



# 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 10/26/2024*

*John Taylor, Vice Chair - Term Expiration 1/1/2026*

*Kathryn Hamilton, Secretary - Term Expiration 08/11/2024*

*Wendy Thomas, Board of Supervisors Representative - Term  
Expiration 01/01/2025*

*Dr. Richard Lynn, Commissioner - Term Expiration 11/16/2024*

*Lauryn Sumimoto, Commissioner - Term Expiration 04/12/2025*

*Debra Thornburgh, Commissioner - Term Expiration 12/07/2024*

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner - Term Expiration*

*01/01/2026*

*Vacant (2), Commissioner*

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**Wednesday, April 17, 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

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### CALL TO ORDER AT 5:02PM AND ROLL CALL

**Present:** 7 - Thornburgh, Lynn, Commissioner Santiago, Sumimoto, Taylor, Clavere and Abram

**Absent:** 2 - Hamilton and Thomas

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

The Commission may make any necessary additions, deletions or corrections to the agenda including moving items to or from the Consent Calendar and adopt the agenda and the Consent Calendar with one single vote. A Commission member may request an item be removed from the Consent Calendar for discussion and separate Commission action. At the appropriate time as called by the Commission Chair, members of the public may make a comment on matters on the Consent Calendar prior to Commission action.

1. 24-0758 Review and approve March 20, 2024 Minutes

*"There was no public comment"*

**A motion was made by Commissioner Santiago, seconded by Taylor, to approve this matter.**

**Yes:** 7 - Thornburgh, Lynn, Commissioner Santiago, Sumimoto, Taylor, Clavere and Abram

**Absent:** 2 - Hamilton and Thomas

2. 24-0759 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.

**END OF CONSENT CALENDAR****OPEN FORUM**

*No comments.*

Open Forum is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Commission on subject matter that is not on their meeting agenda and within their jurisdiction. Public comments during Open Forum are limited to three minutes per person. The Commission Chair may limit public comment during Open Forum.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS**

3. [24-0728](#) Commission Chair to discuss Public Participation Procedures. (5 minutes)

*James Abram, Chair: Referenced the Protocols on page 3 of the Agenda and read the duties from the Committee & Commission Reference Guide, which states that the 3 minute public comment period, per person, will be followed but is at the discretion of the Chair, individuals can speak only once on an item, once public is done speaking, the Commission can deliberate, which public is not entitled to participate in and the Commission can waive rules, upon majority vote.*

*Norma Santiago, Vice Chair: Wanted clarification on deliberation of items on the Agenda.*

*James Abram, Chair: Clarifying questions will be asked during deliberation, briefly after public comment, for items on the Agenda and Open Forum, is for items not on the Agenda and clarifying questions will not be asked.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Leo Bennett Koshon, Pollock Pines: Spoke about Brown Act and that the Commission has latitude, but not obligation. Wanted it noted that the verbiage should state, Member of the Public and not Person Providing Input, when it comes to Public Comment. Also stated that staff getting 15 minutes vs. public getting 3 minutes could be construed as favoritism.*

**Presented**

**4. 24-0729**

Presentation by the Commission Chair of the Behavioral Health Annual Report to the Board of Supervisors (10 minutes)

*James Abram, Chair: The COB (Clerk of the Board) has a format for the Annual Report, which was used for this report. A Cover Sheet, Mission Statement, Background, Annual Work Plan, Prior Period Accomplishments, Action Items and Ongoing Long Term Projects. The report is to be concise and not include too much information. The report that is presented is a draft that will be converted into a PowerPoint presentation to be presented to the BOS (Board of Supervisors) on June, 11, 2024, in which only 10 minutes are given before the BOS can ask questions. Dr. Stephen Clavere's spelling of his name, will be corrected and he asked for any other recommendations or corrections.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Debra Ricevelli Cree: When are recommendations to the BOS given? With the Annual Report or something else?*

*James Abram, Chair: It would be an action that the Commission votes on and requests to be forwarded to the BOS, would need to be an Agenda Item on their calendar, to discuss, otherwise, a Commission Member could attend as a member of the public and comment as themselves, or the Commission could vote and approve for a member to go and speak on their behalf.*

*Leo Bennett Koshon: Stated need for footnotes about vacancies and Supervisors should be educated to provide support and policy. Would like Commission to figure out how to bring vacancy numbers up so as not to overwork current staff.*

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner: Agreed with speaker and would like to state how dire the staffing shortage is and how it is affecting performance.*

*James Abram, Chair: The issue is on page 5 of the Annual Report as a Long Term Project. Prop 1 is setting more rules and there must be an improvement shown of at least 5% each year. He hopes that the BOS will ask about this, as it is on the Agenda and the public can comment on it.*

**Presented**

5. [24-0750](#)

