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## California Association of Mental Health Patients' Rights Advocates

**Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, October 2, 2019  
Time: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Via Conference Call**

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### I. Call to Order

#### a. Introductions and Roll Call

Member/Title	County
Jill Ward / President	Shasta
Melanie Roland / Treasurer	Santa Clara
Gloria Hernandez / Central Valley	<del>Fresno</del>
Megan Wheelehan / BAYPAC	Santa Clara
Wendy Cheula / Far North	Siskiyou
Jean McDonald / At Large	San Diego
Christina S. Kraushar / At Large	Merced
Richard Krzyanowski – DRC / At Large	Los Angeles Area
Daniel Waggoner – COPR / At Large	Sacramento Area
Perla Calvario / Guest	Monterey
Dave Vandenburg / Guest	Emeritus
Jim Raphael / At Large	<del>Santa Clara</del> Emeritus

### II. Housekeeping

#### a. Roll Call – Quorum met.

b. Treasurer's Report: Melanie Roland reports that the balance \$8,009.95 as of June 30, 2019. Still in process taking over as Treasurer. Bank of America not allowing the transfer. She will be going to the bank by the end of the week to finalize the switch. She needs to deposit membership checks received. Jill reports that Santa Cruz has a couple staff in their office that will be joining.

c. Approval of Minutes- Chris moves to approve and Jim seconds, no further discussion, the motion is approved.

### III. Statewide Business

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- a. AB 333 Eggman (formerly AB 2317) – Whistleblower protection for county patients' rights advocates under contract. Essentially allows for a cause of action to be filed without an administrative investigation by the Department of Labor. Arbitration is not included. Bill is still pending.
- b. SB 66 Atkins and McGuire – Amended March 21, 2019. Allows for multiple appointments at the same location on the same day to be billed to Medi-Cal. Bill is still pending.
- c. SB 10 Beall – Allows for a statewide peer support specialist certification program for mental health and substance use disorder systems. Programs could then bill Medi-Cal for peer support services. Bill is still pending.
- d. SB 40 Wiener and Stern – Would broaden the definition of grave disability to include if a person is unable to care for their own health care needs. Would allow for conservatorship of 28 days or less if detained 8 times in a 12 month period. Bill is still pending.
- e. AB 43 Gloria – Would clarify MHSA planning process for innovative programs is to be completed in collaboration with stakeholders and is to comply with open meeting laws. Bill is still pending.

## IV. Coalition Reports

- a. Far North: Wendy Cheula (Siskiyou)

Humboldt County PRA having access issues possibly related to retaliation. Issues stemming from Public Guardian withholding client funds. Status of AB 333 still pending, but a provision for whistleblower retaliation provisions will be added to the County Advocate section of the W & I code preventing retaliation against PRAs. Gloria recommends involving Linda Garrett, JD as she has solved issues for other counties.

Shasta County had an LPS audit as well as San Francisco and Los Angeles counties. Auditors will be returning the last week of October, asked a lot questions re: 5150s. They had an EQRO Audit as well and got a new Police Chief. Shasta is not allowed to perform advocacy in the jail.

Siskiyou County has started mental health diversion program.

- b. BayPac: Melanie Roland for Megan Wheelehan (Santa Clara)

Will meet October 9, 2019, after this meeting will meet quarterly.

- c. Central: Gloria Hernandez (Fresno County)

Alex from Gloria's office will be taking this over, no further updates. Gloria reports that Tulare County is denying Writs before the client sees the public defender. Jim suggests

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inviting the Tulare PRA to our next meeting, Chris will reach out to “Brenda” and report back. Madera County does not have an advocate and isn’t planning on getting one, they do not think there is a legal mandate. Discussion regarding PRAs working with SUD clients that are not MH clients. San Diego is using PRAs for SUD clients.

- d. South: Martin Hernandez (Los Angeles) –Jean reports that a new Crestwood opened in their county

## V. Reports from Meetings/Other Advocacy Organizations

- a. California Coalition for Mental Health (CCMH): Melanie reports for Megan that the meeting was Sept. 18<sup>th</sup> at Father Joe’s Villages, presented how homelessness is the result of decades of wealth inequality. Coalition approved new version of their agenda for fairness which is available on their website. New director of behavior health for San Diego county plans to integrate behavior health into health care system, and advocating for same within the State. Low attendance at CCMH meetings they discussed ways to increase participation.
- b. California Office of Patients’ Rights (COPR): Daniel reports Ann Collier’s position is still vacant as well as a second part-time position. These positions have not been posted. Daniel will let us know when it does. Additional training/resources available on-line is also still pending. Ideas for trainings please send to Daniel. Daniel believes PRAT will be the last week of April at Holiday Inn in Sacramento.
- c. Mental Health Advocacy Services (MHAS): Jim sent an email asking for volunteers with no responses. Jill will follow-up.
- d. California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations CAMHPRO/DRC: Richard reports that CAMHPRO receives indication from Steinburg Institute to hold a stakeholder meeting and requests CAMHPRO to provide consumer perspective regarding the LPS audit, Richard suggests CAMHPRA attend as well. CAMHPRO is advocating for SB 10 and has been working on that legislation. Statewide program called ACCESS is a growing consumer voice. Bring people in and train them as ambassadors. DRC met last week and Richard was unable to attend. They are primarily working on replacing long-time executive director. DRC is monitoring SB 1045 and SB 40 closely. Planning council will be meeting in a couple of weeks. Mike is scheduled to come on board. Working on developing a survey on jail advocacy to get a comprehensive view of jail advocacy. Hopeful to initiate legislation to improve jail advocacy. Counties jump starting their stakeholder processes. Advocacy often gets left out of these, Richard encourages our participation.

