

**SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY  
HEALTH COMMISSION**

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, February 9, 2015 (County Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Lynn Enns (Chair), Corliss Campbell, Robert Campbell, David Clous, Claire Grantham, James Pope, Jean Raymond, Mary Jean Sage, Scott Smith-Cooke, Susan Warren  
 Members Absent: Kris Kington-Barker (excused)  
 Staff Present: Penny Borenstein, Jean White  
 Speakers: Susan Warren (North County Connection/Health Commission); SFC Leo Castillo, Donna Kelley (Kayla Peach Memorial Foundation); Harvey Billig, MD (Proposed Freestanding Acute Psychiatric Facility/Templeton); Anne Robin (County Behavioral Health)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action	Who/When
<b>1. Call to Order</b>	Meeting called to order by Vice-Chair Raymond at 6:06 pm.	<i>Call to Order</i>	<i>Vice-Chair Raymond</i>
<b>2. Approval of Minutes</b>	The January 12, 2015 minutes were approved as drafted.	<i>January 2015 minutes approved.</i>	<i>All</i>
<b>3. Public Comment</b>	Vice-Chair Raymond opened the floor to public comment with no response.		
<b>4. Presentation: <i>Behavioral Health Needs &amp; Services in SLO County</i></b>	<p><b>Susan Warren, Director of North County Connection and Health Commissioner</b>, provided background about her work in the recovery field for over 30 years. She is currently the director of North County Connection, a non-profit organization that provides free, anonymous &amp; confidential support to persons or family members who have behavioral health issues and tries to refer them to treatment. Ms. Warren noted that there were more services available for treatment 20-30 years ago. She advised that SLO County is above state and national statistics in the number of suicides and overdose deaths. She introduced Donna Kelley, with whom she worked to put on the first annual vigil last September, honoring all the children that have been lost to suicide and overdose deaths in our community. They displayed a banner put together by Donna Kelly, with photographs of some of those lost, emphasizing the devastating effect on everyone in the community. She introduced Donna Kelley and SFC Leo Castillo.</p> <p><b>Donna Kelley, founder of the Kayla Peach Memorial Foundation</b>, shared the story of the loss of her daughter and how the Kayla Peach Memorial Foundation was established, with a goal of bringing awareness and education to the community about the horrible epidemic of drug and alcohol related deaths among children. They are a grassroots organization that has partnered with the National Guard Counterdrug Task Force, school districts, North County Connection, the Freedom Center, and others to organize outreach and fundraising events, and to help with resources. In addition to their annual 5K Neon Night Fun Run and Quarterly Community Town Hall meetings, they attend school board meetings, provide scholarships to graduating seniors, provide resources, and have purchased numerous videos and educational materials for schools and other events. The Foundation holds monthly meetings and is recruiting for more people to help with fundraisers and events. They hope to expand their Town Hall meetings throughout the entire county. They are also working on a parks project in Paso Robles Centennial Park, are helping Friday Night Live Youth Summit with an event at Camp San Luis at the end of the month, and in August, will be holding their color fun run.</p> <p><b>SFC Leo Castillo, California National Guard Counterdrug Task Force</b>, explained that every state has</p>		

	<p>a Counterdrug Task Force that works with law enforcement or community based organizations, at no cost, to bring a military strategic mindset to the table. Their clients in San Luis Obispo are the Sheriff's Office and the Kayla Peach Memorial Foundation. Their main goal is to assist the Foundation in their efforts in prevention and treatment. SFC Castillo presented statistics from the SLO Sheriff's Annual Report, showing the dramatic increase in heroin use in the past two years. The Sheriff's Office has been working diligently in creating a database to track what is going on. SFC Castillo also presented data from the Coroner's Office showing that there were 31 deaths in 2014 related to drug overdose. SFC Castillo has been on the Task Force for 9 years and commended Donna Kelley and the Foundation for their work, noting the first Town Hall meeting was attended by 86 people and three months later, the second Town Hall was attended by 216 people. He asked that the commission acknowledge what a great job the Foundation is doing and support their efforts. A copy of SFC Castillo's presentation is filed with the official record of this meeting and includes graphs &amp; tables with the data that was presented.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Clous</b> asked about ways to educate parents to help them recognize that their child might be having a problem with use of alcohol and drugs. <i>(Ms. Kelley advised that they provide outreach &amp; education at town hall meetings, and through the school districts. Speakers have included the Sheriff, ER nurses, physicians, police departments, &amp; persons in recovery.