

COUNCIL ON MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS (COMIO)

<http://www.cdcr.ca.gov/comio/index.html>

MINUTES

September 26, 2013

**LOCATION: 1515 S. Street, Kern Conference Room, North Building
Sacramento, CA 95814**

IN ATTENDANCE AT 1515 S. Street, Kern Room

COMIO Council Members

- **Vice Chairperson:** Manuel J. Jimenez, Jr., Director, Merced County Mental Health
- David Lehman, Chief Probation Officer (Ret), Humboldt County (via conf line)
- David Meyer, J.D., Professor, Institute of Psychiatry, Law, and Behavioral Science, Keck School of Medicine, University of Southern California (via conf line)
- James W. Sweeney, J.D., Principal, James W. Sweeney & Associates
- The Honorable Stephen V. Manley, Judge, Santa Clara Superior Court
- Patrick Dwyer, Law Enforcement Consultant, Santa Clara County
- Charles L. Walters, Ph.D., Law Enforcement Consultant, Orange County (via conf line)

CDCR Staff

- Tim Belavich, Ph.D, Director (A), Division of Health Care Services (DHCS), and Deputy Director (A), Statewide Mental Health Program, DHCS, CDCR
- Alicia Aguilar, Statewide Mental Health Program, DHCS, CDCR
- Fu Yiu, Statewide Mental Health Program, DHCS, CDCR
- Nicholas Weber, Staff Counsel, Office of Legal Affairs, CDCR
- Tom Gilevich, Assistant Chief Counsel, Office of Legal Affairs, CDCR
- Robert Storms, Executive, Division of Adult Parole Operations, CDCR
- Virginia Steele-Pirie, RN, Nursing Consultant, Statewide Mental Health Program, DHCS, CDCR

Interested Parties

- Lanette Castleman, Branch Chief, Mental Health Program Administrator, California Department of Health Care Services
- Brian Jones, News and Review
- Joseph V. A. Partansky, Advocate for Persons with Disabilities
- Charlotte Kyle

AGENDA ITEM 1 -Introduction/Welcome – Vice-Chair

The meeting was called to order at 11:15am. Introductions and welcoming were done by Manuel Jimenez.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – Adoption of Minutes (July 25, 2013)

Minutes from the July 25th meeting were reviewed and adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Old Business

a) Request For A Permanent Executive Director for COMIO

There was a discussion regarding COMIO council requesting a permanent full time executive director from CDCR.

- **The Honorable Stephen V. Manley**-addressed that the Council is requesting a full time executive director from CDCR.
- **Patrick Dwyer**-Stated that there are many ways to fulfill this task because many qualified people can be appointed within CDCR. Mr. Dwyer suggested that if funding a full time position is too difficult, a contracted position can be taking into consideration.
- **Tim Belavich**-Stated that we CDCR currently have no resources to fund or provide a permanent full time executive director position. In responding to Mr. Dwyer about a contracted position,

Mr. Belavich stated that contractor is still a funded position, in which CDCR currently has no budget for it.

- **David Lehman-** When signed into law, the Governor directed affected State Agencies to "identify existing funds" to be utilized for the purposes of the Council. The Council on numerous occasions has acknowledged the need for an Executive Director, either funded or existing part or full time position. We "The Council" have felt that we cannot accomplish its statutory mandates.
- **Tim Belavich-** We CDCR will need to do a budget review and might be able to locate some money in the budget proposal for next year. As right now, there is no decision has been made. Once a decision has been made CDCR will send it out to the COMIO members.

A Motion was made by council members that Mr. Manuel Jimenez, vice Chair of COMIO writes a letter to Secretary Bread requesting that funding to be allocated to fund a position to support the work of COMIO and speak with other state agencies about the existing finding.

b) Strategic Plan Draft Follow Up

The draft of the Strategic Plan was handed out to the Council and attendants during last meeting that was held on July 24, 2013. Mr. Jimenez stated that the Council members would review and make changes if needed. Mr. Jimenez addressed that some of the outdated items need to be revised.

c) COMIO Web Page Update Follow Up

There was a discussion regarding updating the COMIO web page. A copy of web page was given out to the Council and attendants at the last COMIO meeting. The Council requests the website to be updated; the website should contain up-to-date meeting materials and meeting information. Mrs. Alicia Aguilar and Mr. Nicholas Weber expressed that they will contact CDCR IT and try to keeping it up-to-date. This item will be remained in the agenda for next meeting.

Updates from Mr Robert Storms

Robert Storms, Executive, Division of Adult Parole Operations, CDCR gave an overview of the issues with funding cut back and the lost of psychiatric outpatient programs. There was a discussion regarding mentally ill parolees who may not be receiving adequate mental health services and the severity of psychiatrist shortage. The Honorable Stephen V. Manley, Santa Clara Superior Court Judge discussed the critical need that he see's regarding crisis beds and the lack of availability in Santa Clara County. Judge Manley suggested that there is a need that federal money infused into the system for substance abuse and mental health treatment.

Announcements

1. California Mental Health Directors Association (CMHDA) will be coming to the California Housing Finance Agency (CHFA) in the Bay Area to discuss Senator Steinberg's SB82 Call to Action Plan in mid October. They will be discussing the option of possibly providing 142 million dollars to the counties for the affordable health care act.
2. Mr. Manuel Jimenez is retiring on October 4, 2013.

Community Comments

1. Mr. Joseph Partansky requested adding the community comments on the meeting minutes. In addition, Mr. Partansky requested COMIO meeting agenda, time, date, location, and call in conference information to be available on the COMIO website and be available for public access.

Action Items

- 1) Manuel Jimenez was to contact Molly Willenbring with FMHAC to discuss Best Practices and COMIO Council members attendance for next year's meeting.
- 2) Patrick Dwyer was to send information to Fu Yiu (Yoyo) regarding CA Community Improvement Commission (CIC) January conference in San Mateo for distribution to COMIO members.
- 3) Fu Yiu (Yoyo) and Nick Weber to ensure that the COMIO webpage has CDCR contact information and keeping agenda and meeting minutes up-to-date.

Next Meeting

- 1) Identify the structures of how to accomplishing statutory mandates
- 2) Discuss the invitation of California Youth Correction representative for them to attend the meeting in January 2014.
- 3) Update on the COMIO website
- 4) Best Practices
- 5) Public Comment and Updates

***Next COMIO Meeting – November 21, 2013**

1515 S Street, Sacramento, CA
Kern Room, 1st Floor Lobby, North Building