



Mental Health Treatment Act Citizens Oversight Committee

Behavioral Health & Recovery Services

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Minutes: Wednesday, December 20, 2023

Meeting location: **Behavioral Health Regional Training Center** - 8207 East Road, Redwood Valley

1 **CALL TO ORDER ROLL CALL:** 1:06 PM

Committee Members Present: Member Allman, Member Antle, Member Barash, Member Bradley, Member Daugherty, Member Ebyam, Member Moschetti, and Chair Miller.

- A quorum is established.
- County Counsel Christian Curtis was present.

2 **PUBLIC EXPRESSION ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS:**

- None.

3 **COMMITTEE MATTERS**

3a) **Approval of Minutes from the October 25, 2023, Regular Meeting.**

Presenter: Chair Miller

Committee Action: Upon motion by Member Daugherty, seconded by Member Allman, it is ORDERED the minutes of the October 25, 2023, regular meeting be accepted.

- Motion passes with 8 approvals.

3b) **December 2023 Measure B Financial Report**

Presenter: Chair Miller

- Chair Miller mentioned Mary Alice Willeford, Deputy Director of BHRS Operations is retiring this week and will be greatly missed.
- The committee thanked Mary Alice Willeford for her years of service to the County and professional dedication to the Department of Behavioral Health and Recovery Services.
- Mary Alice Willeford, Deputy Director of BHRS Operations, gave a financial summary report to the Measure B Committee based on the Measure B Funds Mental Health Treatment Act proceeds and expenditures for FY 23-24 to include revenue detail and corresponding sources, operation expenses, and funding allocations earmarked/set aside for approved mental health projects in progression.

Committee Action: None.

3c) **Update and Discussion Regarding Measure B Related Items at the Board of Supervisors Meetings.**

Presenter: Chair Miller

- Chair Miller advised two items were recently reviewed by the Board of Supervisors (BOS) with 1) to fund the RFP for the proposed Ford Street project to expand the existing sober living facility and 2) to fund a loan to support construction of a Behavioral Health wing at the Mendocino County jail to assist/provide mental health

- services to inmates in need whereby the board approved loan funding and corresponding interest due on the loan for the latter project.
- There was a third item the board also reviewed that overlaps with Measure B and pertains to a decision/recommendation made by the Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) to downsize from a 15 member board to a 11 member board incorporating specific restrictions to look at whether there are five members from the Mental Health Treatment Act Citizens Oversight Committee which could also serve on the BHAB. The recommendation would allow for more of a cohesive connection between the two boards.

Public Comment:

- John Haschak, Board of Supervisor, reported there was considerable discussion relevant to the proposed projects whereby the Board appointed an Ad Hoc Committee to look at Measure B funding as to whether or not there was the financial capacity to fund Ford Street at this time. Based on the findings presented by the Ad Hoc Committee, it was the decision of the Board to subsequently not approve Measure B funding for the proposed Ford Street project. He supports the concept of a revisit of the Ford Street project for possible reconsideration.

Committee Action: None.

3d) Update and Discussion Regarding the Status of Current Measure B Projects

Presenter: Chair Miller

- The PHF project is in the last planning stages of development and is moving along accordingly with the intent to finalize the project timely such that the project can go out for bid in the spring so construction can begin next year.

Committee Action: None.

3e) Discussion and Possible Action Regarding the Mental Health Treatment Act Citizens Oversight Committee Meeting Calendar for 2024

Presenter: Chair Miller

- Chair Miller mentioned that she will not Chair next year, Member Ebyam will be Chair, and she proposed to have one of the meetings on the coast, preferably in the summer.
- Discussion followed regarding the meeting calendar and corresponding meeting dates and places with the preference of having one of the meetings held on the coast in August.
- Member Allman inquired about the possibility of having committee meetings quarterly rather than monthly and noted there have been past discussions about meeting bi-monthly or quarterly. At that time, he did not support having committee meetings quarterly because Measure B was still in the first five years of existence where the majority of sales tax revenues were being collected and funding had not yet been committed for future projects. The rationale at that time to meet bi-monthly would not have been helpful because there were necessary early-on decisions/motions/recommendations still to be made concerning funding, maintenance, and/or other project commitments. He recommends agenda review and approval of the monthly calendar with possible revisions to the next regular meeting and acknowledged now may be an acceptable time to meet bi-monthly or quarterly since

the majority of decision-making in terms of funding/services/project matters have largely been made or, the committee can vote on the calendar today since the agenda item is to talk about next year's schedule.

