1. **5:30 P.M. - CALL TO ORDER**
   The meeting was called to order by Chair M. Lopez at 5:30 P.M.
   All attendees appeared via teleconference.

2. **ROLL CALL/INTRODUCTIONS**
   Commissioner attendance verified via roll call.

   **COMMISSIONERS**
   **Present:** Rosa Gonzalez-Rivas; Alma McHoney; Margie Sokotowski; Mark Lopez; Maribel Ferreira; Jesse Herrera; Aaron Wood; Linda Fosler; Supv. Christopher Lopez

   **Absent:** Cathy Gutierrez; Anthony Ivanich

   **Staff Present:** Lucero Robles, Acting Behavioral Health Bureau Chief; Jon Drake, Behavioral Health Assistant Bureau Chief; Michael Lisman, Deputy Director ASOC & Forensic; Alica Hendricks, Management Analyst, Behavioral Health, Wesley Schweikhard, Management Analyst/MHSA Innovations Coordinator, Behavioral Health; Marina Pantchenko, Deputy County Counsel; Andria Sumpter, Secretary, Behavioral Health

   **Announcement of the Interpreter:** Spanish Interpreter present and announced Spanish interpreter services.

3. **CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA**
   None.

4. **PUBLIC COMMENT**
   No public comment submitted via email or from meeting attendees.

5. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**
   It was moved by Commissioner Fosler, seconded by Commissioner Sokotowski to approve the September 24, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously by the following vote:

   **AYES:** Rivas; McHoney; Sokotowski; Chair M. Lopez; Herrera; Wood; Fosler
   **NOES:** None
   **ABSENT:** Gutierrez; Ivanich
   **ABSTAIN:** Ferreira; Supv. C Lopez
6. **ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:**
   It was moved by Commissioner Ferreira, seconded by Commissioner Wood to approve the October 29, 2020 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously by the following vote:

   AYES:  McHoney; Chair M. Lopez; Ferreira; Herrera; Wood; Fosler; Supv. C Lopez
   NOES:  None
   ABSENT: Gutierrez; Ivanich
   ABSTAIN: Rivas; Sokotowski

7. **APPROVE 2021 MEETING SCHEDULE:**
   It was moved by Supv. C. Lopez seconded by Commissioner Sokotowsksi to approve the 2021 Behavioral Health Commission Meeting Schedule. The motion passed unanimously by the following vote:

   AYES: Rivas; McHoney; Sokotowski; Chair M. Lopez; Ferreira; Herrera; Wood; Fosler; Supv. C Lopez
   NOES: None
   ABSENT: Gutierrez; Ivanich
   ABSTAIN: None

8. **INFORMATION:** Receive a report from Acting Behavioral Health Director.
   Lucero Robles presented referring to the handout (Agenda Item 8) provided.

   Key points included:
   • Brief overview of the Mental Health Services Act.
     o Announcement of the upcoming Annual Update for fiscal year 2022
   • Announcement that the new Behavioral Health Director, Dr. Zurlin has withdrawn her acceptance of the offer and a new recruitment will go out for the position.

9. **INFORMATION:** Receive a Report from a Member of the Board of Supervisors
   Supervisor Chris Lopez shared the following announcements:
   ➢ COVID-19 Update:
     o Monterey County cases continue to increase (by significant numbers).
     o Reminder to continue necessary precautions during the Holiday season.
   ➢ A new women’s health clinic opened in Soledad (11/19/20) with two (2) additional spaces for behavioral health staff in the building.
   ➢ New testing sites are coming to the County:
     o The two (2) currently available in Salinas and Seaside will continue.
     o A new site will be in Castroville.
     o A mobile team able to respond to outbreaks (schools, senior nursing facilities or companies needing assistance).
     o A new drive-thru testing site with a 360/day test capacity will be available at the Soledad high school; start date to come.
   ➢ County Economic update:
Impacts are significant; the hospitality industry has been hardest hit with 60+% without jobs.
Governor Newsom announced the new curfew today.

Extended Thanksgiving well wishes to everyone!

10. INFORMATION: Receive the Commissioners’ Reports/Updates

➢ Comm. Rivas shared COVID-19 related issues she has witnessed in her area. She visits with migrant families and has seen children not able to log-in to participate in school; throwing out clothing to sanitize their home when not able to wash their clothes. There is a lack of knowledge of COVID-19 resources/services within the community, especially when experiencing quarantine. There is also mistrust from the community of going to the doctor (locally) when ill; the perception is doctors are not treating aggressively enough (use over-the-counter meds first vs. prescribing). Instead some people are getting their medications from Mexicali.
➢ Comm. Sokotowski extended her support to assist with ways to help remedy the issues Comm. Rivas shared.
➢ Comm. M. Lopez reminded everyone to continue healthy/safe practices, and that there is no commission meeting in December.
➢ Comm. Ferreira shared her personal journey over the last eight months during the COVID-19 pandemic.
➢ Comm. Herrera expressed the continued need to find ways to reach out to communities to help provide support, especially during this difficult time in addition to making sure we are listening to the needs of those reaching out.
➢ Comm. Wood expressed his gratitude to the Commission for their support during his first several months.
➢ Comm. Fosler also extended her support to Comm. Rivas and the effort to assist those families in need.
➢ Supv. C. Lopez departed the meeting at 6:11 p.m.

The Commissioners shared their gratitude for Lucero and the MCBH’s continued hard work in addition to their Holiday well wishes and safety to everyone.

ADJOURN
The meeting was adjourned at 6:26 p.m.