

MINUTES
CMSP GOVERNING BOARD
Thursday, December 14, 2023
In-Person and via Zoom

Governing Board Conference Room
1545 River Park Drive, Suite 435-A
Sacramento, CA 95815

MEMBERS PRESENT

Richard Egan, County Administrator, Lassen County (remote)
Richard Forster, County Supervisor, Amador County (in-person)
Elishia Hayes, County Administrator, Humboldt County (remote)
Matthew Hymel, County Administrator, Marin County (remote)
Elizabeth Kelly, Health and Human Services Director, Colusa County (remote)
Jennifer Vasquez, Health & Human Services Director, Yuba County (in-person)
John Vasquez, Supervisor, Solano County (in-person)
Oscar Villegas, County Supervisor, Yolo County (remote)
Christine Zoppi, Health and Human Services Director, Glenn County (in-person)

MEMBERS ABSENT

Kimberly Chen, Assistant Secretary, California Health & Human Services Agency
Deborah Martinez, Social Services Director, Madera County

Closed Session

The Governing Board met in Closed Session.

Public Session

Introductions and Public Comments

Richard Forster, Board Chair, opened the meeting and invited Board Members attending the meeting in person to introduce themselves, followed by Board Members participating remotely. Then CMSP Staff introduced themselves.

Mr. Forster asked for any comments from the public. There were no public comments. Mr. Forster then noted that he had talked with Kari Brownstein, Executive Director, about looking into a possible collaboration with the First 5 Association of California to focus on areas of potential mutual interest. He noted that pregnancy and post pregnancy continue to be areas of concern in many communities, along with children's access to dental care.

Correspondence and Consent Calendar

Mr. Forster requested a motion to approve the December 14, 2023 Board Agenda and Correspondence and Consent Calendar.

Jennifer Yasumoto, Napa County Health and Human Services Director was elected to replace Christine Zoppi; and, Christina Rivera, Sonoma County Administrator, was elected to replace Matthew Hymel. Finally, a ballot has been sent out for an election to replace Supervisor Oscar Villegas.

Report from Legislative Representative

Ms. Lange greeted the Governing Board. Ms. Lange reported that the Legislative Analyst's Office (LAO) released a more complete analysis of the state's current year and next fiscal year budget situation. Because of changes to the federal tax payment schedule for FY 2022-23, and due to a shortfall of \$17 billion for the current year budget, there is a large budget hole for FY 2024-25. From a proportion point of view, the projected deficit is less than what has occurred in other years, but the number is very large. So, various short-term strategies are being considered, including trigger cuts, use of some portions of the existing reserves, and various other budget concepts. Since school funding is generally considered the state's top priority, cuts are likely to focus elsewhere before schools face reductions. For counties, this means that the state budget dynamic next year will be heavy on defense.

In political news, there have been a series of dustups in the State Assembly, including that the Majority Leader was quickly relieved from his role by the new Speaker and a new Majority Leader was appointed. The new Majority Leader is Assembly Member Ceclia Aguiar-Curry, who represents five CMSP counties.

Proposition 1 [Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) restructuring and bond act] is polling around 60%, but some county Boards of Supervisors are considering a position of oppose. Because of the severity of the budget situation, further discussion about bond acts is expected this next session. Depending on the outcome of Proposition 1, there may be additional or fewer bond acts considered for the November 2024 ballot.

In state budget related news, there has been a lot of recent dissension among Assembly Democrats, so that dynamic could impact how and when budget decisions get made. There is a projection of up to \$4 billion in costs stemming from the recently enacted minimum wage requirements set for certain healthcare providers, and this matter is getting renewed attention.

Paul Yoder greeted the Board remotely and expressed his appreciation to the Board members who have served the Board and will soon be leaving the Board.

Mr. Yoder noted that Senator Mike McGuire, the new Senate Pro Tem, is from Sonoma County and represents a variety of CMSP counties up to the Oregon border. The leadership in both houses is now composed of former county supervisors from CMSP counties. Mr. Yoder talked through possible strategies for resolving the state budget deficit, including use of the reserves, hard budget cuts and diversions, trigger cuts. Mr. Yoder stated that, when the Governor introduces his FY 2024-25 State Budget, we should expect him to ask for the Legislature to take immediate actions that allow solutions to take place over 16-17 months, instead of 12 months.

- CMSP Enrollment in mCase – CMSP staff is meeting weekly with RedMane on system development and is working with DHCS to set up the MEDS interface for the new system. CMSP staff hope to start the new system mid-2024.
- CMSP Program Audit – This annual audit starts the week of January 8, 2024.
- New Office Lease – The new lease, among other changes, will bring new carpet and new paint. Changes are expected by the Governing Board's January 2024 meeting.

Public Comments

Mr. Forster asked for public comments. There were no public comments and Mr. Forster adjourned the meeting. The next meeting is January 25, 2024.