



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 9/24/2027
Dr. Stephen Clavere, Secretary - Term Expiration 1/01/2026
Greg Ferrero, Board of Supervisors Representative - Term Expiration 01/01/2026
Deanna Santana, Commissioner - Term Expiration 5/13/2028
Kieran Smith, Commissioner - Term Expiration 08/26/2028
Vacant (5), Commissioners

Wednesday, October 15, 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

5:01PM CALLED TO ORDER

Present: 6 - Santiago, Clavere, Abram, Ferrero, Santana and Smith

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND APPROVAL OF CONSENT CALENDAR

COMMISSIONER COMMENT:

James Abram, Commission Chair: Pulls item number two [FILE ID 25-1698], as Commission Vice Chair is requesting to participate remotely for this meeting occurrence.

Norma Santiago, Commission Vice Chair: Notes she has joined the meeting remotely from Montana, and plans to quietly exit this meeting at 6:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (None)

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

CONSENT CALENDAR

1. 25-1697

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.

This item was pulled to Discussion. A motion was made by Commissioner Abram, seconded by Commissioner Ferrero to Approve Commissioner Santiago's remote participation for this meeting occurrence.

Yes: 6 - Santiago, Clavere, Abram, Ferrero, Santana and Smith

2. **25-1698** Commission Chair recommends the Behavioral Health Commission to approve the minutes from the September 17, 2025, regular meeting of the Behavioral Health Commission.

Approved

END OF CONSENT CALENDAR

OPEN FORUM

PUBLIC COMMENT [Items not on the Agenda]:

Barry Harwell, Executive Director of Sierra Child & Family Services: Notes the school-based Wellness Centers have wrapped up the first quarter of the school year. Many students impacted from loss of life, due to a local car accident and suicide. Provided data for number of students seen, and statistics from a suicide risk assessment questionnaire.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

3. **25-1699** 2025 Data Notebook Ad Hoc Committee to present the 2025 Data Notebook to the Behavioral Health Commission. Commission to receive, review and approve, inclusive of formal changes, the 2025 Data Notebook.
(20 minutes)

James Abram, Commission Chair: Provided overview of what the annual Data Notebook is. Reports out from Ad Hoc Committee, providing reasoning for utilizing data from the West Slope Wellness Center for the survey.

In general discussion, Commissioner Clavere asked which are the three [main adult] Wellness Centers in our County and Commission Chair Abram answered the West Slope Wellness Center, the [South] Lake Tahoe Wellness Center and the Clubhouse. Commissioner Santana expressed gratitude for being a part of the Ad Hoc Committee, remarking it was a great learning opportunity.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (None)

No further Commissioner Discussion.

A motion was made by Commissioner Santana, seconded by Commissioner Santiago to Approve moving forward with submitting the answers provided, to the California Behavioral Health Planning Council, as well as forwarding the report to the Board of Supervisors.

Yes: 6 - Santiago, Clavere, Abram, Ferrero, Santana and Smith

4. 25-1701 Presentation by division staff on Crisis Residential Treatment. Commission to receive/review/discuss and take action as appropriate. (30 minutes)
- Presenter: April Tate, Manager of Mental Health Programs.*
Other Staff Speakers: Chris Kernes, Deputy Director of Behavioral Health, and Justine Collinsworth, Director of Behavioral Health.

In general discussion, April Tate, Chris Kernes and Justine Collinsworth answered questions from Chair Abram, Commissioner Clavere, Commissioner Ferrero and Commissioner Santiago.

PUBLIC COMMENT: (None)

A motion was made by Commissioner Ferrero, seconded by Commissioner Santana, to Receive and File the presentation.

Yes: 6 - Santiago, Clavere, Abram, Ferrero, Santana and Smith

5. 25-1700 Review/Discussion/Questions on the Behavioral Health (BH) System Improvement Plan (SIP). Commission to take action as appropriate. (15 minutes)
- In general discussion, Justine Collinsworth, Director of Behavioral Health, answered questions from Commissioner Santiago and Commissioner Santana. Chair Abram commented on the progress made. Per suggestion by Commissioner Santana, staff will discuss identifying efforts towards school-aged youth or young adults and caregivers under SUDS prevention.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: (None)

A motion was made by Commissioner Santana, seconded by Commissioner Ferrero, to Receive and File this document.

Yes: 6 - Santiago, Clavere, Abram, Ferrero, Santana and Smith

6. 25-1702 Review/Discussion/Questions of the Behavioral Health Director's Report and the Quarterly Contract Report. (15 minutes)
- In general discussion Justine Collinsworth, Caitlyn Stahl and Chris Kernes answered questions from Commissioner Clavere and Commissioner Ferrero. Chair Abram complimented the report.*

PUBLIC COMMENT: (None)

No Formal Action

COMMISSIONER COMMENT

James Abram, Commission Chair: Advises Commissioners they will be contacted via email by the Ad Hoc Nominating Committee, for 2026 officer nominations. The Committee will then create the slate of officers for the November meeting, which is when the Commission will hold the election for the 2026 [Behavioral Health] Commission officers.

NEXT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING DATE: November 19, 2025

ADJOURNED 5:45 PM

DRAFT