Presentation by Division Staff on the Crisis Response process including 5150 assessments, holds and placement. (15 minutes)

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: PowerPoint was not in Agenda packet, but will be attached here. PERT is Tuesday thru Friday. Crisis Response Team is 16 Hours per day, 7 days per week. Went over what times and where served, Entry Points, Process, Crisis Line Call Info., Community Response, Evaluation and Assessments, Involuntary Holds/5150, Referral of person on hold to inpatient facility or PHF, Safety Plan and 5150 in more detail. (Danger to Self, Danger to Others and Gravely Disabled). Must be at least 1 of the listed. Coming up to 72 hours, hold must be dropped, voluntary treatment or extend to 14 day 5250 and court gets involved.*

*James Abram, Chair: There is a new Gravely Disabled definition that has not been adopted by the county yet, but includes substance use and alcoholism. A challenge is that the PHF does not take clients that are under the influence unless they have been stabilized at a hospital.*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: Trying to get system in place by January 1, 2026 and get staffing to help address.*

*James Abram, Chair: Possibly Prop 1 will allocate money in all areas to help with drug and homeless crisis. Maybe larger counties start developing facilities that take dual diagnosis clients and EDC (El Dorado County) can contract with them.*

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner: Would like comment about funds be presented to the BOS and clarification of when the 5150 process starts.*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: When the officer places the person on hold.*

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner: Should be a lot more 5150 training in the CIT Annual Training, only 8 of 40 hours.*

*James Abram, Chair: Concern about different deputies having different interpretations of criteria.*

*Norma Santiago, Vice Chair: When is the Mobile Crisis Unit dispatched?*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: Depends on day and time. Are not for persons in the hospital. Out in the community only. Can be 911, Crisis Line or other partners.*

*Norma Santiago, Vice Chair: When is a Treatment Plan discussed?*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: Only done in an inpatient facility. A Safety Plan would be done if hold is released before 72 hours.*

*James Abram, Chair: Getting an ROI between a family member and Social Worker is very beneficial.*

*John Taylor, Vice Chair: Would like report to include how 5150 transfers from other counties are handled and what benefits, problems or cost factors are involved.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Anna Gleason, CEO of SummitView: Frustrated with Law Enforcement regarding 5150 holds, being referred to as "Frequent Flyers", is not okay and the children deserve the same resources and attention as the adults.*

*Leo Bennett Koshon: Wants report back on the Agenda and presented to the BOS with active recommendations.*

*Norma Santiago, Vice Chair: Is there a database on who the "Frequent Flyers" are and a plan to break cycle?*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: Crisis services provided to El Dorado County Med-Cal beneficiaries are recorded in the electronic medical record.*

**Presented**

6. [24-0752](#) Acknowledgement of Proposition 1/Mental Health Services Act Reform passing. (5 minutes)

*Meredith Zanardi, MHSA Program Coordinator: Stated that the BH (Behavioral Health) Division does not have all the details required yet as to actions starting in July 1, 2026. Will have more info to present by January 1, 2025.*

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner: Would like BH to inform Commission as Guidance Letters are received.*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: Commissioners can also take part in Quality Improvement Committee meeting to keep informed of updates. Held every 3 months.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*No public comment given.*

**Direction Provided**

7. [24-0753](#) Presentation by Division Staff: Consumer testimonial or lived experience (5 minutes)

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: Spoke to the 3 branches of BH and their overlap and shared a client story.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*No public comment given.*

**Presented**

**8. 24-0755**

Review/Discussion/Questions of Behavioral Health Director's Report (10 minutes)

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: 2 months of reports are attached.*

*John Taylor, Vice Chair: Page 2 in April and page 3 in March need "MH Aid" to be changed to "MH Aid(e)", the % differs from report to report but has the same data for MH Aide and SUDS.*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: SLT T-House will be closing at the end of May and the SLT staff is working hard to find a new location. The current residents will transition to the WS T-House until a new location is secured.*

*Dr. Stephen Clavere, Commissioner: Clinician vacancy was at 62% in March, PHF fill rate down to 67% from 84% and outcomes column in Grievance Chart is blank. Clinician vacancy went up to 65% in April and would like to have this monitored for a few months. Possibly set up an AdHoc Committee. PHF fill rate is back up to an acceptable 70% in April.*

*Nicole Ebrahimi-Nuyken, LMFT, Behavioral Health Director: Will look into grievances that are still listed.*

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

*Leo Bennett Koshon: Stated that Brown Act says that all agenda items require a public comment and he told a story about a person in another county that was handled wrong.*

**Direction Provided (See Minutes)**

**COMMISSIONER COMMENT**

*No comments were given.*

**NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE: May 15, 2024**

**ADJOURNED AT 6:48 P.M.**