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Warren</b> asked Ms. Kelly to talk about the shift from the use of the prescription drugs, such as OxyContin, to heroin. <i>(Ms. Kelley talked about prescription pills being over prescribed, but when a person can't afford an \$80 OxyContin pill, they will turn to heroin for a similar "high" at \$10.00.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Robert Campbell</b> asked about the number of treatment beds in SLO County. <i>(Ms. Kelly advised that there aren't any beds available in SLO County. She is contacted frequently by persons looking for information on treatment facilities. Most of the out of area facilities are typically full as well.)</i></p> <p><b>Ms. Kelley</b> showed a video clip entitled "I am the Face of Addiction" by Natalie Costa, noting the importance of education and having an open dialogue with your children about alcohol &amp; drugs.</p> <p><b>Harvey Billig, MD, Proposed Freestanding Acute Psychiatric Facility, Templeton, California,</b> provided an overview of the facility that is being proposed to be built in the Templeton medical center designated area. They are proposing two separate facilities: one for a 96-bed Behavioral Health Facility (Psychiatric Hospital) and one for a 55-bed Assisted Living Facility (memory care). Dr. Billig explained that the proposed psychiatric hospital will fill several service gaps that currently exist in SLO County. Approximately 1/4 of the beds are anticipated to be utilized by older adults (Medicare beneficiaries), 1/4 by privately insured adults (21-64 years old), 1/4 by adolescent aged youth and 1/4 by younger children. The facility is designed so there will be separate units for each of these four groups, each with their own dining and activity rooms. The typical length of stay for most people would be approximately 7-10 days, with discharge plans beginning on day one. They will work closely with County Behavioral Health, who treats primarily adults who are indigent or on Medi-Cal. For homeless individuals or individuals referred from the County jail, the County Psychiatric Health Facility would remain the primary option for inpatient treatment. Dr. Billig believes this facility will fill a huge need in the county and will also bring more professionals to the area. He has spent a lot of time with administration at the new Santa Rosa facility, a facility similar in size, which has been very successful.</p>	
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	<p><b>Commissioner Corliss Campbell</b> asked about insurance coverages &amp; level of need for services for the adult Medi-Cal population.</p> <p><b>Anne Robin, County Behavioral Health Administrator</b>, advised that the proposed facility would be a private facility and accept private insurance. Behavioral Health services are now covered with the Mental Health Parity Act. Free-standing psychiatric hospitals licensed by the State of California can accept Medi-Cal for children up to the age of 21 and can accept Medi-Cal/Medicare for individuals over the age of 64. Due to federal law, they cannot accept Medi-Cal for individuals ages 21-64. The County’s 16 bed Psychiatric Health Facility primarily treats adults who are indigent or on Medi-Cal and would continue to treat that population. Currently, they are the only facility in the county who can take involuntary admission and send over 350 people annually out of county for inpatient psychiatric treatment. The Behavioral Health Department supports the need and development of additional inpatient psychiatric care in the county, but doesn’t have input about the location. It is an important issue to make sure there are additional beds, especially for kids, youth and seniors.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Clous</b> asked what the main objections were to the proposed facility. <i>(Ms. Robin advised that safety has been a primary concern to the area neighbors, concerns that person will wander the streets of Templeton post-release. She reiterated that this is a private facility and that the majority of privately insured adults have a home to go to. These adults will not be released without a discharge plan. The County will continue to serve homeless folks on Medi-Cal or who do not have any insurance.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Sage</b> commented that the outpatient need is also great. She asked if there will be precedence for SLO County patients. <i>(Ms. Robin advised that there are models by which counties purchase permanent beds. She believes it is unlikely that the facility will fill up with out of county folks, because this is a short stay (average 7-10 days) and has been designed with “swing beds.”</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Robert Campbell</b> asked about licensing &amp; certification that would apply to the proposed facility. <i>(Ms. Robin advised that the health facility is approved by OSHPOD (Office of Statewide Health Planning and Development). Licensing is through the California Department of Health Care Services, and includes strong oversight, with periodic reviews by the State.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Warren</b> asked about the annual cost of sending patients out of county. <i>(Ms. Robin advised that the Behavioral Health Department cost is over \$80,000 per year.)