members of the LGBTQ population but the fiscal agent did not have 51 percent on their board or staff.

Commissioner Discussion:

Commissioner Boyd asked if the agencies supporting this work and funding meet the motion's criteria to ensure the Commission does not accidentally exclude them. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen stated that they can apply for the RFP and qualify for it.

Commissioner Brown asked for clarification that the "or" should be excluded from some categories and not from others. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen stated that the "or" should be dropped from the first three categories to be consistent with the federal definition and to reflect a commitment to consumer-run-focused advocacy statewide. The last three categories and the new LGBTQ category should be flexible.

Executive Director Ewing stated that the motion would apply to principal applicants only, not to their subcontractors.

Commissioner Brown cautioned against entering dangerous ground in splitting the qualifications between the groups. The same criteria should be required of all groups.

Commissioner Buck stated that, if an applicant does not meet the minimum qualifications, the evaluation team will never see their proposal. He cautioned against excluding small businesses through the qualifications.

Action: Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen made a motion, seconded by Vice Chair Wooton, that:

The Minimum Qualifications for the Request for Proposals for Stakeholder Contracts are:

For all bidders:

- *Have evidence of capacity to provide statewide, county-level, and state-level participation;*
- *Be a non-profit organization; and*
- *Have evidence of capacity to engage communities, reflective of California's diverse population*

For each population:

- *Clients/Consumers: A statewide client/consumer-run organization with a board of directors and staff comprised of more than 51% clients/consumers.*

- *Families of Clients/Consumers: A statewide organization with a demonstrated ability to support the needs of families of clients/consumers with a board of directors and staff comprised of more than 51% families of clients/consumers.*
- *Children and Youth (under 18 years) and their parents/caregivers: A statewide family-run organization with a board of directors and staff comprised of more than 51% parents and/or caregivers who have raised or are currently raising a child in the mental health system.*
- *Transition Age Youth (ages 16-25): A statewide youth-run organization with a board of directors and/or staff comprised of more than 51% youth with experience in the public mental health system.*
- *Veterans: An established statewide organization with experience providing programs and services related to the mental health needs of California's veteran population.*
- *Diverse racial and ethnic communities/populations: An established statewide organization with experience providing program and services related to achieving mental health equity for diverse racial and ethnic communities/populations and other vulnerable populations.*
- *LGBTQ: An established statewide organization with experience providing program and services related to achieving mental health equity for LGBTQ communities.*

Motion carried 5 yes, 4 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

Action: Chair Carrion made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Buck, that:

The Commission approves the outline for the Scope of Work for the Stakeholder Request for Proposals (RFP) and directs Executive Director to issue RFP with the following maximum funding allocations:

<i>Clients/Consumers</i>	<i>\$548,000 per year</i>
<i>Families of Clients/Consumers</i>	<i>\$669,000 per year</i>
<i>Children and Youth and their parents/caregivers</i>	<i>\$437,000 per year</i>
<i>Transition Age Youth</i>	<i>\$500,000 per year</i>
<i>Veteran</i>	<i>\$400,000 per year</i>
<i>Racial/Ethnic Minorities</i>	<i>\$400,000 per year</i>

Motion carried 9 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Ms. Cuza apologized for speaking outside of her allotted time. She stated that she appreciated the stakeholder process and supported the LGBTQ additional funding.

INFORMATIONAL

8: Update on Crisis Services Project

Presenter:

Commissioner John Boyd

Commissioner Boyd stated that the initial draft is almost completed. It will go before the stakeholders' group at the end of February and will be brought before the Commission in March or April. There was a significant level of participation in this amongst all constituents and site visits were made throughout the state.

ACTION

9: Commission Projects for 2016

Presenter:

Toby Ewing, Executive Director

Executive Director Ewing provided an overview, by way of a PowerPoint presentation, of the proposed scope for additional policy research projects to be taken on by the Commission. He presented a list of potential topics that had been generated by Commissioners and asked Commissioners to select two or three for staff to begin to work on in March. He noted that peer certification is not on the list because there will be a presentation by the sponsors of SB 614, the CBHDA, on this topic in the February Commission meeting.

