

COUNCIL ON MENTALLY ILL OFFENDERS

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

MINUTES

July 21, 2011

LOCATION: CDCR Headquarters Office – 1515 S Street – Conference Room 502S – Sacramento, 94283

IN ATTENDANCE ON CONFERENCE CALL:

Council Members

Dave Lehman, Chief Probation Officer (Retired)

Dave Meyer, J.D., USC Institute of Psychiatry, Law and Behavioral Science

The Honorable Stephen V. Manley, Santa Clara Superior Court Judge

IN ATTENDANCE AT 1515 S STREET:

Council Members

James W. Sweeney, J.D., Principal, James W. Sweeney & Associates

Charles L. Walters, Ph.D., Law Enforcement Consultant, Orange County

Tom Gilevich, Assistant Chief Counsel, CDCR, Office of Legal Affairs

COMIO Staff

Bruce Slavin, - CDCR, Chief of Legal Policy

Interested Parties

Donald Clark, UACF

Joseph Partansky, Advocate PWDs

Patricia Lujan, CDCR, DAPO

Tod Nicosia –

Mark G?

Molly Willenbring – FMHAC

Erika Barrow, Contra Costa County

James ?

Ben Rice, CDCR, Legal

Suzie Cohen, Correctional Standards Authority

CDCR Staff

Julia Rodden, CDCR, DCHCS, Office of Strategic Management

Peggy Ritchie, CDCR, Deputy Director, DCHCS Office of Strategic Management

Sharon Aungst, Director, DCHCS, CDCR

Tess Rico, DCHCS, CDCR, Office of Strategic Management

ABSENT:

Council Members

Jon DeMorales, Executive Director, Atascadero State Hospital

Matt Cate, Secretary, CDCR (Chairperson)

AGENDA ITEM 1 – Introduction/Welcome – Chair

The meeting was called to order at about 11:33 a.m. Introductions and welcoming was done by Bruce Slavin as Matt Cate was not in attendance. A quorum was present in person and through conference calling. Bruce introduced Tom Gilevich, Assistant Chief Council with the Health Care team. This is Bruce Slavin's last COMIO meeting, and Tom Gilevich will be taking over his role as Chief Legal Counsel for the Council.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – Adoption of Minutes (March 23rd, May 19th)

Minutes from the March 23rd meeting were reviewed, no edits were made. A motion was made by James Sweeney to adopt, Bruce Slavin second the motion. Vote to adopt is a unanimous "yes" and the March 23rd meeting minutes are adopted. Minutes from the May 19th meeting were reviewed, no edits were made. A motion

was made by James Sweeney to adopt, Bruce Slavin second the motion. Vote to adopt is unanimous "yes" and the May 19th meeting minutes are adopted.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Old Business

a) Veterans' Court Legislation – Judge Manley

This legislation passed both assembly and senate, there was no opposition. It is forward thinking for California, the challenge will be to bring resources together. Santa Clara, Orange, and Los Angeles are now operating the Veterans' Courts. Orange County is a model. These sites will have key treatment program components and training is provided for staff and funded through grants. The next training will be in Oklahoma and then Santa Clara. Training is not State specific. Wendy Linley is a pioneer in starting these courts and works directly with combat veterans. Will provide updates at the meetings or by email.

b) Correctional Standards Authority (CSA) Probation Agencies' Mentally Ill Juvenile Paper – Suzie Cohen

This paper was the second of two issue papers that COMIO asked CSA to submit to the Council. The other report was Mental Health Issues in Local Jails. CSA convened a workgroup and subject matter experts from Mental Health, the Bench and local corrections to provide information for the Mentally Ill Juveniles in Local Custody paper. Suzie Cohen gave an overview of the report and noted that there is a great deal of collaboration and innovation going on to provide appropriate services to youth and families involved in local justice systems. Judge Manley asked Suzie Cohen to help share information about prevention and interventions available to youth and families through mental health courts and in- and - after custody programs and Suzie agreed to do so.

