



County of El Dorado

See meeting locations
below

Minutes - Final Behavioral Health Commission

James Abram, Chair - Term Expiration 8/15/2026
Norma Santiago, Vice Chair - Term Expiration 9/24/2027
John Taylor, Vice Chair - Term Expiration 1/1/2026
Dr. Stephen Clavere, Secretary - Term Expiration 1/01/2026
Kathryn Hamilton, Commissioner - Term Expiration 7/30/2027
Greg Ferrero, Board of Supervisors Representative - Term Expiration 01/01/2026
Debra Thornburgh, Commissioner - Term Expiration 12/03/2027
Amelia Leo-Frazee, Commissioner - Term Expiration 9/24/2027
Sophia Sumimoto, Commissioner - Term Expiration 9/24/2027
Vacant (2), Commissioner

Wednesday, March 19, 2025

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
-

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Present: 8 - Thornburgh, Santiago, Taylor, Clavere, Abram, Leo-Frazee, Sumimoto and Ferrero

Absent: 1 - Hamilton

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Commissioner Comments Related to Agenda:

(None)

A motion was made by Santiago, seconded by Taylor, to Adopt the Agenda.

Yes: 8 - Thornburgh, Santiago, Taylor, Clavere, Abram, Leo-Frazee, Sumimoto and Ferrero

Absent: 1 - Hamilton

PUBLIC HEARING

1. [25-0543](#)**Public Hearing of the El Dorado County Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Plan FY 25/26 Annual Update.
(30 minutes)**

Presentation by Meredith Zanardi, MHSA Program Coordinator, with public comment opportunities prompted throughout for each component of the Update. Comments will be written and responded to in the next MHSA FY25/26 Annual Update. The next publicly posted draft Update will be available with the Board of Supervisors agenda ahead of the May 20, 2025 meeting.

Public Comment on Community Program Planning Process (CPPP):

Diane Rabinowitz, President of NAMI El Dorado County, provided comment regarding discharge planning.

Barry Harwell, Executive Director of Sierra Child & Family Services, provided comment regarding Bridge the Gap Program.

Public Comment on Legislative Changes:

(None)

Public Comment on Revenue and Expenditures:

(None)

Public Comment on Community Services and Supports (CSS):

Diane Rabinowitz, President of NAMI El Dorado County, provided comment regarding Clubhouse El Dorado and CSS component consideration.

Public Comment on Prevention and Early Intervention (PEI):

Tim Hooey, Mental Health and Wellness Program Coordinator for EDCOE, provided comment regarding funding changes to Wellness Center programs.

Kellee' Maranz, Director and Clinical Supervisor of Senior Peer Counseling at El Dorado County, provided comment regarding importance of Senior Peer Counseling services funded through MHSA.

Public Comment on Innovation (INN):

(None)

Public Comment on Workforce Education and Training (WET):

(None)

Public Comment on Capital Facilities and Technology (CFTN):

(None)

Public Comment on General MHSA Comments:

Diane Rabinowitz, President of NAMI El Dorado County, provided comment regarding importance of, and requesting clarification of housing coordinator position status.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

Commissioner Comment Related to Consent Calendar:

(None)

Public Comment Related to Consent Calendar:

(None)

A motion was made by Taylor, seconded by Thornburg, to Approve the Consent Calendar.

Yes: 8 - Thornburgh, Santiago, Taylor, Clavere, Abram, Leo-Frazee, Sumimoto and Ferrero

Absent: 1 - Hamilton

CONSENT CALENDAR

2. [25-0545](#) Commission Chair recommends the Behavioral Health Commission to approve the minutes from the February 19, 2025, regular meeting of the Behavioral Health Commission.

Approved

3. [25-0546](#) 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.

No Formal Action

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

OPEN FORUM

Public Comment on Items Not on the Agenda:

(None)

DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. [25-0565](#)

Report out by the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) FY 2025/26 Annual Update Ad Hoc Committee. Discussion on the El Dorado County MHSA 2025/26 Annual Update and vote on Substantive Recommendations to be made to the Board of Supervisors.
(30 minutes)

James Abram, Commission Chair: States after a review of the MHSA [FY] 25/26 Annual Update, the Ad Hoc Committee has no recommended substantive comments.

Commissioner Comment:

Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Does not have a substantive comment, but requests clarification from public comment made regarding Wellness Center transitional funding in schools. Notes it is disconcerting to see the percentage of survey takers who did not know about the programs they were voting on. Would also like more information about how the Mobile Crisis Unit will address need for twenty-four-seven crisis line, as well as needs for South Lake Tahoe area. Wonders if comment regarding Clubhouse funding shifting from PEI to CSS is feasible.

Meredith Zanardi, MHSA Program Coordinator: Answers looking forward to more collaboration with EDCOE regarding a plan moving forward with continued funding changes. Answers a contract has been solicited for and awarded to a Community provider, Sierra Mental Wellness Group, who will be operating twenty-four-seven in the South Lake Tahoe Basin and will also be operating after hours and on holidays on the West Slope. Answers comment regarding Clubhouse funding will be taken back for review and consideration.

Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commission Secretary: Supports comment made by Diane Rabinowitz, based on the nature of the services provided.

John Taylor, Commission Vice Chair: Would like to see a clear process defined for community input outreach.

Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commission Secretary: Comments on one of our duties specified in the law is we are supposed to approve the Community Program Planning Process.

Meredith Zanardi, MHSA Program Coordinator: States we will continue to review requirements for CPPP and adjust future agenda language to accurately address and meet those requirements.

Public Comment:

Barry Harwell, Executive Director of Sierra Child & Family Services: Provided clarification of what upcoming funding changes will mean for student Wellness Centers.

Lawrence Divinagracia, Senior Peer Counseling of El Dorado County: Provided comment regarding importance of Senior Peer Counseling services and impact if funding is cut.

Tim Hooey, Mental Health and Wellness Program Coordinator for EDCOE: Provided comment regarding number of youth who will not receive services if student Wellness Center funding is cut.

Further Commissioner Discussion:

Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commission Secretary: Referenced WIC 5848, regarding the Commission reviewing the version of the Plan that is adopted by the Board of Supervisors.

5. [25-0548](#) Presentation by Behavioral Health staff on Behavioral Health Services Act (BHSA) progress.
(5 minutes)

Note: Commissioner Santiago exited the meeting after this presentation was made.

Commissioner Comment:

(None)

Public Comment:

(None)

Further Commissioner Discussion:

(None)

6. [25-0549](#) Review/Discussion/Questions of Behavioral Health Director's Report.
(10-minutes)

Commissioner Comment:

Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commission Secretary: Asks where CRT is located.

Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, Director of Behavioral Health: Answers Oak Lane, in Placerville.

Public Comment:

(None)

Further Commissioner Discussion:

(None)

COMMISSIONER COMMENT*Commissioner Comment:*

James Abram, Commission Chair: Thanks everyone for coming, states it has been a good meeting.

NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE: April 16, 2025

6:44 PM ADJOURNED