

**Sacramento County  
Behavioral Health Commission (BHC)  
General Meeting Minutes  
December 17, 2025**

**Meeting Time**

Wednesday, December 17, 2025  
6:00 PM – 8:00 PM

**Meeting Location**

2200 Front St.  
Sacramento, CA 95818

**Meeting Invitees**

- Behavioral Health Commission
- General Public

Attendance			
Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) Members			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Donald Scherschligt	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Judith Mummert	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Sarah Weber	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Jennifer Churchill	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Tyler Welter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Bradley Lueth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Ryan Raftery	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent	Laura Asay-Bemis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mykel Gayent	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent	Theresa Riviera	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Patricia Wentzel	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Javon Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Cassidy Paige	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Rosario Rodriguez	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Corrine McIntosh Sako	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent	Emily Halcon	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Melinda Avey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	John Durbin	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Michael Grabow	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent		
County Staff to Behavioral Health (BHC) Commission			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
JaQuay Butler	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Christopher Costa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent

Agenda Item	Presenter
<b>I. Welcome and Introductions</b>	Chairperson Mummert called the meeting to order at 6:00PM. Roll call was conducted and a quorum was declared.
<b>II. Meeting Minutes Review</b>	The November 2025 draft meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.
<b>III. Behavioral Health Services Directors Report</b>	<p>Dr. Ryan Quist provided updates across Behavioral Health Services (see attachment: <a href="#">Director's Report – December 2025</a>).</p> <p><b>BHC Comments/Questions</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commissioner Churchill</b> asked if Prevention and Early Intervention services are managed by the State.</li> </ul> <p><i>Prevention services are transitioning to the California Department of Public Health (CDPH). Chairperson Mummert asked about delays in conducting Substance Use Assessments for individuals in custody, noting extended wait times before placement in facilities.</i></p> <p><i>There is increased demand following Proposition 36, and efforts are underway to add staff and reduce assessment wait times.</i></p>

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<b>IV. Discussion Item: Commissioner Roles and Responsibilities</b>	<p><b>Chairperson Mummert</b> reviewed commissioner roles and responsibilities and emphasized the importance of honoring attendance commitments. Commissioners are required to attend meetings in-person, with a limited allowance for virtual participation, consistent with the <a href="#">Behavioral Health Commission Bylaws</a>.</p> <p><b><u>BHC Comments/Questions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commissioner Churchill</b> and <b>Commissioner Avey</b> emphasized the importance of establishing consistent meeting days and times to support attendance.</li> <li>• <b>Commissioner Durbin</b> asked whether commissioners may listen in on committees they are not members of. <b>Chairperson Mummert</b> clarified that commissioners should not attend or join virtually unless they are formally assigned to that committee or subcommittee.</li> <li>• <b>Commissioners</b> highlighted the need for onboarding and clear expectations for in-person participation.</li> <li>• <b>County Counsel</b> confirmed that quorum is defined in the bylaws as one more than a simple majority (greater than 50%). For a seven-member committee or subcommittee, quorum is four.</li> </ul>
<b>V. Discussion/Action Item: Committee Participant Policy</b>	<p>Chairperson Mummert asked if the Commission want to consider establishing a cap of 7- 8 members per BHC committee to support consistent quorum and effective meeting operations.</p> <p><b><u>BHC Comments/Questions</u></b></p> <p>The Commission agreed to table the item until the January 2026 meeting, as members are still determining which committees they will join and commit to.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b></p> <p>None</p>
<b>VI. Discussion/Action Item: Executive Committee Member At Large</b>	<p><b>Chairperson Mummert</b> announced that she is stepping down from the Executive Committee beginning in January. The Commission discussed maintaining two At-Large members on the Executive Committee.</p> <p><b><u>Motion</u></b></p> <p>Commissioner Melinda Avey moved to approve Patricia Wentzel and Jennifer Churchill as the two At-Large members. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Cassidy Paige.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b></p> <p>None</p> <p><b><u>Results</u></b></p> <p>The motion passed with 13 votes.</p>

