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## California Association of Mental Health Patients' Rights Advocates

**Board Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, April 29, 2020  
Time: 10:00 AM - 1:00 PM  
Via Conference Call**

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### **I. Call to Order**

#### **a. Introductions and Roll Call**

<b>Member/Title</b>	<b>County</b>
Jill Ward / President	Shasta
Lisa Long / Interim Vice-President	Placer
Melanie Roland / Treasurer	Santa Clara
Melody Beltz - Secretary	Humboldt
Gloria Hernandez / Emeritus	Fresno
Megan Wheelehan / BAYPAC	Santa Clara
Christina S. Kraushar / At Large	Central Valley
Martin Hernandez / South	Los Angeles
Merida Saracho / At Large	San Bernardino
Jim Raphael / Emeritus	Santa Clara
Dave Vandenberg / Emeritus	Monterey
Jude Stern – COPR / At Large	Sacramento Area

### **II. Housekeeping**

- a. Roll Call – Quorum met. Resignation received for Daniel Waggoner. Jude Stern is now filling that role.
- b. Treasurer's Report: Melanie Roland reports the account balance is approximately \$8,200 the last she checked. She is working with Annette Tran to get online banking set-up.
  - i. Checks received for PRAT from Jim and San Diego, she is holding off on cashing these checks at this time.
  - ii. The donation in honor of Rusty Selix is still pending.
  - iii. Treasurer also has \$250 yearly invoice to pay and is working with Annette Tran on required tax filings. Jill reports that Teresa Alvarez, past Treasurer from Stanislaus can also be a resource.
  - iv. Jim makes a motion to accept the Treasurer's report, seconded by Lisa, no further discussion, motion carries.

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- c. Approval of Minutes- Correction to the minutes to reflect the correct County for Jim and Dave. With those changes, Jim makes the motion to approve the minutes, Melanie seconded, no further discussion, motion carries.

### **III. Statewide Business**

- a. 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 has been moved to inactive status.
- b. SB 803 (formerly 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. Richard will report on next meeting.
- c. 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 and is in committee.
- d. SB 854 & SB 855 – Jim Beall & Scott Wiener – would make insurers cover more mental health. Bill is still pending and is in committee. No changes.
- e. CAMHPRA Legislative Committee – consists of Melanie, Dave, Richard, Chris and Jim.

### **IV. Coalition Reports**

- a. Far North: Reported by Jill Ward (Shasta) for Wendy Cheula (Siskiyou)

Butte County - Bianca Wilson reports that most staff are working remotely and hearings at their PHF are occurring remotely. Crisis services are still being provided in person.

El Dorado County - has a new PRA, Christina Hammill.

Shasta County – Conducting Certification Review hearings via video conferencing. Plans to open an 8-bed CSU at county office as a temporary measure for 5150 clients after medical clearance.

Placer County – Lisa is working on a video in conjunction with the Emergency Room brochure she previously sent out. Lisa will send it out to the group.

Del Norte County – Jude reports they do not currently have a PRA.

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Madera County – Has not had a PRA for over a year with no intention of filling it. Jude will investigate. They are planning on opening a 125- bed facility soon. Mariposa County possibly as well.

b. BayPac: Megan Wheelan (Santa Clara)  
Has not met, will update in the future. Reports that Alameda County having some remote some in-person, Santa Clara doing remote hearings.

c. Central: Gloria Hernandez (Fresno County)  
Has not met due to COVID-19.

d. South: Martin Hernandez (Los Angeles) –  
Martin reports Riverside, San Bernardino, Los Angeles doing hearing remotely. Orange has contracted out so that is unknown. Monitoring executive orders regarding tele-psychiatry. They call in to the facilities and someone reads them the chart. Then takes the phone to the patient and lets them speak to them. Some patients are leery. Some facilities are willing to allow them access to their EHR but that takes time. Mike Phillips had previously reported that hearing were shut down in San Diego, Jude updated that Mike is working on and is on-track to resolving this which included DRC and a Judicial Council memo that went out last week.

## **V. Reports from Meetings/Other Advocacy Organizations**

- a. California Coalition for Mental Health (CCMH): No report.
- b. California Office of Patients' Rights (COPR): Jude reports that PRAT will occur via webinar this year. Jude has been supporting the counties with technical issues related to COVID-19.
- c. Mental Health Advocacy Services (MHAS): No report
- d. California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations CAMHPRO/DRC: No report.
- e. California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC): No report.

## **VI. Public Policy**

- a. AB 103 –No update at this time.

## **VII. Standing Items**

- a. County Retaliation
  - i. Humboldt Update – Writs for clients on a TCON is no longer being denied by the Public Defender's office.
- b. COVID-19

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- i. Concern that video interviews and hearings are a lower quality. Melanie drafting a letter for her county expressing that these measures need to be temporary during the crisis and should not be made permanent.

## VIII. New Business and next Meeting, Adjourn

### a. Remote Hearings

Lisa would like to prepare statistics so that we can be prepared when counties discuss making the remote hearings permanent. Including how patients' rights have been impacted. Discussion regarding the parameters of this study and who would like to participate. Did the number of hearings change, did the number of clients' prevailing change? Los Angeles had noticed less PRAs calling out sick. Therefore, no hearings have been cancelled. They have not noticed a change in outcomes of hearings. Lisa would like to get statistics several months prior to COVID and compare to several months post COVID to compare the difference. Interest in identifying if the interview process is impacting the hearing result. Lisa will collaborate with COPR to determine tracking issues and methodology. Lisa, Jude, Melanie, Martin and Merida volunteer to work on this project.

b. Letter in support of continued LPS hearings. Jude has already addressed this in the Judicial Council Memo. This letter of support is no longer timely.

c. Future CAMHPRA Meeting platform. Discussion whether board members have the ability to meet via video conference call and if so, what platform would we use and would CAMHPRA Board have its own account? COPR would be happy to host future meetings via Zoom. Lisa makes the motion to change our meeting platform to Zoom hosted by COPR seconded by Chris, no further discussion, motion approved.

d. Board Election and CAMHPRA Dues. Election normally occurs at PRAT every 2 years. Due to no in-person PRAT conference this year. Discussion regarding board positions continue until an election can take place and membership be extended without dues being collected. Melanie reports that only two people sent in membership dues this year so far. Chris reports that Merced County sent out checks and their accounting department would like to have resolution on uncashed funds. Board agrees to extend CAMHPRA membership and Board Officers' term until we can meet in-person again. Board agrees to send out a communication to the CAMHPRA membership listserv.

### e. PRAT CAMHPRA Luncheon

- i. Likely it will not happen this year.

f. Vehicle and animal fees – Melanie asked for testimony on the listserv and did not receive any responses. Megan reports their office is working on the towing issue and will report back to the Board.

g. The next CAMHPRA meeting will be Wednesday, July 29<sup>th</sup> 2020.

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- h. Melanie makes a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jim seconded the motion, no further discussion, meeting adjourned.

## **IX. Results of Email Vote**

- a. Megan makes a motion for the CAMHPRA Board of Directors to send a letter of opposition for bills AB 1976 and AB 2016, motion seconded by Melanie. Ayes: Martin, Dave, Melody, Wendy, Merida, Jill, Jim, Melanie, Megan and Gloria. Motion passes.