

San Luis Valley Behavioral Health Group
February 24, 2015

Members Present: Richard Pacheco, Laurie Rivera, Brenda Vialpando, Louise Sanchez, Pat Stanford, Marcella Garcia and Fernando Martinez

Members Excused: Jerry Gallegos and Harry Larsen

Staff Present: Dondi Bowman

1. Roll Call/Declaration of Quorum

2. Approval of Agenda

It was M/S by Louise Sanchez and Laurie Rivera to approve the agenda as presented.
Motion carried.

3. Approval of Minutes:

It was M/S by Louise Sanchez and Laurie Rivera to approve the minutes dated January 27, 2015. Motion carried.

4. Correspondence Review

Richard reviewed the correspondence for the month.

5. Financial Committee Report

The finance committee met and reviewed the Statement of Expenditures and Revenues for the month ending January 31, 2015. It was M/S by Louise Sanchez and Brenda Vialpando to file the financial statements for audit. Motion carried.

6. Review of Minutes – SLV Asset Management

Laurie explained that the board met on February 9, 2015. She explained that the board approved Fernando to advise Ron Mazzeo to prepare the plans for a 5,000 -6,000 square foot building. We are expecting the final bid from Eric VanIwaarden within the next few weeks. He estimates the cost to be between \$500,000 and \$600,000.

7. Review of Minutes – SLV Community Corrections Board

Richard explained that the financials looked good. The profit for the month was \$21,574. We are down 10 beds, but the increase from the state in the rate has made up the difference. We are in the early stages of a partnership with the Sheriff's office. They are investigating all the possibilities. Fernando is working with Gil from the Capital Success Group to get our 10 beds back. Contractors are working on our facility to bring it up to code.

8. SyCare

Louise reported the SyCare Retreat will focus on hiring an Executive Director and doing internal restructuring. Fernando has made an offer to Robert Pacheco to leave SyCare and

join the SLV Behavioral Health Group as an Administrator. He is waiting for Robert's reply.

9. CEO Report

Community Corrections – Fernando has contracted with Capitol Success Group to help restore the 12 IRT beds that we lost at the beginning of the year. We hope to continue operating a 36 bed program. This effort involves Senator Crowder, Representative Vigil, Gil Romero, Community Corrections Coalition and upper management at DOC. The current strategy is to make the case that Southern Colorado needs beds to support the treatment of offenders in our area. We are talking to legislators to get a footnote into the Long Bill. This is a difficult task and we will see if our efforts pay off. In this effort we are trying to mitigate the loss of \$300,000.

Crisis Contract – Our crisis efforts started late given the litigation with the outside provider that was not awarded the RFP. In the short time we have been involved with this program we have come to learn that accessing the \$300,000 allocation to our center is proving to be difficult. This is a reimbursement program so we have to provide receipts for all expenses. The easy part is being able to show costs (with attached receipts) for non-personnel expenses. The biggest concern is around double billing and this has hit us hard. Most of the clients we contact through our crisis services are Medicaid and thus are credited against our cap dollars. This is offsetting our staff costs associated with crisis services entirely, which means that we will not be able to draw down approximately 60% of the \$300,000.

This is happening in all the mental health centers and all are raising red flags. Aspen Pointe is who we operate under for this contract and Fernando asked their staff to treat this as an emergency and start negotiating with OBH to find a solution.

Workforce Shortage – We have been working hard to keep our workforce at a level that we can meet all our contract obligations. Our biggest challenge is hiring licensed clinical staff and this concern is compounded with staff leaving to other careers. Even though we have grown in all areas of our contracts it is the master's level clinical staff that we are falling short on. We have concentrated a lot of resources to this effort and need to do more. Consequently, we have created a recruiting position that will be mobile. The idea is to concentrate on recruiting at all the higher education institutions that offer behavioral health degrees in Colorado and New Mexico. This position will also recruit across the nation through various strategies that are available. We will continue to struggle meeting our contract obligations until we solve our workforce shortage.

Kayley's – There is concern by some of the partners that this particular asset is too expensive to operate and has outlived its original purpose. The SyCare board has asked Fernando to contact a commercial appraiser so that the building and current operations can be assessed. The SyCare board members representing our centers, which include Louise, Jerry and Fernando, have the same concern. Fernando will provide updates.

New Construction – Fernando made a presentation to the Asset Corp about building a new facility directly to the east of the admin building. The building would address our office shortages, moves the Crisis Living Room and build a multi-purpose room to develop physical rehab services for clients who are seen at our integrated clinic.

10. Other Business

a. National Conference – The National Conference is from April 18th to April 22nd in Orlando, Florida. Board members attending are Richard, Louise, Laurie and Fernando.

11. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be March 31, 2015

12. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:00 p.m.