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## California Association of Mental Health Patients' Rights Advocates

**Board Meeting Minutes**  
**Wednesday, November 10, 2021**  
**Time: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM**  
**Via Zoom Call**

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

#### a. Introductions and Roll Call

	<b>Member/Title</b>	<b>County</b>
	Lisa Long / President	Placer
	Frank Smithwaters / Vice-President	Northern California
	Melanie Roland / Treasurer	Santa Clara
	Melody Beltz - Secretary	Humboldt
	Clare Cortright / BAYPAC	Santa Clara
	Christina S. Kraushar / Central	Merced
	Whitney Wilson/South	San Diego
	Jean McDonald / At Large	San Diego
	Mike Phillips / At Large	San Diego
	Merida Saracho / At Large	San Bernardino
	Richard Krzyzanowski – DRC / At Large	Los Angeles Area
	Jim Raphael / Emeritus	Santa Clara
	Dave Vandenburg / Emeritus	Monterey
	Daniel Wagoner – COPR / At Large	Sacramento Area

### **II. Housekeeping**

#### a. Roll Call – Quorum met.

#### b. Treasurer's Report: Melanie Roland reports the account balance is \$7,255.95.

1. Melanie reports that the tax form recently submitted was returned from the Office of Charitable Trust due to a missing attachment. She will correct and resubmit.
2. \$100 donation was made to the family of Martin Hernandez and a "thank you" was received from the family.
3. Lisa requests that signatures of the President and Vice President be added to the bank account as voted on by the Board 11 months ago.

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4. Jim makes a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by Christina, no further discussion, motion carries.
- c. Approval of Minutes- Richard requests the spelling of his last name be corrected. Christina makes the motion to approve the minutes, Clare seconded, no further discussion, motion carries.

### III. Coalition Reports

- a. Far North: Wendy Cheula (Siskiyou) – Wendy not present. Frank reports that are no issues currently in Lake, Sonoma and Napa counties. Lake County's Public Guardian was arrested and charged with stealing client funds.
- b. BayPac: Clare Cortright (Santa Clara) – Clare reports a new Behavioral Health Director in Santa Clara and they have submitted the 5270 process to the Board of Supervisors.
- c. Central: Chris Kraushar (Fresno County) – Christina reports that she requested a meeting with her coalition but wasn't able to get Zoom on her computer. COPR offered to host the Zoom meetings in the future for the coalition meeting. Merced closed their CSU due to staffing issues, remaining staff were moved to their PHF unit. Hearings are not going well because the traveling RNs do not know what to present so clients are being discharged that really shouldn't be. Still no PRA in Madera County.
- d. South: Whitney Wilson (San Diego) – Whitney reports on San Louis Obispo, San Diego, Ventura, Los Angeles, Santa Barbara, San Bernadino, Riverside, Imperial, and Orange. Due to the amount of information, it is decided by the Board that a spreadsheet will be compiled by Lisa and posted to the CAMHPRA website.

### IV. Standing Items

- a. Presidential Updates: Lisa reports that the PRAT training on CAMHPRA with Mike went well. Two new members joined and the website traffic increased times 5.
  1. Website: Lisa asked the Board what articles should be posted; just California; Civil Rights issues? Email Lisa with your perspective and she will create a guideline. Moving items from Facebook to the website will take a while.
  2. CAMHPRA – Currently 73 members. There is only 1 board meeting before PRAT is scheduled in April. Email Lisa regarding your thoughts on CAMHPRA's role at PRAT. Specifically, should

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we continue doing the same or change our role. Special Board meeting scheduled for January 12<sup>th</sup>, 2022 to discuss PRAT activities and luncheon.

## V. Statewide Business

- a. Richard reports that the legislative committee consisting of Jim, Mike, Melanie, Dave and Richard will be meeting 3 weeks to a month prior to the Board meeting. Eric Harris of DRC will also be invited. Richard makes a motion to post letters of support to the CAMHPRA website, Merida seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.
- b. SB 340 (Stern) – Authorizes a family member, friend or acquaintance to request to testify in judicial review proceedings. Still active/limbo. Action: Support with amendment to be more client centered. Act will amend section 5276. Action: Tabled.
- c. SB 516 (Eggman) – Authorizes evidence considered at certification review hearing to include the persons medical condition and how that bears on certifying the person. Still active, wide opposition. Action: Melanie and Richard created a draft letter of opposition to send to the committee for review.
- d. AB 118 (Kamlager) – Community Response Initiative to Strengthen Emergency Systems Act (C.R.I.S.E.S.). No amendments. Action: Passed and signed into law.
- e. AB 270 – Mobile Crisis Teams formation. Companion bill to AB 118. No amendments, still active but stalled in Assembly Health Committee.
- f. AB 988 – 988 Crisis Hotline. Position: Support . Action: Jim makes the motion to support, Melanie seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.
- g. HR 1368 (Porter) – National Mental Health First Responders creation. Stalled in committee. Position: Richard makes a motion to support, Merida seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.

## VI. Reports from Meetings/Other Advocacy Organizations

- a. California Coalition for Mental Health (CCMH): Melanie reports she met with Susan Eggman, she appreciates the work/mission. Updates provided but nothing of much importance at this time.
- b. California Office of Patients' Rights (COPR): Daniel reports possible updates to online training chapters i.e. firearms laws have changed.
- c. California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations CAMHPRO/DRC: Richard reports that the Executive Director job has been posted on the CAMHPRO website. November 16<sup>th</sup> they are sponsoring a town hall meeting on legislative and public policy initiatives,

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everyone is invited. Regular meetings are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month and everyone is invited.

- d. California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC): Richard thanks everyone for supporting the jail survey. 40 counties responded out of 58. They are checking on new PRA trainings and are beginning work on conservatorships but are not yet focused on a topic. They presented at PRAT and 80 people attended. The Oversight Committee is putting together a Manual of Best Practices.

## **VII. Public Policy**

- a. State Plan Amendment 21-003: Disaster relief for COVID-19 Crisis Stabilization Units - proposal to allow 96-hour stay in CSU. Daniel reports item still pending. We will continue to follow.

## **VIII. New Business and next Meeting, Adjourn**

- a. Forms: Decision is made to collect forms used by PRAs that are willing to share them, Lisa will get feedback from COPR then post on the CAMHPRA website.
- b. Legislative Committee consists of: Mike, Jim, Richard, Melanie and Dave.
- c. The next CAMHPRA meeting will be Wednesday, February 16<sup>th</sup> 2022 at 1:00 p.m.
- d. Melanie makes a motion to adjourn the meeting and Jim seconded the motion, no further discussion, meeting adjourned.