

the Department of Health Services will keep the Board of Supervisors apprised of the outcomes of the various processes that have been implemented.

MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES DIVISION RELEASE PROCEDURES

RECOMMENDATIONS: Pages 76 – 77

R1. *The Department of Health Services (HS) and MHS should review and report on the benefits and concerns regarding the adoption and implementation of Laura's Law in Sonoma County. This report and its conclusions should be sent to the Board of Supervisors.*

RESPONSE: This recommendation will not be implemented because it is not warranted.

As indicated by the Department, current and projected levels of mental health funding have not allowed Sonoma county, or any other county in California, to implement Laura's Law, based on the legislative requirements for services.

PRMD COMPLIANCE REVIEW

FINDINGS: Page 90

F3. *As of April 5, 2004, PRMD had not fully implemented agreed to recommendations made by the 2000-2001 and 2001-2002 grand jury.*

Some of the agreed to recommendations from the 2000-2001 report not fully implemented were:

- **R3.** PRMD must have a formal written policy for ongoing training and cross-training.
- **R4.** Each Unit within PRMD must develop formal written procedures to implement and monitor PRMD policy for both training and cross-training
- **R9.** The various parts of the permit process must be integrated. Steps must be taken to ensure that a citizen gets complete and accurate information as to all procedures and permits that will be required before starting a project.

The agreed to recommendation from the 2001-2002 report not fully implemented was:

- **R6.** PRMD must continue to make progress in implementing the recommendations of the Zucker Report. The Board of Supervisors should closely monitor this progress to assure that future milestones are achieved.

RESPONSE: The Board of Supervisors agree in part with the finding.

While the Board agrees with the statement that recommendations R3 and R4 from the 2000-01 Grand Jury Report have not been fully implemented by the Permit and Resource Planning Department (PRMD), we disagree that recommendation R9 from the 2000-01 Grand Jury Report and recommendation R6 from 2001-02 Grand Jury Reports have not been fully implemented. The PRMD permit process is, in fact, an integrated process. However, departmental policies and procedures must continually be scrutinized and altered to meet changing regulations and requirements. PRMD has made significant progress on implementation of the key recommendations from the Zucker Report, and the PRMD Director has been diligent in keeping the Board apprised of the department's progress. The Board continues to be

committed to ensuring that PRMD staff are appropriately trained, and citizens are provided complete, accurate and timely information.

RECOMMENDATIONS Pages 90-91

R1. The Board of Supervisors must initiate a review procedure to guarantee implementation of grand jury recommendations that have been agreed upon by county departments and agencies.

RESPONSE: This recommendation has been implemented.

Whenever the Board directs that recommendations from the Grand Jury be adopted, departments report on their progress either through the County Administrator's Office or the Board, as appropriate.

R2. PRMD must complete implementation of the agreed upon recommendations in the 2000-2001 Grand Jury Report.

RESPONSE: The recommendation will be implemented.

Recommendations R3 and R4 from the 2000-2001 Grand Jury Report will be implemented by October 31, 2004. As stated previously, recommendation R9 has already been implemented.

R3. PRMD must continue to make progress in implementing the recommendations of the Zucker Report. The Board of Supervisors should closely monitor this progress to assure that future milestones are achieved.

RESPONSE: This recommendation has been implemented.

While the Board of Supervisors continues to monitor progress on the Zucker Report recommendations, we are also interested in new process improvement efforts initiated by the department. The Board will continue to monitor progress in this area and ensure appropriate changes and initiatives are implemented that improve PRMD services, whether such changes are Zucker recommendations or suggestions from our clients or staff.

SONOMA COUNTY BUDGET POLICY

RECOMMENDATIONS: Page 104

R1. That the Board of Supervisors make a philosophy statement on how or whether the Board anticipates annual surpluses and the building of reserves in establishing the annual budget, or the drawdown of reserves in deficit situations. This statement should require that funding and spending options be considered in the building or drawdown of reserves in the development of the budget.

RESPONSE: This recommendation has been implemented.

On March 23, 2004, as a part of the annual Budget Policy Workshop, the Board of Supervisors approved a collection of financial policy statements that were updated to provide guidance for the development of the FY 04-05 budget. These statements addressed the Grand Jury's recommendation and more. The collection of approved financial policy statements will be published each year in the County Budget. In addition, the County Administrator and County Auditor will be bringing back to the Board further options