</i></p> <p><b>Commissioner Warren</b> commented on the economic advantage of bringing this facility to our community. <i>(Another advantage is that the facility will require hiring staff for nursing, psychiatry, therapy, ancillary, and the contractor is committed to using local contractors.)</i></p> <p><b><u>Public Comment:</u></b></p> <p><b>Margie Hienen, Registered Nurse, Twin Cities Hospital</b>, spoke from her perspective as an ER nurse, that there are not enough resources in this county to take care of the mentally ill patients that they are seeing in the ERs. She hopes this project gets the support it needs, so the members of our community (“our brothers, sisters, mothers, fathers, students at our schools”), will be able to get the help they need in their own county.</p> <p><b>Gwen Pathry, Templeton</b>, is opposed to the location of the facility. She and many Templeton residents agree that the County needs additional mental health beds, but they do not believe that Templeton is the right place for this particular facility. The facility is proposed on a small 3 acre parcel of land in an</p>		
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	<p>unincorporated area that is without fire protection, other than volunteers, and without a police department. She asked that all options be looked at.</p> <p><b>Dr. Douglas Murphy, Psychiatrist</b>, talked about his perspective as a private practice psychiatrist in SLO County, and the significant need for an acute inpatient psychiatric hospital in this county. He believes having a resource like this in Templeton would make it a regional medical center, which is significant and essential to care. There are no other places here where you can get all the different center teams together and provide the kind of care (that can only be provided) in an inpatient setting. He defined inpatient psychiatric care and talked about how it fits into the mental health system. He also explained the recommendation for children is that they only be admitted to programs that are designed for children and adolescents and that they should be admitted to physically distinct programs from where adults are being treated. This facility will help meet that need.</p> <p><b>Dr. Joseph Schwartz, Psychiatrist</b>, came to the community 22 years ago to run the inpatient unit then in existence at French Hospital. He told a story about a student of his who went into clinical practice in Brazil, who in a third world country, had no place to send someone who needed to be in a hospital. He stated in conclusion “<i>Welcome to San Luis Obispo.</i>”</p> <p><b>Shirley Sigmund, Templeton</b>, thanked Donna Kelley for her presentation and noted as a trustee for the Templeton Unified School District, that they have helped share information about the Town Hall meetings to help ensure none of their youth continue in a path that would be dangerous and possibly fatal. She is not speaking as a trustee tonight, but wanted to share information from their last board meeting that if they had students in the psychiatric facility, the school would need to serve them, because they are in their district. She is concerned about the limited funding for this. She asked while thinking about the project itself, to consider the impact on a community.</p> <p>Commissioner Warren made a motion that the Health Commission forward a letter to the Board of Supervisors in support of the Behavioral Health facility in Templeton. Seconded by Commission Clous. Discussion: Commissioner Robert Campbell asked if it was appropriate for the commission to recommend a specific facility and suggested it might be more appropriate to inform the Board of Supervisors of the crying need for a facility and let the Board of Supervisors sort out where. Commissioners Enns &amp; Grantham agreed. Motion was amended by Chair Enns to read:</p> <p><b><i>Forward a letter to the Board of Supervisors expressing the Health Commission’s support of additional inpatient psychiatric care in the County, recommending that the Board address the issue of the imminent need for an acute inpatient psychiatric facility in San Luis Obispo County.</i></b> Motion seconded by Commissioner Warren. All in favor.</p>	<p><i>Motion made in support of the need for an acute inpatient psychiatric facility</i></p>	<p>Enns/Warren/All</p>
<p><b>5. Health Agency / Public Health Report</b></p>	<p><b>Penny Borenstein, MD, Health Officer</b>, reported briefly on the following:</p> <p><b><u>Measles Outbreak</u></b>: There have been no cases of measles in SLO County, but there continues to be spread from the initial exposure at Disneyland over the December 18-23 period. There have been multiple studies that vaccinations are highly effective and are the single most important way to prevent this type of spread of disease, especially diseases that have been eliminated.</p> <p><b><u>Coastal Commission Meeting</u></b>: On February 11, 2015, San Luis Obispo County will host the Coastal Commission’s monthly meeting at the Cliff’s Resort in Pismo Beach. The agenda includes a “review by</p>		

