

MINUTES  
STATE MENTAL HEALTH, MENTAL RETARDATION  
AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE SERVICES BOARD

May 5, 2006

Williamsburg Marriott  
Williamsburg, Virginia

Members Present: Victoria Huber Cochran, Chair; Daniel E. Karnes, Vice-Chair;  
Linda S. Bartlett; Rev. Cheryl Ivey Green; Ruth G. Jarvis; Elaine  
McConnell; Kathryn A. Smith

Members Absent: B. Hunt Gunter; David Trinkle, M.D.

Staff: James S. Reinhard, Commissioner  
Raymond R. Ratke, Deputy Commissioner  
Charline Davidson, Director, Office of Planning and Development  
Wendy Brown, Office of Planning and Development  
Paul Gilding, Director, Office of Community Contracting  
Martha J. Mead, Director, Office of Legislation and Public  
Relations  
Stacey Atwell, Office of Legislation and Public Relations  
Jane Hickey, Office of the Attorney General

Call to Order: The Chair called to order the meetings at 10:12 a.m.

Agenda: The agenda was corrected and approved with the following  
changes: move Recognition to 12:30 p.m.; add FOIA Training at  
10:15 a.m.; add Recovery Presentation; move Public Comment  
after April 7, 2006 Minutes; add Committee Reports after Minutes;  
move Working Lunch to final item.

Minutes: The minutes of April 7, 2006, were amended as follows:

- Upon motion by Hunt Gunter and second by Ruth Jarvis, the Board unanimously agreed to write a letter to the budget conferees of the Virginia General Assembly to express serious concerns regarding Item 310 #1 h of the proposed budget that would require that one of the four state facilities proposed for replacement be operated by a private entity, unless the Department (DMHMRSAS) can demonstrate that continued state operation of the state facility is at least as cost effective and provides at least an equivalent or higher level quality care than operation by a private entity. Department staff was instructed to draft the letter for the Chairman's signature.
- Correction made to title for Jerry Deans to "Assistant Commissioner for Facility Operations."

Public Comment: There was no public comment.

#### Report of the Evaluation Committee

Daniel Karnes reported for the Committee. The Committee discussed the status of its policy reviews, including the proposed revision of policy 1014(SYS)86-20 Provision of Forensic Services, which had been distributed for field comment. Since the April 7, 2006 meeting, the Committee has updated its policy manual to include the three policies that were recently adopted by the Board: 1038(SYS) 06-1 Public Safety Net of Services, 1039(SYS) 06-2 Availability of Minimum Core Services and 1040(SYS)06-3 Consumer Involvement and Participation. The next meeting date for the Committee has tentatively been set for late June.

#### Report of Planning and Budget Committees

Charline Davidson reported for the Committee. Handouts were provided. The Committee's meeting was an educational session on the various types of planning efforts, including the Agency Strategic Plan and Service Area Plans (ASP), the Comprehensive Plan (CSP), and the Integrated Strategic Plan. Each of these efforts was described and similarities and differences were discussed with the Committee members. The Committee reviewed a briefing paper from the Council on Virginia's Future and the status of the Council's Work. The Committee discussed the role of the State Board with respect to the Department's planning activities and suggested that the Board might identify 3-5 priority areas for moving the services system forward. This will be discussed further at the August meeting. The Committee also discussed the Board's involvement in promoting interagency relationships.

#### Board Liaisons

Members of the Board reported on their activities as follows:

- Kathryn Smith reported that she has not been to a meeting since the last Consortium, though she is keeping in touch. She plans to attend the next meeting in May.
- Ruth Jarvis reported no additional visits since the last Board meeting and is keeping in touch with constituents, including receiving from community services boards' minutes of meetings. She has been invited by Norfolk Community Services Board to attend all meetings and provide information from the State Board that may be helpful to them. She also reminded the Board of the groundbreaking for renovations at Eastern State Hospital on May 5, 2006, at 2:00 p.m.

