

Minutes

Behavioral Health Commission

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Vice-Chair WS - Term Expiration
01/01/2023*

*Dr. Richard Lynn, Vice-Chair SLT - Term Expiration 12/03/2021
Wendy Thomas, Board of Supervisors Representative - Term
Expiration 01/01/2022*

*Kathryn Hamilton, Secretary - Term Expiration 08/13/2021
Henry Sandigo, Commissioner - Term Expiration 03/16/2024
Norma Santiago, Commissioner - Term Expiration 10/30/2021
Debra Thornburgh, Commissioner - Term Expiration 01/01/2022
Karis Holman, Commissioner - Term Expiration 01/01/2022
Vacant (8), Commissioner*

Wednesday, June 16, 2021

5:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

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5:06 PM CALLED TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL; INTRODUCTIONS

Staff Present

Don Semon, Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Amy Haynes, Ren Strong, Moriah Weldy,
Paula Frantz, and Nancy Callahan, IDEA Consultant

Public Attendees: Barry Harwell, Chris Stedeford, Anna Gleason, Craig Lomax

Present: 6 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn
and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 2 - Henry Sandigo and Norma Santiago

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Clavere made a motion to adopt the Agenda; Commissioner
Thomas provided a second.

Yes: 6 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn
and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 2 - Henry Sandigo and Norma Santiago

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

DISCUSSION / ACTION ITEMS

1. [21-0987](#) Review/Approval of the May 19, 2021 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes (5 minutes)

Commissioner Clavere made a motion to adopt the Minutes; Commissioner Holman provided a second.

Public Comment: None

Yes: 5 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 2 - Henry Sandigo and Norma Santiago

Abstained: 1 - Debra Thornburgh

2. [21-0830](#) Discussion/Review of the EQRO for Substance Use Disorder Services and Providers, including a brief update of current program status (30 minutes)

Commissioner Clavere made a motion to continue this item off calendar; Commissioner Holman provided a second.

Public Comment: None

Yes: 6 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 2 - Henry Sandigo and Norma Santiago

5:13 PM ROLL CALL

Present: 7 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

3. [21-1019](#) Commissioner Clavere requests that the Behavioral Health Commission recommend to the Board of Supervisors that Kathryn Hamilton be re-appointed as a full member of the Behavioral Health Commission (5 minutes)

Commissioner Santiago made a motion to approve this recommendation; Supervisor Thomas provided a second.

Public Comment: None

Yes: 7 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

4. [21-0989](#) Discussion on the Commission Chair Vacancy (5 minutes)

Commissioner Clavere provided summary of Bylaw actions, which are allowable to fill the vacancy of the position Commission Chair. Individual Commissioners made the recommendation that Vice Chair Commissioner Clavere act as the Chair and the West Slope Vice Chair position remain vacant until the next elections.

Commissioner Santiago expressed concern about commissioner vacancies.

Commissioner Lynn expressed hesitation to invite others to join the Commission Meetings because the meetings last too long.

Commissioner Santiago made a motion to appoint Commissioner Clavere as acting Chair; Commissioner Lynn provided a second.

Public Comment: None

Yes: 7 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman, Richard Lynn and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

5. [21-0992](#) Discuss/Determine Behavioral Health Commission meeting schedule for July through December, 2021 (5 minutes)

Commissioner Clavere provided advisement that Bylaws state that the Commission will have 10 regularly scheduled meetings annually and reminded Commissioners that in a typical year, there is no meeting scheduled in December.

Commissioners discussed the preference of skipping July or August and determined that the preference was to hold a regular meeting in July and skip August.

Paula Frantz clarified that Bylaws require that Commission have no less than 10 meetings annually, but it is not required that any meetings are skipped.

Commissioner Holman moved to hold a meeting in July and to skip the meeting in August; Supervisor Thomas provided the second.

Public Comment: None

Yes: 6 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 1 - Henry Sandigo

Abstained: 1 - Richard Lynn

6. [21-0993](#) Presentation of the Behavioral Health Budget and IDEA Consulting Assessment by Don Semon, Health and Human Services Agency Director, Nancy Callahan, Ph.D., and Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director (90 minutes)

Don Semon, Health and Human Services Agency Director presented an overview of the current Behavioral Health Division budget, budget challenges and revenue sources; highlighting high cost spent on inpatient and out of county residential care and need for step-down level of care options.

Nancy Callahan, Ph.D., IDEA Consulting presented an overview of the Final Report; emphasis placed on the disproportionate amount spent on inpatient services, the need for supportive housing in the community and need to build a functional outpatient system of care.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director presented the IDEA Consulting Recommendations; the report included 28 individual recommendations.

The Commissioners followed the presentation with questions and discussions focused on the IDEA Consulting report.

Public Comment:

Craig Lomax appreciates the presentations, preparations and thoughtful questions.

Barry Harwell appreciates that the County has asked for a transparent evaluation and report of services.

7. [21-0996](#) Review/Discussion/Questions of the Behavioral Health Director's Report (10 minutes)

Due to time constraints, Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken did not provide an overview of the Division report, but provided an opportunity for questions or comments on the report.

Commissioner Clavere asked why the contract with Progress House was not renewed when they provide a large portion of services for SUDS clients.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken responded explaining that all of the details relating to the decision for non-renewal could not be discussed; but she reassured the Commission that securing new providers is in process.

Public Comment: None

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Santiago announced that she started law school and that she has a class that will be on Wednesday's at 5:30 and because of that she will be absent from the July and September meetings.

DETERMINE NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE

The next regular meeting of the Behavioral Health Commission is scheduled for 5:00 PM on July 21, 2021.

7:15 PM ADJOURNMENT

ADJOURNED: 7:15 PM