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- e. California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC): Planning council will be meeting in a couple of weeks. Mike is scheduled to come on board. Working on developing a survey on jail advocacy to get a comprehensive view of jail advocacy. Hopeful to initiate legislation to improve jail advocacy. Counties jump starting their stakeholder processes. Advocacy often gets left out of these, Richard encourages our participation.

## VI. Public Policy

- a. AB 103 – Mike Phillips reports Department of State Hospitals regarding IST clients waiting for state hospital beds would create a new level of advocacy and oversight. Is this something county advocates want to take on or push away? Mike will set up a conference call with CAMHPRA to discuss to include: Mike, Jill, Martin, Daniel, Meghan Jim, Richard. Department of State Hospitals has not reached out again.

## VII. New Business and Next Meeting; Adjourn

- a. DHCS updating 5150 and 5250 forms. Mike provided feedback. We will be on the watch for new forms to come out.
- b. Crestwood resident chairs – Program Flexibility Request by Crestwood MHRC to only provide chairs in resident rooms upon request. Jim's organization wrote letter in opposition. Unknown at this time if the State has granted this request. Mike will follow-up with Roberta Rankin regarding the resolution to this issue.
- c. Request to have CHA follow-up at PRAT regarding homeless discharge law progress after one year.
- d. Emeritus Board Membership – Richard makes a motion to accept Gloria Hernandez as an Emeritus Board Member, seconded by Melanie, ayes: Jill, Melanie, Wendy, Jean, Christina, Richard, Daniel, Mike, motion carries. Daniel makes the motion to accept Jim Raphael as Emeritus Board Member, seconded by Richard, ayes: Jill, Melanie, Wendy, Gloria, Jean, Christina, Richard, Daniel, Mike, the motion carries. Christina makes the motion to accept Dave Vandenberg as an Emeritus Board Member, seconded by Wendy, ayes: Jill, Melanie, Gloria, Wendy, Jean, Christina, Richard, Daniel, Mike, and Jim, motion carries. Richard makes the motion to accept Ann Coller as Emeritus Board Member, ayes: Jill, Melanie, Gloria, Wendy, Jean, Christina, Richard, Daniel, Mike, Jim, and Dave, motion carries.
- e. Vice President position – Jill left messages about Joshua Bryant with no reply. Jill suggests Lisa Long of Placer County as interim Vice President until the annual meeting.
- f. Christina requests that time be set aside at the end of our meetings for open discussion with all advocates. Also, that minutes (likely edited) be available to all membership on a quarterly basis.

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- g. County Retaliation – Battles being fought within the counties have implications for all of us. Move this item to a new agenda category called “Standing Items.”
- h. Changing the meeting date/time to accommodate Emeritus members. Jill would like to wait and check with Ann about her schedule.
- i. Vehicles and animal fees; clients are losing their vehicles due to impound fees. Request for Richard to bring it to Planning Council meeting to bring up the issue, Melanie will send a message on the PRA listserv for feedback regarding experiences and detailed accounts.
- j. Facebook Administrator – Chris agreed to be added as an administrator.
- k. \$100 donation already voted on and passed. Once Melanie has access to the account, she will mail the donation.
- l. Next meeting: January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020.
- m. Dave makes a motion to adjourn the meeting and Gloria seconded the motion, no further discussion, meeting adjourned.

## VIII. Email Voting Results

- a. Jill Ward makes a motion to nominate Lisa Long of Placer County as interim Vice President, seconded by Wendy, ayes: Megan, Mike, Jean, Melanie, Melody, Daniel, Jill, Wendy, motion is approved.
- b. An issue was raised regarding the above vote that the bylaws state that the President, Vice President, Secretary and Treasurer must be from different regional coalitions and Jill and Lisa are in the same regional coalition. Jill proposed the following resolutions;
  - i. Do we amend the by-law to allow for President and Vice President to be from the same Regional Coalition?
  - ii. Do we proceed with the vote that places Lisa Long as interim Vice-President and wait for the annual meeting election of officers at next year's PRAT.

Voting results: Members voted for option 2: Jim, Gloria, Richard, Melanie, Merida, Melody, Jill, Dave, Wendy, Megan, motion carries.

- c. Meghan Wheelahan requests letter of opposition be sent to Santa Clara County against the proposal to implement Assisted Outpatient Treatment program and to add Santa Clara County to the expanded conservatorship pilot program under SB 40. Reviewed by legislative committee members; Jim and Dave. Letter dated December 17, 2019, signed by Megan was sent.