Commissioner Questions and Discussion:

Commissioners felt that every topic suggested was a priority and added peer certification to the list.

Executive Director Ewing stated that there are other significant proposals that address homelessness; staff has asked Senator Kevin de León's office to present their proposal to the Commission. It is important to hear the proposal before beginning work on this topic.

Commissioner Gordon stated that he and Rusty Selix gave a presentation on mental health and schools and early intervention; that project is still in process. He volunteered to lead the mental health and schools project.

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen suggested including information on how each topic will impact communities for each of the proposed topics. Executive Director Ewing stated that the lead Commissioner for each project will fill out the details and bring them back to the Commission for approval.

Commissioner Boyd stated that the lead Commissioner for each project must be willing to devote 200 to 300 hours to the project.

Commissioner Van Horn volunteered to lead the mental health and physical health parity project.

Vice Chair Wooton asked how the projects relate to the Committees. Executive Director Ewing stated that the Committees will be used to support these projects. He suggested building Committees around the projects.

Commissioner Buck stated that the Financial Oversight Committee (FOC) can take on the fiscal reversion project. Executive Director Ewing stated that the intent is to expose the full Commission to these projects, not just hear a report of the work that was done. Fiscal reversion can be led by the FOC, but the full Commission should participate in the dialogue because all Commissioners are asking the same questions.

Public Comment:

Mr. Helmick stated that it is important for the OAC to finalize the Little Hoover Commission (LHC) Report so that stakeholders see that the Commission is responding to the LHC recommendations. He requested a work group or training that looks into mental health navigators specifically through the lens of racial, ethnic, cultural, and gender identity/LGBTQ issues. He spoke in support of prioritizing the IRP as an OAC project for 2016 and of the presentation on peer certification in the February Commission meeting.

Ms. Cuza stated that she would not want to lose the momentum in the important work the Committees are currently involved in while they take on additional projects.

Ms. Mikalson Walker agreed that the IRP should be prioritized. She agreed that mental health and schools and mental health and criminal justice involvement should be prioritized, but stated that they are interconnected. There is a school-to-prison pipeline for people of color, LGBTQ individuals, and severely mentally ill individuals, all of whom are overrepresented in the prison system. There is a need for clinicians and individuals who know how to work with mental health. She suggested that upstream prevention be included in the strategies when suicide is chosen as an area to research.

Mr. Gallagher agreed that the IRP should be prioritized, as well as juvenile justice. He stated that Commissioner Gordon made an offer that cannot be refused about the leveraging of funds with mental health in schools. It would be foolish and imprudent not to take him up on that offer. He volunteered to assist in this work.

Ms. Wentzel stated that mental health parity in private health insurance is of significant interest in the Legislature now. The Commission may want to take that into consideration when selecting a project. There is a move to put Medi-Cal individuals into managed care, so problems that already exist in the private managed care market will be moved to the Medi-Cal population.

Hiat Saleh, a volunteer at the MAS-SSF and school psychologist, encouraged the Commission to consider prioritizing mental health and schools. She stated that she was happy to hear about the early intervention programs because intervening early greatly improves the prognosis. The currently-adopted wait-to-fail model exacerbates many of today's prevalent problems.

Ms. Savage spoke in support of prioritizing criminal justice, peers, and mental health parity. She encouraged the Commission to join the work being done in other agencies on these topics, particularly around criminal justice. She volunteered NAMI to assist in the projects in the stakeholder process.

Action: Vice Chair Wooton made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Buck, that:

The Commission directs staff to undertake the following policy research projects:

- *Mental Health and Schools*
- *Mental Health and Criminal Justice*
- *Issue Resolution Process*
- *Reversion*

Motion carried 5 yes, 0 no, and 0 abstain, per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INFORMATIONAL

10: Cultural and Linguistic Competence Committee (CLCC) Training on Transition Age Youth

Presenters:

Commissioner Khatera Aslami-Tamplen, CLCC Chair
Susan Manzi, Youth In Mind Executive Director and CLCC member
Danielle Clark, Peer Counselor for the TAY Hope Intervention Program
Shawn Davis, Youth In Mind Programs and Outreach Specialist
Jeraniqua Martin, Board Member, CAYEN
Emily Bender, NorCal Mental Health America LGBTQ Program Coordinator

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen stated that part of the CLCC's charter is to provide cultural and linguistic competence training for the Commission. The Committee selected TAY for many reasons. She introduced the members of the panel.

