



**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Administrative Office	(2) MEETING DATE 6/19/2018	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Morgan Torell/805-781-5011	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve the recommended responses to the FY 2017-18 Grand Jury report titled "Our County Can Do Better: The Crisis Inside the Walls of the Psychiatric Health Facility"; and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by July 10, 2018. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board adopt as the County's response to the referenced Grand Jury report titled "Our County Can Do Better: The Crisis Inside the Walls of the Psychiatric Health Facility": 1. The attached response prepared by the Health Agency to Findings 2 through 7 and Recommendations 1 through 6; and 2. The responses prepared by staff to Recommendations 2 and 3; and 3. Direct the Clerk to forward the approved responses to the Presiding Judge and the Grand Jury by July 10, 2018.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) N/A	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0.00	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT ☒ Consent ☐ Presentation ☐ Hearing (Time Est. _____) ☐ Board Business (Time Est. _____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS ☐ Resolutions ☐ Contracts ☐ Ordinances ☒ N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) N/A		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: N/A ☐ 4/5 Vote Required ☒ N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY ☒ N/A Date _____	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW This item was prepared by the Administrative Office			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			



COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Morgan Torell, Administrative Analyst
Wade Horton, County Administrative Officer

DATE: 6/19/2018

SUBJECT: Request to approve the recommended responses to the FY 2017-18 Grand Jury report titled "Our County Can Do Better: The Crisis Inside the Walls of the Psychiatric Health Facility"; and forward these responses to the Presiding Judge of the Superior Court by July 10, 2018. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board adopt as the County's response to the referenced Grand Jury report titled "Our County Can Do Better: The Crisis Inside the Walls of the Psychiatric Health Facility":

1. The attached response prepared by the Health Agency to Findings 2 through 7 and Recommendations 1 through 6; and
2. The responses prepared by staff to Recommendations 2 and 3; and
3. Direct the Clerk to forward the approved responses to the Presiding Judge and the Grand Jury by July 10, 2018.

DISCUSSION

On May 8, 2018 the Grand Jury issued a report titled "Our County Can Do Better: The Crisis Inside the Walls of the Psychiatric Health Facility." The report investigated the physical condition of the County's Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF), its capability to house inmates, and fitness to perform the function of treating mentally ill patients who are in crisis. The Grand Jury includes eight findings and six recommendations. The Health Agency is required to respond to Findings 2 through 7 and to Recommendations 1 through 6. The Board of Supervisors is required to respond to Recommendations 2 and 3.

The County thanks the Grand Jury for taking the time to examine County services and facilities. The availability of behavioral health services, particularly crisis mental health services such as those provided at the County's Psychiatric Health Facility, are limited locally as well as throughout the State and nation. Addressing access and availability of behavioral health services requires partnerships between the Federal government, State, County, cities, non-profit agencies and service providers, hospitals, medical professionals, private citizens, and others. The

County will continue to be active locally as well as at the State and Federal level in addressing behavioral health services needs and barriers.

Grand Jury recommendations 2 and 3 and Board Responses:

Recommendation 2: The San Luis Obispo County Jail should have its own dedicated psychiatric hospital facility, serving only inmates. This would limit the number of inmates admitted as patients in the PHF. When inmates are admitted to the new PHF, a correctional deputy should be assigned.

This recommendation has been partially implemented. The Sheriff's Office is in the process of establishing a behavioral health unit at the Jail for inmates that will provide intensive day treatment services. The facility is anticipated to open in FY 2018-19. Additionally, through a Request for Proposal process for Jail healthcare services, the County included an option for proposers to estimate the cost of staffing and operating a psychiatric health facility at the Jail.

Recommendation 3: The County should find or build a new psychiatric hospital facility, with sufficient room for patient treatment and recovery. Funding could come from reserves sources (County and/or MHSA) or pursuing a state grant.

This recommendation will not be implemented at this time as it is not feasible. If new funding becomes available or current funding can be redirected, this option will be evaluated. The County is committed to maintaining and improving the existing Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF).

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

The Health Agency and County Administrative Office drafted the recommended responses to the Grand Jury report.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Costs for preparing this response are included in current department budgets.

RESULTS

This response meets the legal requirements and time frames for responding to a Grand Jury report under California Penal Code Section 933. Under California Penal Code Section 933, the County must provide comments to the Presiding Judge no later than 90 days after the Grand Jury submits a final report.