	<p>the Coastal Commission of the Oceano dunes off-highway riding area and consideration of progress made with respect to the particulate matter issues.”</p> <p><b><u>Compliance &amp; HIPAA policies for the County Health Agency:</u></b> The Health Agency hired a compliance officer several months ago who has been working on updating compliance and HIPAA policies &amp; procedures for Health Agency staff. They will begin rolling out new procedures, forms, trainings, etc. for staff by the end of the month.</p>		
<p><b>6. Health Commissioner Updates</b></p>	<p><b>Chair Enns:</b> No report.  <b>Commissioner Smith Cooke:</b> No report.  <b>Commissioner Pope:</b> No report.  <b>Commissioner Clous:</b> Reported that one of the Tobacco Control Coalition’s focus areas for 2015 is to help get e-cigarettes out of the hands of youth. The SLO City Council will be hearing a proposal on March 3<sup>rd</sup> to amend their Tobacco Control Ordinance to include e-cigarettes. Also, Barbara Boxer, US Senator for California, sent a petition to the Food &amp; Drug Administration, dated 1/28/2015, requesting regulation of e-cigarettes.  <b>Commissioner Grantham:</b> No report.  <b>Commissioner Raymond:</b> The Adult Services Policy Council met on 2/6/15, with guest speaker Jerry Rioux from the SLO Housing Trust Fund. The Housing Trust Fund was created to increase the supply of affordable housing in SLO County for very low income households, including households with special needs. The HTF provides assistance to help developers, non-profit corporations and government agencies produce homes that low income persons and persons on disability can afford to rent or buy. Commissioner Raymond recommended this as a future agenda topic for the Health Commission.  <b>Commissioner Sage:</b> Reported that HEAL SLO’s Healthy Communities committee reviewed 3 plans recently and sent a letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding the Las Pilitas Quarry in Santa Margarita. They are also working with Cal Poly on coordinating an event on May 8 &amp; 9 “Resilient Food Conference,” with Karen Ross, Secretary of California Department of Food and Agriculture, as the keynote speaker. She hopes to have a flyer to distribute at next month’s meeting. Commissioner Sage also reported that the Domestic Violence Task Force is undergoing some changes and re-organization under the new District Attorney, with education still a primary focus. Lastly, she reported that the CBO/Preventive Health Grant committee received 59 grant applications that they will begin reviewing next week. They will make their recommendations mid-March, and forward to the Board of Supervisors for final approval. These grants are for fiscal year 2015/16.  <b>Commissioner Robert Campbell:</b> No report  <b>Commissioner Corliss Campbell:</b> Reported that First 5 SLO is seeking three commissioners: two Community At-Large representatives, and one Medical representative. Applications are due March 5<sup>th</sup> and are available at <a href="http://www.first5slo.org">www.first5slo.org</a>. First 5 focuses on the health of children from prenatal to age 5.  <b>Commissioner Warren:</b> Reported that she is actively involved with the Homeless Services Oversight Council and is on the Housing Committee. The committee is working diligently to find “out of the box” housing for persons with the most chronic health issues. They just completed the bi-annual (every two year) point in time count for the homeless (a federal requirement from HUD) and suggested when the results are received, that this be an agenda item. Also, at the end of February, the next round of surveying will occur for the 50 Now Project, where a list of the top 50 highest scoring most vulnerable individuals is compiled, to work on getting them into housing.</p>		

<b>7. Committee Reports</b>	No committee reports.		
<b>8. Prospective Future Items</b>	<p><b>Commissioner Clous</b> confirmed the date of May 11, 2015 for a program on the issue of rape on college campuses. Commissioner Clous will set up meetings with the Cal Poly administrators who have dealt with issues of rape on the Cal Poly campus to discuss questions the commission would like to have addressed and invite them to speak at the May meeting. Commissioner Corliss Campbell suggested contacting Cuesta College administration as well.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Corliss Campbell</b> referred to a February 6, 2014 article in the New York Times about hospitals buying doctor's practices and how this affects the fee schedules. Commissioner Sage advised that in California, hospitals cannot purchase physician practices, with a couple of exceptions. Dr. Borenstein advised that practices can charge hospital based fees if they are on the campus of hospitals. Possibly a future topic.</p> <p><b><u>March 9, 2015</u></b>  Children w/special needs / facilities:  Tri Counties Regional Center – overview  March of Dimes  Central Coast Autism Spectrum Center  Jack's Helping Hands</p> <p><b><u>April 13, 2015</u></b>  SLO Housing Trust Fund – Commissioner Raymond  Homeless Services Oversight Council / 50 NOW Project – Commissioner Warren</p> <p><b><u>May 11, 2015</u></b>  Issue of rape on college campuses – Commissioner Clous</p> <p><b><u>June 8, 2015</u></b>  Health Effects of Drought &amp; Climate Change / OutsideINSLO – Kathleen Karle</p>		
<b>9. Adjournment</b>	Meeting adjourned at 8:25 pm.	<i>Adjournment</i>	<i>All</i>