Susan Manzi, Executive Director, Youth In Mind and CLCC member, provided an overview, by way of a PowerPoint presentation, of the objectives, TAY reality data, and policy recommendations for TAY.

Shawn Davis, Programs and Outreach Specialist, Youth in Mind, stated that his focus was on empowerment programs and service accessibility. He shared his family's story and his experiences growing up in the foster care system.

Danielle Clark, Peer Counselor for the TAY Hope Intervention Program, shared her story to help Commissioners understand how powerful a lived experience is as a tool in the field. She stated that accessing services at a young age was difficult. She stated that what saved her to this day was the peer support she had along the way, the statewide housing she was fortunate to come across, and a safe place she could go to open up and share her story.

Ms. Clark stated that she serves youth in communities where many providers do not go because the clinicians are afraid. This highlights the importance of lived experience because, as a person with lived experience, she is not afraid to go into her community and offer the support that was offered to her. She stressed the importance of investing in the TAY population and in peers, paving a way to bring them out of the communities and allow them to share their story in a way that is community-building and productive.

Jeraniqua Martin, Board Member, CAYEN, shared her story of determining that she wanted to do something different and make an impact on a greater level in her community by becoming a youth advocate to empower and inspire youth, to tell them that they are not the only ones suffering in silence, and that their voice and story matter. She stated that it is important that youth accessing services see someone who looks like them that they can connect and identify with.

Emily Bender, LGBTQ Program Coordinator, NorCal MHA, stated that NorCal MHA created a collaborative last year, named the Pride Action Team, with a mission to establish safe and affirming environments for youth who are or are perceived to be LGBTQ through outreach, trainings, and community events. She referenced the CLCC handout of recommendations and highlighted the recommendations to increase clinical support on school campuses and to increase support for culturally competent materials, information, and services. In order to thrive, youth must learn to balance who they are culturally along with exploring and questioning who they are as individuals.

Ms. Manzi shared her lived experience. She emphasized that there are extreme accessibility issues in TAY mental health services.

Commissioner Questions and Discussion:

Commissioner Boyd asked where TAY support is strong. Ms. Martin stated that L.A. County has good outcomes from their efforts and Sacramento is doing great work.

Commissioner Gordon asked what services would be added to schools that are not done now. Ms. Bender stated that there is only one school psychologist for every 4,000 students in the Sacramento City Unified School District. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen noted that this is recommendation number seven on the CLCC handout.

Ms. Martin stated that she would like to see more individuals who understand systems and mental health, such as therapists and social workers. Having accessible mental health services in the school is vital.

Ms. Clark stated that she would like to see more support groups and structured activities on campus to connect with peers at the same school with similar experiences.

Commissioner Boyd asked about successful models, if there is peer certification specifically for the TAY population, and if there are models for peers to be paid in schools and other places where they are needed.

Ms. Manzi suggested the Bay Area as an area with the greatest number of nonprofits and consumer-run organizations. Research indicates there are not many partnering with empowerment organizations in the northernmost counties of the state. Ms. Manzi stated that SB 614 seeks to standardize peer certification across all counties and would allow a new Medi-Cal coding for mental health service reimbursement.

Commissioner Boyd asked what a successful model would look like and what is most important. Ms. Clark stated the importance of field work and not being afraid to meet TAY where they are. She stated that field workers are taught not to chase clients down or run after them, but she encouraged the opposite. She requested that field workers go to find the TAY and, if they do not answer the phone the first time, to keep calling. She suggested, if there is a message to share, sharing it with TAY even if it seems they do not listen.

