

**S. C. MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING**  
**SCDMH Administration**  
**2414 Bull Street, Columbia, South Carolina 29201**  
**September 8, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The September 8, 2017 meeting of the South Carolina Mental Health Commission was called to order at 10:30 a.m. by Dr. Alison Evans, Chairperson, in Conference Room 320 at the SC Department of Mental Health Administration Building, 2414 Bull Street, Columbia, SC.

**INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS**

Dr. Evans welcomed Ms. Sarah St. Onge from Protection & Advocacy.

**APPROVAL OF 2018 COMMISSION MEETING DATES**

On a motion by Ms. Sharon Wilson, seconded by Ms. Beverly Cardwell, the Commission approved the 2018 Commission Meeting Dates.

All voted in favor to the above motions; all motions carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Approval of the minutes from the Center Presentation and Business Meeting from June 2, 2017 was deferred until the October 6, 2017 Meeting.

**MONTHLY/QUARTERLY INFORMATION REPORTS**

Mr. Mark Binkley presented the items listed under Monthly/Quarterly Informational Reports, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

**DEPARTMENTAL OVERVIEW AND UPDATE**

**Report of the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body Meeting of July 12, 2017 and Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Versie Bellamy presented the Inpatient Facilities Governing Body Meeting minutes from the July 12, 2017 meeting, copies of which had been provided to the Commission.

***On a motion by Mr. Buxton Terry, seconded by Ms. Beverly Cardwell, the Commission approved the Governing Body Meeting minutes from the July 12, 2017 meeting.***

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**Forensic Waiting List Update**

Mr. Alan Powell stated that the Forensic waiting list has decreased by five (5) since last month. There are currently four (4) patients scheduled to be discharged and admitted to Harris Psychiatric Hospital. Four (4) patients are scheduled to be returned to detention centers and four (4) patients will be transferred to Lodge E. He stated that there are seven (7) discharge hearings scheduled in Richland County on September 19, 2017.

Ms. Versie Bellamy reported that for the first seven (7) months of 2017, the current percentage of discharges is approximately twenty-six percent (26%) greater than for the same period in 2016, and that the average length of stay has decreased by approximately twenty-two percent (22%). The Forensic waiting list has decreased by approximately fifty-five percent (55%) over one year ago. Ms. Bellamy stated that additional Evidence Based Training for forensic staff will be provided in September. She stated Lodge E has passed SCDHEC inspections and patients will be moved in next week.

**Bull Street Update**

Mr. Mark Binkley stated that discussions are being held with the staff of Hughes Development regarding the contract payment of approximately \$ 1.25M that is due to SCDMH by the end of September. He stated that Hughes Development plans to purchase approximately six (6) parcels by the end of September, but there are no third party parcel sales scheduled at this time.

Mr. Magill stated that a portion of the land along Colonial Drive is being leveled to prepare for development and some diseased trees have been removed by Hughes Development and the City of Columbia.

**Financial Status Update**

Mr. Mark Binkley highlighted certain information on the SCDMH Financial Report, dated July 31, 2017, copies of which had been provided to the Commission. The first projection of FY18 indicates a remaining balance of \$ 1.4M. It is also noteworthy that the Agency's FY18 operating budget contains a minimal amount of one time funding.

Some highlights of the Department's Preliminary FY19 Budget Request were presented:

1. Mr. Geoff Mason - Approximately \$ 4.452M will be requested for:
  - An expansion in supported Community Housing,
  - Increased intensive community services, such as ACT-like programs, for adults,
  - Increased inpatient programming to assist in preparing long term patients to be successful prior to their discharge into the community.
2. Mr. Mark Binkley – Approximately \$ 2M in recurring funds is being requested to increase the salaries of SCDMH's Certified Public Safety Officers. SCDMH has a chronic vacancy rate of in certified officers

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approximately thirty percent (30%). Mr. Binkley stated that SCDMH's Certified Public Safety Officer salaries are approximately twenty percent (20%) below average as compared with other State Agencies and that an increase will help to recruit and retain superior officers.

