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California Association of Mental Health Patients' Rights Advocates

**Board Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, May 11, 2022
Time: 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Via Zoom Call**

I. Call to Order

a. Introductions and Roll Call

	Member/Title	County
	Lisa Long / President	Placer
	Frank Smithwaters / Vice-President	Northern California
	Melanie Roland / Treasurer	Santa Clara
	Melody Beltz - Secretary	Humboldt
	Christina S. Kraushar / Central	Merced
	Clare Cortright / BAYPAC	Santa Clara
	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: Lisa provided the treasurer's report. The beginning account balance is \$7,250.95. Expected expenses include CCMH fee of \$250.00; State tax of \$19.90; bank wire fee of \$65.00. A donation was made by Smithwaters Group of \$300.00. Therefore, the account balance will be \$7216.05.

1. Due to the unresolved issue of getting the President and Vice President added to the Bank of America account as signors, that account was closed a new account was opened at Wells Fargo Bank.

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2. Melanie has stepped down as treasurer but will remain on the board as a non-voting member of the Legislative Committee.
 3. The CAMHPRA website provider, WIX, yearly invoice is due in the amount of \$29.90 and will be paid. There were no objections by the board to continue using this provider.
 4. Jim makes a motion to approve the Treasurer's report, seconded by Frank, no further discussion, motion carries.
- c. Approval of Minutes- Jim brought forward an error in the minutes under the South Coalition report. Santa Clara was incorrectly listed and it should have been Santa Barbara. Jim makes the motion to approve the minutes as corrected, Frank seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.

III. Coalition Reports

- a. Far North: Wendy Cheula (Siskiyou) – Wendy not present.
- b. BayPac: Clare Cortright (Santa Clara) – Clare reports that Solano was the only county that responded for this report. In regard to outpatient conservatorships; Santa Clara and Solano counties do not do them. In regard to public hearings; in Santa Clara the chief Hearing Officer is aware but not advising clients, no other Hearing Officers are aware. In Solano, the hearing officers are advising client and have received one request for a public hearing but it didn't happen. Hearing officers and PRAs are working together to create a procedure. Question: will DHCS update the rights booklet to reflect client's right to a public hearing? Both Santa Clara and Solano counties were unaware of the redesignation time period.
- c. Central: Chris Kraushar (Fresno County) – No report.
- d. South: Whitney Wilson (San Diego) – Whitney reports the coalition met via Zoom with 7 counties represented from the Southern region. A new Patients' Rights Director for Los Angeles has been hired to replace Martin Hernandez. Her name is Ana Bruce. All but Los Angeles had not heard of outpatient conservatorships. Los Angeles is part of the pilot program in which they are doing conservatorships in a tent on the street with broadband. In regard to public hearings, San Diego reported their first public hearing which occurred at the courthouse. The other counties were not aware of this new law. The question regarding redesignation was unknown by most counties. San Bernadino said it occurs in their county every 2 years but that is changing to every 3 years.

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IV. Standing Items

- a. Presidential Updates: Lisa volunteers to be Treasurer as well as President until the next live PRAT. Melody makes the motion for Lisa to act as Treasurer as well as President, seconded by Merida. No further discussion, motion carries.
 1. Website: Past member, Gloria sends articles to post. One recently regarding substance use, Lisa asks the Board if this is appropriate to post. No objections made by the Board. Lisa will post it.

V. Statewide Business

- a. 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: Stalled in Assembly Rules Committee since April 2021.
- b. 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 but stalled in Assembly Health since June 2021.
- c. AB 2853 (Lackey) - Requires DHCS to establish guidelines for application of LPS civil commitment procedures to ensure that it is uniformly applied by counties. Action: Introduced April 19, 2022 is in assembly Judiciary Committee, this bill is just getting started. Jim makes a motion to support AB 2853, Dave seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.
- d. AB 2275 (Wood-Stone) – Proposes to establish that a 5150 begins at the time a person is first detained. Person's awaiting placement shall have a certification review hearing within 7 days of the date of the initial 5150. Action: Jim reports there are a lot of really good provisions. Dave makes a motion to support AB 2275, Melody seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.
- e. AB 2020 (Gallagher) - This bill would expand the definition of gravely disabled to include the person is incapable of making informed decisions based on the psychiatric concept agnosia. It was suggested that a link to Robert Whitaker's website <https://www.madinamerica.com/> be added to our website. Action: Dave makes a motion to oppose AB 2020, Jim seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.
- f. AB 2317 (Ramos) – The bill establishes a new licensing category for Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facilities so CBO's can develop crisis residential treatment programs for children. Action: Jim makes a motion to support AB 2317, seconded by Dave, no further discussion, motion carries.