ACTION

11: Shasta County Innovation Plan

Presenter:

Nev Jones, OAC Staff

Commissioner Buck recused himself from this agenda item and left the room.

Nev Jones, Research Scientist II, provided an overview, by way of a PowerPoint presentation, of the innovative project criteria, what OAC staff look for, Shasta County context, and the proposed Innovation (INN) project description and learning objectives of the proposed four-year \$2,969,053 Shasta County INN project, titled "Community Mental Health Resource Center."

Commissioner Questions and Discussion:

Commissioner Gordon asked staff to present with future INN plans what the county is purchasing for the funding, how that syncs with the plan they are proposing, and if the system is changing or just being added onto in the hopes that something different will result.

Jamie Hannigan, MHSA Coordinator, Shasta County, stated that the major portion of the annual budget will go to a community provider(s), with hours Monday through Friday, 8am to 5pm. Mobile crisis units respond to the emergencies. The providers that respond to the RFP will use their available resources to staff the project.

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen asked if the respite is a 24-hour respite. Ms. Hannigan stated that respite will be included in the RFP and will not be located at the Community Mental Health Resource Center.

Commissioner Boyd asked about the high suicide rate in Shasta County.

Donnell Ewert, the Director of the Shasta County Health and Human Services Agency, stated that Shasta County is trying to divert as many individuals as possible from emergency rooms so they can be served in a better setting. Shasta County has been doing suicide prevention from the beginning of the PEI plan, including a project related to firearms, which is a tricky issue in a red county because of the politics. Mr. Ewert stated that Shasta County's attempt rate is similar to the rest of the state, but the completion rate is high due to the use of firearms.

Action: Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Gordon, that:

The MHSOAC approves Shasta County's Innovation Project:

Name: Community Mental Health Resource Center

Amount: \$2,969,053

Project Length: 4 Years

Motion carried 6 yes, 0 no, 0 abstain, and 1 recusal (Buck) per roll call vote as follows:

Name	Yes	No	Abstain
1. Chair Carrion	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Vice-Chair Wooton	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. Commissioner Beall	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. Commissioner Boyd	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. Commissioner Brown	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. Commissioner Buck	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. Commissioner Gordon	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. Commissioner Keith	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. Commissioner Poaster	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. Commissioner Thurmond	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. Commissioner Van Horn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

INFORMATIONAL

12: Committee Proposal for 2016

Presenter:

Toby Ewing, Executive Director

Executive Director Ewing stated that there has been concern about a lack of clarity in the Committees. The chairs of the Committees were named today. Staff will meet with the chairs, put together a work plan integrating the Committee work with the priorities selected by the Commission, and report back to the Commission.

Public Comment:

Ms. Mikalson Walker urged the Commission to continue the Committee process. She stated the concern about infrequent Committee meetings and rumors that the Committees will be disbanded. The Committees serve an important purpose and allow a voice that is not possible in the three minutes of public comment and agenda constrictions of Commission meetings.

INFORMATIONAL

13: Community Forum Plans for 2016

Presenter:

Toby Ewing, Executive Director

Executive Director Ewing stated that the Community Forum Work Group directed staff to convene a community forum in San Mateo County. Staff is finalizing a date and location. There have been concerns that the forums are less focused than they could be. Staff at the work group meeting suggested building community forums around the priority projects, such as a community forum on mental health and schools, that would allow the Commission to leverage the venue created with a focus that leads to the kinds of outcomes that are looked for.

INFORMATIONAL

14: Commission Research Plan for 2016

Presenter:

Brian Sala, Ph.D., Deputy Director

Executive Director Ewing presented Dr. Sala's report. Staff has worked with Commissioner Van Horn, Chair of the Evaluation Committee, to put together a research and evaluation strategy that recognizes that the current strategy is working well but there are things that need to be refined in terms of the ability to issue RFPs and support research and evaluation. Also, there is a broader conversation around the state's overall research strategy and ability to do analysis with mental health data.

Executive Director Ewing stated that the OAC made an investment in an advanced planning process for the state's data system. Deputy Director Sala will put together a plan over the next few months to bring in an outside consultant with expertise in how to use research, data, and analytics to shape decision-making in order to leverage the state's strategy to support a range of conversations about what is happening with the Commission, directing the focus to mental health.