Public Comment:

- County Counsel Christian Curtis commented the committee can elect to meeting quarterly with the understanding that should an urgent matter or issue arise concerning Measure B, funding and/or project-related a special meeting can be agendized.
- Member Moschetti commented the BOS has made decisions about Measure B funding for projects that is not likely retractable such that whatever this committee recommends will be taken only under advisement.
- Chair Miller supports meeting in February or March 2024 to review the budget and mentioned the monthly financial reports will continue to be agendized for discussion should the committee elect to meet quarterly.

Committee Action: Upon motion, by Member Allman, seconded by Member Bradley, it is ORDERED the Mental Health Treatment Act Citizens Oversight Committee meet quarterly on February 28, May 22, August 28 on the coast, and November 20, 2024 with the understanding the Chair will call special meetings at the request of any committee member.

- Motion passes with 7 approvals and 1 nay.

3f) Update and Discussion Regarding the Long-Term Financial report

Presenter: Chair Miller

- Member Ebyam provided the committee with a Measure B Long Term Financial Plan relevant to the PHF project and is incorporated into the agenda packet as attachment 1 for references purposes. She stated while these figures may not be entirely accurate, an overview look of the cost analysis provided on the plan with regard to costs such as number of hospital beds, cost to pay vendor, County out-of-pocket expenses/other operating expenses, they demonstrate how various options to defray such costs can be negotiated and/or possibly reduced to effectively offset revenues as well as demonstrate the how to innovatively generate income from other funding sources for the facility.

Committee Action: None.

3g) Prudent Reserve

Presenter: Chair Miller

- There was a brief discussion concerning the committee's recent decision not to recommend moving forward with funding for a Capital Reserve Facilities Reserve versus a Prudent Reserve as it relates to allocated/unallocated funding such that the intent of Measure B was to create a Prudent Reserve incorporating a split with regard to expenses/maintenance costs between capital facilities and general services projects.

Committee Action: None.

3h) Details of Loan from Measure B to the Jail

Presenter: Chair Miller

- Member Antle addressed the project's seven-million-dollar loan and noted payment

options from funding sources are being examined. She anticipates the project will begin once final approval from the State is given. The County is prepared to pay the loan with set aside money as well as money from other funding sources should payment be required in one lump sum. Interest rates play a factor concerning payment of the loan. She hopeful payment is not necessary until after construction is completed in approximately two years. The BOS must approve funding and the funding sources for the project.

Public Comment:

- John Haschak, Board of Supervisor, commented State funding sources for the County Jail project are being looked at to help pay off some of the project expenses incurred so money would not have to be borrowed.

Committee Action: None.

3i) Follow Up on Ford Street Request for Proposal

Presenter: Chair Miller

- No follow-up discussion was necessary as the Ford Street RFP project has previously been addressed.

Committee Action: None.

4 COMMITTEE MEMBER REPORTS

4a) Committee Member Reports Regarding Items of General Interest

- Member Allman thanked Jenine Miller for serving as Chair of the Committee.

5 ADJOURNMENT:

There being nothing further, the Mental Health Treatment Act Citizens Oversight Committee adjourned the meeting at 2:46pm.

The Committee complies with ADA requirements and upon request, will attempt to reasonably accommodate individuals with disabilities by making meeting materials available in appropriate formats (pursuant to Government Code section 54953.2) Anyone requiring reasonable accommodation to participate in the meeting should contact the Committee clerk by calling (707) 472-2355 at least five days prior to the Meeting. Additional information regarding the Committee can be obtained by referencing:

www.mendocinocounty.org/community/mental-healthoversight-committee.