

# County of El Dorado

330 Fair Lane, Building A  
Placerville, CA

## Minutes

### Behavioral Health Commission

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Vice-Chair WS*

*Dr. Richard Lynn, Vice-Chair SLT*

*Wendy Thomas, Board of Supervisors Representative*

*Kathryn Hamilton, Secretary*

*Henry Sandigo, Commissioner*

*Norma Santiago, Commissioner*

*Debra Thornburgh, Commissioner*

*Karis Holman, Commissioner*

*Vacant (8), Commissioner*

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Wednesday, February 24, 2021

5:00 PM

VIRTUAL MEETING

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### VIRTUAL MEETING

#### 5:07 PM CALLED TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL; INTRODUCTIONS

Staff Present: Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Amy Haynes, Don Semon, Ren Strong, Heather Longo, Paula Frantz, Brian Richart

Public Present: Kevin O'Connell, Barbara Smiley, Barry Harwell, Elizabeth Blakemore, First5, El Dorado, Kelly, Zoom Admin, and 1530\*\*\*\*490

Supervisor Thomas said it is delightful to be here and she looks forward to working with the Commission in the year ahead to benefit our community.

Present: 8 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Henry Sandigo, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 1 - Richard Lynn

#### ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

A motion was made by Commissioner Santiago, seconded by Commissioner Clavere to adopt the Agenda with the following changes: Continue #8 and #9 to the March 2021 meeting.

Yes: 8 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Henry Sandigo, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman and Wendy Thomas

Absent: 1 - Richard Lynn

#### PUBLIC COMMENT - NONE

#### DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. [21-0264](#) Approval of November 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes (5 minutes)

A motion was made by Commissioner Clavere, seconded by Commissioner Santiago to approve the November 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes.

**Yes:** 4 - Stephen Clavere, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago and Debra Thornburgh

**Absent:** 1 - Richard Lynn

**Abstained:** 4 - Arturo Salazar, Henry Sandigo, Karis Holman and Wendy Thomas

2. 21-0269 Approval of the October 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes (5 minutes)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Clavere, seconded by Commissioner Santiago to approve the October 2020 Behavioral Health Commission Minutes.**

**Yes:** 5 - Stephen Clavere, Henry Sandigo, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago and Debra Thornburgh

**Absent:** 1 - Richard Lynn

**Abstained:** 3 - Arturo Salazar, Karis Holman and Wendy Thomas

3. 21-0265 Appoint Ad Hoc Committee to Review and Evaluate the Mental Health Contract Budget Practices (5 minutes)

**Ad Hoc Committee members will be Commissioner Salazar and Commissioner Clavere. Commissioner Salazar will be the Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

4. 21-0266 Recommendations from Commissioners Santiago and Thornburgh for 2021 Behavioral Health Commission Officers (5 minutes)

**Commissioner Santiago announced the following recommendations: Chair: Arturo Salazar; Vice Chair (West Slope): Steve Clavere, Vice Chair (South Lake Tahoe): Richard Lynn, Secretary: Kathryn Hamilton**

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

5. 21-0267 Election of 2021 Behavioral Health Commission Officers (5 minutes)

**A motion was made by Commissioner Santiago, seconded by Commissioner Holman to elect the slate of officers as identified.**

**Yes:** 8 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Henry Sandigo, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman and Wendy Thomas

**Absent:** 1 - Richard Lynn

6. [21-0271](#) Stepping Up/Grant Presentation by El Dorado County Chief Probation Officer Brian Richart (40 minutes)

Chief Probation Officer Brian Richart presented the history and the Mission, Vision, and Values of the “Stepping Up Initiative” in El Dorado County. He also said that this is a “systems change.”

Kevin O’Connell, contracted consultant, provided an overview of the development of the implementation plan, which continues to evolve to include community and agency needs, as well as custodial needs. He also reviewed the goals and measures, upcoming priorities, data strategies, data integration, and next steps.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, provided an update on the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Forensic Access and Engagement (Prevention and Early Intervention project) and the Full Services Partnership Forensic Services (Community Services and Supports project).