Staff is working to identify someone who can lead the strategic conversation regarding models for larger research and analysis in addition to the kinds of things that the Commission has been doing in the past, such as issuing RFPs and doing smaller research projects, to drive the research and evaluation agenda through the broader set of systems that affect the communities the Commission serves.

INFORMATIONAL

15: Executive Director Report Out

Presenter:

Toby Ewing, Executive Director

Executive Director Ewing presented his report:

Stakeholder Contracts

Staff is thinking about how to operationalize lessons learned in relation to stakeholder contracts to improve the work of the Committees, research and evaluation, specific legislation, policy research projects, and community forums.

Innovation

Nev Jones has been gathering materials to begin the discussion on the Commission's criteria with explicit deadlines and standards for a more robust innovation strategy. The governor approved the request to support three additional OAC staff members to determine where innovation is necessary statewide, to do more innovation technical assistance and training, to enhance how the OAC monitors and evaluates innovations, and to improve how the Commission does dissemination.

Policy Research Projects

The Little Hoover Task Force Project

The Little Hoover Commission recommendations:

- Fiscal transparency – staff will give an update in February or March on the work the Commission is doing to collate all the financial reports the counties file.
- An enhanced statewide data system – the Commission is working with the DHCS on this issue.
- PEI authority – the Commission will convene a work group in the next few months.

The Bureau of State Audits (BSA)

The BSA audit annual report raised two issues that the OAC had not complied with:

- The OAC has not completed the regulations – at the time of publication, the OAC had finished its work but the Office of Administration Law (OAL) had not signed off on them. The OAL has now approved the regulations.
- The OAC is still working towards the five-year master plan – the BSA recognized that the five years is not over, but there is work yet to be completed.

Regulation Implementation

Staff is working with Commissioner Poaster and the counties. Progress is being made.

Triage

Staff meets periodically with county triage coordinators for county-to-county learning. The triage coordinator meetings focus on administrative issues but not necessarily program issues. There is a need for peer-to-peer technical assistance in relation to program issues and lessons learned.

Communications

Staff plans to present a communications plan at the February meeting.

Legislation Tracking

There will be a presentation on peer certification in the February meeting.

Senator de León's staff will present on the housing bond plan in a future Commission meeting.

Plan Review

The Commission has not yet begun to explore plan review. The Commission receives the county Three-Year Plans and Annual Updates. Staff is beginning to consider what has been done in the past, how to improve upon that, and how the Commission can be more effective and more supportive through the plan review process.

Personnel

A number of positions have been advertised.

Calendar

The February meeting will be held in Sacramento. Based on the priority project decision made today, staff will put together a 6-to-10-month rolling calendar from now on.

Commissioner Questions and Discussion:

Commissioner Van Horn stated that there is a national group working on a national standard for peer certification led by Patrick Hendry, the Vice President of Peer Advocacy, Supports, and Services at MHA in Washington, D.C. Commissioner Van Horn stated the concern that the DHCS is opposing SB 614, the peer certification bill.

Commissioner Aslami-Tamplen stated that DHCS has not come out with an official statement opposing the bill.

GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENT

Mr. Helmick asked Commissioners to judge the Each Mind Matters 2016 Directing Change Program and Student Film Contest, "Through the Lens of Culture," in March. Sixty-second films will be submitted by individuals ages 16 to 24.

Ms. Hiramoto stated that the community forum format of holding large public meetings is not best for receiving input from communities of color and non-English-speaking communities. She suggested continuing to convene large forums for general attendances but also including small focus groups located in the communities. She also suggested combining the CLCC and CFLA Committees. Ms. Hiramoto stated that the

public wants the OAC to take its oversight and accountability role more seriously for plan review and PEI.

Executive Director Ewing stated that the Commission convened a focus group pilot in Visalia, which was successful. How to support more focus group activities will be discussed in the Committees.

ADJOURN

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 4:35 p.m.