- Cheryl Ivey Green has been in communication with the constituents in her area and had been receiving minutes of meetings. She also met with the Prevention Policy Advisory Committee (PPAC) and toured Chesterfield Community Services Board. In addition, she has agreed to serve as the Board liaison to PPAC.
- Victoria Huber Cochran reported on her involvement in the Southwestern Virginia Mental Health Institute's (SWVMHI) walk on April 8, 2006, and she spoke to approximately 300 consumers present for the walk. She also spoke about police intervention programs.
- Daniel Karnes reported informal contacts since the last meeting.
- Elaine McConnell reported on her work with Fairfax County on the budget that passed; the new budget preserves a program for students leaving high school and continuing to receive services for Mental Retardation.
- Linda Bartlett plans to attend the Middle Peninsula-Northern Neck Community Services Board meeting on June 10, 2006, and is working to set up a liaison meeting there.

## FOIA Training

Maria Everett, Executive Director for the Virginia Freedom of Information (FOIA) Advisory Council, provided training to Board Members.

- Ms. Everett presented an educational session for Board Members and discussed overall statutory guidance with regards to open and closed meetings under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. She distributed a Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council handout titled Access to Public Meetings under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
- Ms. Everett also provided information and statutory guidance on electronic meetings and e-mail and meetings. The following Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council documents were distributed: E-mail & Meetings under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and Electronic Meetings and the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
- Requirements for closed meetings were discussed and How to Make a Motion for a Closed Meeting under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, a Virginia Freedom of Information Advisory Council publication, was distributed.

## Recovery Presentation

Frank Tetrick, Assistant Commissioner for Community Services, opened a presentation on Recovery and introduced Byron Stith and Ann Benner who shared their experiences in recovery. James Martinez, Director of the Office of Mental Health Services, concluded the presentation by sharing the Department's Mission and initiatives to advance the vision of a recovery-based system of services.

- Ann Benner, VOCAL Director, shared a poignant story on her experience of recovery. Ms. Benner emphasized recovery as a concept for all individuals to embrace; recovery is not exclusive to consumers of mental health services.
- Byron Stith, VOCAL Outreach Coordinator, presented a message of hope. Mr. Stith encouraged individuals working in the mental health system to be open to the fact that many consumers understand recovery and are working toward their own recovery. He also shared the need for the system and government to take action to help change attitudes and further support hope, choice, advocacy and consumer control with regards to recovery.

#### Commissioner's Report

Commissioner James S. Reinhard, M.D. reported to the Board. Dr. Reinhard reported that although the General Assembly has not concluded deliberations on the Appropriations Act, that he is not aware of concerns regarding the transformation funding in the budget. He did report that family members of clients at the training centers scheduled for replacement have expressed concern about the future for their family members. Dr. Reinhard, Mr. Deans and facility directors have been meeting with family groups to discuss their concerns. He reported on the current focus of finding the appropriate size for facilities in Virginia and also mentioned the groundbreaking for the new Geriatric Center at Eastern State Hospital. Dr. Reinhard emphasized System Transformation as a community reinvestment effort.

#### Recognitions

Victoria Huber Cochran presented and read a Resolution for Elaine McConnell. Ms. McConnell was also presented with a gift for her eight years of dedicated service to the Board.

Victoria Huber Cochran also presented and read a Resolution for Marlene Butler, the Executive Secretary to the State Board, who passed away on April 21, 2006.

#### VACSB Report

Barbara Barrett, Chair, of the VACSB, presented the Virginia Association of Community Services Board's (VACSB) report and provided handouts.

#### Staff Update

Stacey Atwell reported the tentative dates for the August retreat as August 20-22, 2006. The tentative location is The Inn at Virginia Tech.

Martha Mead reported the Personnel Committee would not meet after adjournment of the Board meeting due to lack of quorum.

#### Adjournment

There being no further business before the Board and upon motion made and seconded, the Board voted to adjourn at 1:39 p.m.