



# County of El Dorado

See meeting locations  
below

## Minutes - Draft

### Behavioral Health Commission

*James Abram, Chair - Term Expiration 8/15/2026*  
*Norma Santiago, Vice Chair- Term Expiration 10/26/2024*  
*John Taylor, Vice Chair - Term Expiration 1/1/2026*  
*Kathryn Hamilton, Secretary - Term Expiration 7/30/2027*  
*Wendy Thomas, Board of Supervisors Representative - Term Expiration 01/01/2025*  
*Dr. Richard Lynn, Commissioner - Term Expiration 11/16/2024*  
*Debra Thornburgh, Commissioner - Term Expiration 12/07/2024*  
*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner - Term Expiration 01/01/2026*  
*Vacant (3), Commissioner*

---

Wednesday, September 18, 2024

5:00 PM

Meeting Locations (in person and connected via tele/video-conferencing):  
• 330 Fair Lane, Bldg. A, Placerville, CA  
• Mental Health Office, 1900 Lake Tahoe Blvd., Suite 103, South Lake Tahoe, CA

---

#### 5:01 PM CALLED TO ORDER

*Commissioner Lynn joined at 5:21 PM*

**Present:** 7 - Hamilton, Thornburgh, Lynn, Santiago, Taylor, Thomas and Abram

**Absent:** 1 - Clavere

#### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

*Commissioner comments related to the Agenda and Consent Calendar:  
(None)*

*Public comments related to the Consent Calendar:  
(None)*

**A motion was made by Santiago, seconded by Taylor to Adopt the Agenda and Approve the Consent Calendar.**

**Yes:** 7 - Hamilton, Thornburgh, Lynn, Santiago, Taylor, Thomas and Abram

**Absent:** 1 - Clavere

#### CONSENT CALENDAR

- 1. [24-1650](#) Commission Chair recommends the Behavioral Health Commission to approve the minutes from the August 21, 2024 regular meeting of the Behavioral Health Commission.

**Attachments:** [DRAFT - Minutes - August 21, 2024 BHC Meeting](#)

**The August 21, 2024 Minutes were Approved.**

**Yes:** 7 - Hamilton, Thornburgh, Lynn, Santiago, Taylor, Thomas and Abram

**Absent:** 1 - Clavere

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR**

**OPEN FORUM**

*Public comment (items not on Agenda):  
(None)*

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

- 2. [24-1654](#) In accordance with AB 2249 (2022) Commission Chair accepts any commissioner request to participate remotely according to Just Cause or Emergency Circumstances allowances pursuant to Title 5 Government Code, Division 2, Part 1, Chapter 9, 54953(f)(2) and take action on any requests made.

*Item moved from Consent Calendar to Discussion per request received from Commissioner Clavere to participate remotely. While not present, this item was voted on should Commissioner Clavere be able to remotely join the meeting.*

*Public comment:  
(None)*

**A motion was made by Thomas, seconded by Abram, to Approve this matter.**

**Yes:** 7 - Hamilton, Thornburgh, Lynn, Santiago, Taylor, Thomas and Abram

**Absent:** 1 - Clavere

3. [24-1655](#) Ad Hoc Nomination Committee Update by Jim Abram. (5-minutes)

*Ad Hoc Nomination Committee to include Commissioners Abram, Santiago and Taylor.*

*Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Notes for record, intent is to provide a slate of officers for vote at November meeting with intent of having an election at that point so officers could assume positions come January.*

*Public comment:*

*(None)*

**No Formal Action**

- 4. [24-1656](#) Evaluation Committee Report by Jim Abram; On-site Reviews of CASA and Stanford Prevention Wrap. (10-minutes)

**Attachments:** [Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee - CASA Report](#)  
[EDC Evaluation Questions + CASA Responses](#)  
[Ad Hoc Evaluation Committee - SSYAF Report](#)  
[EDC Evaluation Questions + SSYAF Responses](#)

*Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Asks if therapeutic service referral needs for CASA clients are fulfilled by the County in a timely manner.*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Director of Behavioral Health: Answers the County is meeting obligations for timeliness set by the State.*

*Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Broadly asks if CASA's listed percentage for reentry into system is an average number.*

*James Abram, Commission Chair: Answers he does not know.*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Director of Behavioral Health: Answers she is unable to speak to that off the top of her head.*

*Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Asks for further explanation, in response to Stanford Sierra Youth and Family Services' statement regarding limited community resources available subsequent to six-month timeline.*

*Justine Collinsworth, Manager of Mental Health Programs: Describes possible circumstance for population statement is likely referring to; which has private insurance and not Medi-Cal.*

*Wendy Thomas, Commission Board of Supervisors Representative: Thanks Commissioners Abram and Hamilton for taking this on and offering up these reports that obviously took a great deal of work.*

*John Taylor, Commission Vice Chair: Echoes thanks, notes item enjoyed from report.*

*James Abram, Commission Chair: Comments on being impressed by facility setup and operations. Both evaluations were very good.*

*Public comment:  
(None)*

**No Formal Action**

- 5. [24-1657](#) Presentation by Jim Diel on System Improvement Process (SIP) Update. (20-minutes)

**Attachments:** [BH System Improvement Plan - September 18, 2024](#)

*Jim Diel, Chief Assistant Director of Health and Human Services: Provided overview of SIP status following up from March 2024 presentation; sharing living document for transparency.*

*Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Thank you for a comprehensive report. Asks about retention strategy.*

*Jim Diel, Chief Assistant Director of Health and Human Services: Answers morale event every month -building team cohesion, work staff are doing with onboarding intended as retention, and hard-to-fill financial incentives.*

*Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Item nine, page eleven -asks how often do you anticipate us hearing the findings of the Quality Improvement Committee?*

*Justine Collinworth, Manager of Mental Health Programs: Answers Commission is invited to quarterly Quality Improvement Committee stakeholder meeting. We could include -if any- relevant topics that arise during regular internal meetings on monthly report.*

*Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Yeah, that would be awesome. Thank you very much.*

*Wendy Thomas, Commission Board of Supervisors Representative: Commends staff for significant list of accomplishments given vacancy rates and State demands that continue to put pressure on time and resources.*

*Public comment:*

*Debra Reischel-Cree: Asks if [Quarterly Quality Improvement Committee] meetings are open to the public.*

*Justine Collinworth, Manager of Mental Health Programs: Answers yes.*

**Presented**

- 6. [24-1658](#) Presentation by Division Staff: Consumer testimonial or lived experience. (5-minutes)

**Presented**

- 7. [24-1659](#) Review/Discussion/Questions of Behavioral Health Director's Report. (10-minutes)

**Attachments:** [Behavioral Health Director's Report - August 2024 Data](#)

*James Abram, Commission Chair: Acknowledges noted departure of long time staff member, Doris Jones. Asks about onboarding of new clinicians.*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Director of Behavioral Health: Answers clinicians are being cross-trained to best meet department needs.*

*Public comment:*

*Debra Reischel-Cree: Commends staff and Commission for the work they are doing.*

**Received and Filed**

### COMMISSIONER COMMENT

*James Abram, Commission Chair: Notes the Evaluation Ad Hoc Committee is disbanded because it's turned in its report.*

**NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE: October 16, 2024**

**6:09 PM ADJOURNED**