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<b>VII. Respite Programs Presentation</b>	<p>Korlany Roche, Program Planner for the Crisis Continuum of Care, provided an overview of Sacramento County’s MHSa-funded respite programs. Respite services offer short-term, safe breaks for individuals experiencing mental health stress or crisis. See attachment: <a href="#">BHS Respite Programs</a>.</p> <p>Outcome data is based on satisfaction surveys and utilization reports, though completion rates are low.</p> <p><b><u>BHC Comments/Questions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li> <b>Commissioner Churchill</b> asked about the future of respite programs.  <i>Respite programs will sunset July 1, 2026, when prevention services move to the The California Department of Public Health (CDPH) who may support similar programming.</i> </li> <li> <b>Commissioner Wentzel</b> asked why Abiding Hope is closing and expressed concern about losing a local warm line.  <i>The provider decided to close the program early after a cost analysis.</i> </li> <li> <b>Commissioner Asay-Bemis</b> asked whether any providers plan to continue operating without County funding.  <i>This has not been discussed.</i> </li> <li> <b>Commissioner Avey</b> asked about the impact of closures.  <i>School-based prevention, general prevention, crisis lines, and warm lines are affected; 988 and CalHope warm lines will be state-funded.</i> </li> <li> <b>Commissioner Paige</b> asked whether 988 provides in-person crisis support like The Source.  <i>988 connects directly to the Community Wellness Response Team (CWRT).</i> </li> <li> <b>Commissioner Weber</b> asked for updates on CDPH prevention funding.  <i>CDPH held an informational session on December 2 and is reviewing feedback.</i> </li> <li> <b>Commissioner Churchill</b> asked whether peer respites or warm lines could be redesigned to become Medi-Cal billable.  <i>This would require significant redesign inconsistent with current models.</i> </li> <li> <b>Commissioner Durbin</b> asked why funding was eliminated.  <i>The Governor’s administration directed counties to focus resources on individuals with the most severe mental illness, shifting prevention to the state.</i> </li> </ul>

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commissioner Welter</b> asked about crisis stabilization units and satisfaction survey data. <i>Stabilization units remain available at County and partner sites. Satisfaction survey data is limited.</i></li> </ul>
<b>VIII. Discussion/Action Item: Consider Forming Ad Hoc Committee on Respite Closures</b>	<p>The Commission discussed whether to form an Ad Hoc Committee to explore the impacts of respite program closures.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commissioner Rodriguez</b> asked what the objective of an Ad Hoc Committee would be if no funding is currently available. <i>The Commission could recommend to the Board of Supervisors that they identify alternative funding sources. Several Commissioners discussed whether the Adult Prevention and Treatment (APT) Committee could address the issue instead of forming an Ad Hoc Committee, cautioning that creating an Ad Hoc Committee for every topic could fragment the Commission.</i></li> <li>• <b>Commissioner Wentzel</b> emphasized the importance of understanding the timeline for submitting recommendations to the Board of Supervisors for this issue.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Motion</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commissioner Churchill</b> moved to set the Ad Hoc Committee’s timeline through June 30, 2026, with four volunteer members and Commissioner Wentzel appointed as Chair. The motion was seconded by <b>Commissioner Wentzel</b>.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Public Comment</u></b></p> <p><b>Public Comment 1:</b> A community member expressed support for respite services, noting their importance to underserved communities and sadness about the closures.</p> <p><b><u>Results</u></b></p> <p>The motion passed with 8 yes and 4 no votes.</p> <p><b><u>Ad Hoc Committee Membership</u></b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Patricia Wentzel (Chair)</li> <li>2. Laura Asay Bemis</li> <li>3. Sarah Weber</li> <li>4. Donald Sherschlight</li> </ol>
<b>IX. Discussion: CA Data Notebook Survey</b>	<p>Completion and review of the Data Notebook is an annual requirement of the California Behavioral Health Planning Council. The survey will be distributed to Commissioners for review prior to the January 2026 meeting, where the Commission will discuss and take action.</p>

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<b>X. Committee Updates</b>	<p><b>Adult Prevention and Treatment Committee</b> Met on December 1 and received a presentation from County staff on current programs and initiatives. The Committee elected Commissioner Durbin as Chair and Commissioner Wentzel as Vice Chair. A meeting schedule was set for the second Monday of each month at 6:00 p.m.</p> <p><b>Youth Prevention and Treatment Committee</b> The Committee has not yet selected a Chair or Vice Chair. Members received a presentation on the FIT program and discussed potential future agenda topics.</p> <p><b>Crisis and Justice Involved Committee</b> The Committee has not yet selected a Chair. The last meeting did not reach quorum. The Committee previously established a meeting schedule for the second Thursday of each month at 4:00 p.m.</p> <p><b><u>BHC Comments/Questions</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Commissioner Churchill</b> requested that copies of committee meeting minutes be included in future Behavioral Health Commission meeting packets.</li> <li>• <b>Commissioner Avey</b> inquired about the status of posted meeting minutes for the Youth Prevention and Treatment Committee.</li> </ul>
<b>XI. General Public Comment</b> Public comments on matters not on the posted agenda (3 minutes per person)	<p><b>Public Comment 1:</b> A member of the public greeted the Commission and expressed appreciation for the Commission's work, noting that there is significant work ahead in 2026.</p>
<b>XII. Adjournment</b>	<p>Chairperson Mummert adjourned the meeting at 7:47PM.</p>