3. Dr. Robert Bank – Funding for an expansion of First Episode Psychosis programs is being requested. An evidence based program for young adults who have experienced the early onset of a psychotic disorder, research has shown these programs to have good outcomes in lessening or preventing eventual long-term disability. State funds are needed to sustain these programs, however, because neither public nor private health insurance covers many of the outreach and support services which those programs provide.

Mr. Magill stated that SCDMH is working with the State Medicaid Agency in efforts to receive reimbursement for services.

Mr. Geoff Mason stated that a certified, evidence-based First Episode Psychosis program practice is located in Charleston. He stated that another program in Charleston is a non-evidence based program. Mr. Mason stated that there are non-evidence based programs located in the Pee Dee and Lexington areas.

4. Mr. Geoff Mason – Approximately \$ 250M for School Based Services  
Mr. Mason stated that school based services are present in approximately six hundred forty-five (645) schools across the State. The amount requested is expected to provide the expansion of approximately ten (10) more positions.

**One Time Requests:**

1. Dr. Robert Bank – Community Mental Health Billing Solutions  
Dr. Bank stated that a new, certified electronic health record system is being installed for the Division of Inpatient Services. A Transformation Committee has been developed to review the qualifications of potential vendors of a new system for Outpatient facilities, which is projected to cost approximately \$ 4M. The new system would hopefully include patient portals, clinical tracking of outcomes, and the automatic processing of billing through billing portals.
2. Ms. Versie Bellamy –Medical Equipment and Vehicles for Inpatient Services  
Ms. Bellamy stated that there is an ongoing need for medical specialty equipment. For safety reasons, some current equipment must be replaced with upgraded equipment. She stated that there is also a need to replace equipment in Nutritional Services. Ms. Bellamy stated that funding for technology needs and vehicle needs are also being requested.

**Capital Requests:** Approximately \$ 40M (Mr. Mark Binkley)

1. Approximately \$ 3.6M is being requested to replace the electrical grid that serves the northeast campus of Bryan Psychiatric Hospital and Morris Village, which is approximately forty-five (45) years old. Discussions are being held with SCE&G to determine if SCDMH should replace the equipment or if it is more economical for SCE&G to create a substation.
2. Funding is being requested to replace the Anderson and Catawba Mental Health Centers. Each new facility would have approximately forty thousand (40,000) square feet and the cost for replacement is estimated at approximately \$ 12.5M for each facility.
3. Funding for small capital improvements and renovations is being requested for Roddey Pavilion, C. M. Tucker Nursing Care Center, and Campbell Nursing Home.

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**Status of Storm Preparations**

Mr. Magill stated that approval was received from SCDHEC for Veterans Victory House to shelter in place.

Mr. Will Wells stated that the current projection for Hurricane Irma is to skirt the upper part of South Carolina. He stated that tropical force winds will be experienced across the State and storm surges will be experienced along the coast. It is also projected that the upper part of the State will received 4"-7" of rain with the possibility of localized flooding. He stated that the Centers are prepared to assist in shelters as needed. Mr. Wells stated that the Inpatient Services Division and Outpatient Community are fully activated.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Mr. Magill stated that a forum was held in Florence last week, with approximately eighty (80) attendees. He stated that forums are scheduled each month for the remainder of 2017.

**NOTICE/AGENDA**

A notice and agenda of the meeting were sent out to all individuals and news media who requested information, in accordance with State law.

**ADJOURNMENT**

*At 11:40 a.m., on a motion by Mr. Buck Terry, seconded by Ms. Beverly Cardwell, the Commission adjourned.*

**ATTENDANCE**

**Commission Members**

(via conference call)

Dr. Alison Evans, Chair  
Sharon Wilson

Beverly Cardwell  
Bob Hiott

Buck Terry  
Louise Haynes

**Guests/Staff**

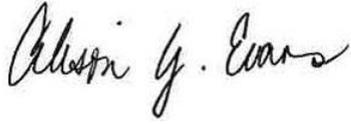
John Magill  
Versie Bellamy  
Mark Binkley

Alan Powell  
Geoff Mason  
Logan Royals

Bill Lindsey  
Sarah St. Onge

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**APPROVALS**



**Alison Y. Evans**  
PsyD, Chair



**Terry Davis**  
Recording Secretary