ATTACHMENTS

1. Responses from the Health Agency
2. 2017-18 Grand Jury Report: "Our County Can Do Better: The Crisis Inside the Walls of the Psychiatric Health Facility"



**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO HEALTH AGENCY
BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

Michael Hill, *Health Agency Director*

Anne Robin, LMFT *Behavioral Health Director*

TO: Wade Horton, Administrative Office

FROM: Michael Hill, Health Agency Director
Anne Robin, LMFT, Behavioral Health Administrator

DATE: May 22, 2018

SUBJECT: Department Response to the 2017-2018 Grand Jury Report "Our County Can Do Better: The Crisis Inside the Walls of the Psychiatric Health Facility"

On May 8, 2018 the Health Agency received a report from the 2017-2018 County Grand Jury addressing issues associated with the condition of the Psychiatric Health Facility building.

The Grand Jury requires the Health Agency/Behavioral Health to respond to Findings F2-F7; and Recommendations 1-6. The following are the required responses.

FINDINGS

Finding 2: The PHF facility is woefully inadequate for a psychiatric hospital.

Response: The respondent disagrees partially with the finding. The Psychiatric Health Facility has consistently passed all licensing reviews for both condition and safety.

Finding 3: There is not enough room for the programs and therapies required towards a goal of recovery; a separate and dedicated area is lacking for both treatment rooms and physical exercise.

Response: The respondent partially disagrees with this finding. The Psychiatric Health Facility has consistently passed all licensing reviews for both condition and safety.

Finding 4: The facility lacks adequate natural lighting and is excessively dreary when compared to a modern psychiatric hospital.

Response: The respondent partially disagrees with this finding. The Psychiatric Health Facility has consistently passed all licensing reviews for both condition and safety. The interior was painted with a light color in 2018, and the Department will work with the Public Works Department to evaluate lighting options in FY 2018-19.

Finding 5: In the event of an emergency requiring evacuation during the night or evening, the required staffing is insufficient for the safety of the patients, staff, and community. In an area-wide emergency, law enforcement may not be able to respond.

Response: The respondent disagrees with this finding. The Psychiatric Health Facility has consistently passed all licensing reviews for both condition and safety.

Finding 6: Inmates in the patient population impact other patients and may require full time supervision within the facility.

Response: The respondent agrees with this finding.

Finding 7: The outdoor area is inadequate for the number of patients served and doesn't provide space for exercise.

Response: The respondent partially disagrees with this finding. The Psychiatric Health Facility has consistently passed all licensing reviews for both condition and safety.

RECOMMENDATIONS

Recommendation 1: Even though the PHF second and third shifts meet minimum State standards, staffing levels should be increased for staff, patient, and community safety reasons.

Response: This recommendation has been partially implemented through the addition of permanent resources to the PHF in each of the last five years. The Department will continue to evaluate staffing needs at the PHF.

Recommendation 2: The San Luis Obispo County Jail should have its own dedicated psychiatric hospital facility, serving only inmates. This would limit the number of inmates admitted as patients in the PHF. When inmates are admitted to the new PHF, a correctional deputy should be assigned.

Response: This recommendation has been partially implemented. The Sheriff's Office is in process of establishing a behavioral health unit at the Jail for inmates.

Recommendation 3: The County should find or build a new psychiatric hospital facility, with sufficient room for patient treatment and recovery. Funding could come from reserves sources (County and/or MHSA) or pursuing a state grant.

Response: This recommendation will not be implemented at this time as it is not feasible. If new grants, State, or Federal funds become available this option will be evaluated.

Recommendation 4: The current lighting should be replaced with natural spectrum lights (preferable LEDs). The facility interior should be painted and the ceiling tiles replaced/repared to provide an improved therapeutic environment.

Response: The recommendation has been implemented. The facility interior was painted with a light color in 2018. Ceiling tiles have been replaced. The Department will work with the Public Works Department to evaluate lighting options in FY 2018-19.

Recommendation 5: Upgrade video surveillance capabilities.

Response: This recommendation is being implemented. The County is in the process of replacing the existing camera recording hardware with the current model. This replacement is scheduled to be completed in August 2018. Shortly after the recording hardware is replaced, the County will conduct a review of existing cameras and make recommendations for replacements.

Recommendation 6: The facility should annex additional area from the adjacent County facilities, adding the treatment and therapy environments to improve effectiveness and safety.

Response: The recommendation will not be implemented as it is not feasible. If new grants, State, or Federal funds become available this option will be evaluated.