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- g. AB 1859 (Levine) – Would require that involuntarily detained persons released from hospital receive authorization and appointment for follow-up care within 24 hours of discharge. Action: Appropriation Hearing today 5/11/22. Watch.
- h. AB 2547 (Nazarian) – Proposes funding housing subsidies for low income older adults and people with disabilities who are experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness. Action: In suspense likely due to funding. Watch.
- i. AB 2242 (Santiago) – Requires DSH to create a model discharge plan for counties & hospitals to follow when discharging a person held on LPS short term detentions and conservatorships. Action: Has been in Senate Appropriations for 2 weeks. Watch and get more information.
- j. AB 2632 (Holden) – Bans use of solitary confinement across all state prison facilities for vulnerable populations including persons with SMI's or exhibiting self harm, deterioration, anxious agitated or unresponsive mood, or other bx indicating presence of a serious mental disorder. Action: Jim makes a motion to support this bill, Dave seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.
- k. AB 2657 (Stone) – Removes individuals deemed IST & unrestorable to competence from death row and be resentenced to life w/out parole. Action: Hearing today (5/11/22). Jim will research. Watch.
- l. SB 1227 (Eggman) – Modifies LPS civil commitment scheme to provide for a 2nd 30-day intensive treatment hold without needing to file for conservatorship. Action: Suspense. Watch.
- m. SB 1416 (Eggman) – Expands definition of GD to include a condition in which a person is unable to provide for basic needs, medical care needs and to ensure self-protection and safety. Action: Suspense. Watch.
- n. SB 882 (Eggman) – Requires law enforcement to document us-of-force incidents involving persons known or suspected of having an intellectual disability, physical or mental health disability. Action: Suspense. Watch.
- o. SB 1223 (Becker) – Requires the court to consider diversion for defendants diagnosed with mental health disorders when the mental disorder was a significant factor in the commission of the offense. Action: Jim makes the motion to support this bill, Richard seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.
- p. AB 2786 – (Stone) – Children's care pilot program. Action: Jim makes a motion to support this bill, Dave seconds, no further discussion, motion carries.
- q. AB 988 – 988 Crisis Hotline. Position: Support. Action: Stalled in committee since June 2021.
- r. 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.

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VI. Reports from Meetings/Other Advocacy Organizations

- a. California Coalition for Mental Health (CCMH): Melanie reports the last meeting focus was on CARE Court and whether to meet in person.
- b. California Office of Patients' Rights (COPR): Daniel reports he has been working with other units of DRC. Has been PRAT planning which is dependent on what bills get enacted. Still collecting ideas for PRAT classes and presenters. PRAT is scheduled for August 3 – 5 virtually,
- c. California Association of Mental Health Peer Run Organizations CAMHPRO/DRC: Richard reports that Sally has stepped down and the Interim Director is Andrea Wagner.
- d. California Behavioral Health Planning Council (CBHPC): Richard reports that the Patients' Rights Committee meeting focused on opposing CARE Court and reported to the larger group and CBHPC is officially opposing CARE Court.

VII. Public Policy

- a. CARE Court
 1. AB 2830 (Bloom) – This bill would enact the CARE Act, which would authorize people to petition a civil court to create a CARE plan to provide behavioral health services and housing support to adults who suffer from schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorder and who lack medical decision making capacity.
 2. SB 1338 (Umberg and Eggman) - This bill would enact the CARE Act, which would authorize people to petition a civil court to create a CARE plan to provide behavioral health services and housing support to adults who suffer from schizophrenia spectrum and psychotic disorder and who lack medical decision making capacity.
 3. Richard makes a motion to oppose CARE Court, Dave seconded, no further discussion, motion carries.
 4. Melanie will check with CCMH to see if they would like CAMHPRA to sign onto their letter of opposition.
 5. Jim makes a motion that Melanie be authorized to co-sign CCMH's letter or draft a letter in opposition of CARE Court, Dave seconded, no further discussion, motion carries.

VIII. New Business and next Meeting, Adjourn

- a. Bylaws Revision: Board agrees that we need to be able to sign-on to letters of support or opposition that may come up between quarterly meetings. Jim will write proposed bylaw amendments to allow for quick response and to allow the legislative committee to act on behalf of CAMHPRA.
- b. The next CAMHPRA meeting will be Wednesday, July 20th 2022 at 1:00 p.m.

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