A motion was made by Dave Meyer to accept the paper and James Sweeney second the motion. Vote to accept the paper was a unanimous "yes".

c) Vote on Best Practices Awards Update

A motion was made by Bruce Slavin to award San Bernardino, Integrated New Family Opportunities Program (INFO), a Best Practice Award. James Sweeney second the motion . The vote was a unanimous "yes." A motion was made by Bruce Slavin to award Los Angeles Project 180, James Sweeney seconds. Vote is a unanimous yes. A motion was made by Bruce Slavin to award Humboldt, New Horizons, James Sweeney seconds. Vote is a unanimous yes. A motion was made by Bruce Slavin to award Sonoma, PATHS program, (Prevention-Anger Management-Thinking Cognitively-Health Issues-Stress Reduction), James Sweeney seconds. Vote is a unanimous "yes". It was decided that CDCR will draft the award letters and prepare them for Secretary Cate's signature.

d) Review Strategic Plan and Vote

Bruce opened the subject for discussion and the Strategic Plan was reviewed. No edits were made. Judge Manley made a motion for approval and James Sweeney second the motion. The vote was a unanimous "yes."

e) AB 355 – Renewal Update

Referencing AB355, James Sweeney said 'this has been killed' and requested that AB826 be put on the next meeting agenda. He would also like to hear a report on the hunger strike at Pelican Bay.

f) Update the status of the privatization of a CEO for the council and a public/private partnership with a local not for profit

This subject was presented at a recent meeting of Forensic Mental Health Association of California (FMHAC) and they were interested. There is a strong sense on that board that COMIO is an important critical element of what's happening in the whole subject matter area. There is a sense that something needs to be done to preserve what COMIO has been doing and carry out its functions. There needs to be conversation directly between COMIO and FMHAC about how to implement that. This would be a conversation for Secretary Cate.

A motion was made by Charlie Walters to establish a committee to draft an MOU/agreement with the FMHAC to create a mechanism for COMIO to meet our legislative mandates, Judge Manley second the motions. Vote was a unanimous "yes". Charlie Walters, Judge Manley, and James Sweeney agree to head the group to draft a MOU. The Council requested an update from Secretary Cate on the CEO concept. Secretary Cate was going to discuss this issue with the Governor's Office.

g) Vote on approval of AB109 Realignment Recommendation letter

A motion was made by James Sweeney to accept the AB109 Realignment Recommendation letter, Charlie Walters second the motion. The vote is was a unanimous "yes".

h) Update on council membership and letter to governor's office

Applications are pending for the vacant Speaker of Assembly position. Secretary Cate should speak with appointing authorities about current vacancies.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – New Business

a) Identify "recommendation" priorities that council members want to collaborate on with the Judicial Council's Task Force Report

Judge Manley stated that COMIO should move on its own to advance the ideas behind the recommendations, not in conjunction with the Judicial Council in light of the speed of realignment. Work should be done more with counties and CDCR to make sure the recommendations are implemented. Sweeney states that AB826 pertains to our Correctional Clinical Case Management System (CCCMS) and to mentally ill offenders and is a very comprehensive bill. Tony Atkins is the principal author on the bill. It pertains to everything we do now and is currently in the queue. It will be helpful as we move recommendations forward.

b) Identify strategies for how the council wants to work with local level Mental Health systems

The voice missing is CDCR, they are not at the table. CDCR should facilitate because they are knowledgeable in this area. Recommendations are needed. Counties aren't aware of what is available or what should be asking for. This is an opportunity for engagement with FMHAC.

AGENDA ITEM 5 – Standing Agenda Items

a) AB109 (power point)

The power point was handed out to those present. It will be sent out with meeting minutes. It was noted by Ms. Ritchie that the content is updated by CDCR as time goes along, so this may not be up to date as of today.

b) Strategic planning teams and status (next meeting)

This item will be on the next agenda.

Misc

1) Can prison ministry work with mentally ill offenders?

2) Between now and next meeting dept should identify all inside sponsors (example: AA) and who is their supervisor so we can tell these volunteers who they might interface with.

3) CDCR will look at potential use of web based conference applications to hold meetings.

4) Ms. Ritchie will contact the Office of Community Partnerships for a presentation at the next meet.

5) Everyone thanked Bruce Slavin for his service to COMIO and wished him well in his new position!

Next Meeting Agenda

1) Community Partnerships

2) AB826

ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Bruce Slavin to adjourn the meeting, Charlie Walters seconds. Meeting adjourned at 1:28pm.

*Next COMIO Meeting – September, 15th, 2011

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Respectfully Submitted,
Julia Rodden, Office of Strategic Management