Commissioners asked clarifying questions regarding Behavioral Health Court, Diversion Court, data points regarding recidivism, the mental health provider in the jail, and self-referrals to the programs. Supervisor Thomas asked how the Stepping Up program works for those who don’t want to accept treatment.

Don Semon, HHSA Director, said that all agencies are on the same page with regards to coordinating.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

7. [21-0270](#) Discussion and Approval of Future Behavioral Health Commission Meeting Dates to Determine the Selection of a Different Day to Eliminate Scheduling Conflict with LAFCO (5 minutes)

Due to a conflict in Supervisor Thomas’ schedule, Commissioner Santiago proposed changing the meeting date from the fourth Wednesday of the month to the third Wednesday of the month and Commissioner Clavere seconded the motion.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

**Yes:** 8 - Stephen Clavere, Arturo Salazar, Henry Sandigo, Kathryn Hamilton, Norma Santiago, Debra Thornburgh, Karis Holman and Wendy Thomas

**Absent:** 1 - Richard Lynn

ROLL CALL - 6:31 PM Commissioner Santiago left

8. [21-0272](#) Initial Presentation, Findings, Recommendations, and Next Steps from the Children’s Services Ad Hoc Committee (40 minutes)

Continued to March 2021 meeting.

9. [21-0274](#) Update / Discussion on the Revised Outcomes and Data Reporting by HHSA on PEI Programs (10 minutes)

**Continued to March 2021 meeting.**

10. [21-0285](#) Appointment of Behavioral Health Commission Member(s) to Attend the Opening Session of Mental Health's External Quality Review on Wednesday, March 10, 2021. (5 minutes)

**Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, provided a description of the External Quality Review Organizations (EQRO) purpose. El Dorado County is scheduled to participate in EQRO on March 10, 2021.**

**Commissioner Hamilton asked what time the meeting will be held.**

**Ren Strong, Program Manager said the meeting will be from 10:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.**

**Commissioner Salazar and Commissioner Clavere will attend the opening EQRO session.**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Kelly Krone said that she is active with the Commission on Aging and the Community Action Council, but she has been wanting to become active with the Behavioral Health Commission. She asked if EQRO is open to the public.**

**Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken said that EQRO is only open to involved entities within the system of care. However, the reports are available online at [www.caleqro.com](http://www.caleqro.com).**

11. [21-0275](#) Review/Discussion/Questions on the Behavioral Health Director's Report (10 minutes)

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Behavioral Health Director, provided some highlights of the November 2020, December 2020, and January 2021 Division Reports. She also introduced Amy Hayes, Psy.D., Behavioral Health's new Deputy Director.

Highlights included the impact of COVID-19 and the Department of Health Care Services' response regarding halting monitoring activities/reviews until March 1, 2021. El Dorado County's Substance Use Disorder Services just had their first External Quality Review Organization (EQRO) and they received compliments for a program that has only been in place for a year. The Mental Health Plan's EQRO is scheduled for March 10, 2021. Reports are available online at [CaleQRO.com](http://CaleQRO.com).

Unfortunately, two conserved individuals have passed away due to COVID-19.

The US Department of Health and Human Services Agency is planning to eliminate the X-waiver for physicians, allowing them to prescribe buprenorphine without taking an eight-hour course and without having to obtain a waiver from SAMHSA. This would greatly improve the access to this medication which is an important treatment option for opioid use disorder.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken and Don Semon, HHSA Director, presented Behavioral Health's mid-year budget for the Board of Supervisors. Behavioral Health is experiencing a significant shortfall in Realignment.

The IDEA Consulting assessment is in its' final stages and the results are scheduled to be presented at the March 9, 2021 Board of Supervisors meeting.

Commissioners asked clarifying questions about new providers for children and youth and questions about the Psychiatric Health Facility census. They also requested rescheduling the Ad Hoc Budget Committee meeting.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: NONE**

#### **COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS**

Commissioner Clavere requested adding Commissioner terms in the header of the Agenda, as opposed to the end of the Agenda.

**DETERMINE NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING - March 17, 2021 at 5:00 PM**

**March 17, 2021 at 5:00 PM**

**ADJOURNMENT - 7:02 PM**