

Sacramento County Behavioral Health Commission Executive Committee

April 2026 Meeting Minutes

Meeting Time

Thursday, April 2, 2026
6:00 PM – 7:30 PM

Meeting Location

700 H Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
Hearing Room 2

Meeting Invitees

- BHC Exec. Committee
- General Public

Behavioral Health Commission (BHC) Members Attendance

Present: Laura Asay-Bemis, Sarah Weber, Patricia Wentzel, Cassidy Paige

Absent: None

Remote: Jennifer Churchill

BHC County Staff/Liaisons Attendance

Present: Dr. Ryan Quist, Jane Ann Zakhary, Neeki Gilani

Absent: None

Welcome and Introductions

Participants: BHC Chairperson

Meeting Logistics

Roll Call & Administration

- Chairperson Weber called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.
- Roll call was conducted; quorum confirmed.
- Remote participation: Commissioner Churchill participated remotely for just cause under Government Code section 54953 due to personal illness.
- March 2026 Meeting Minutes Approval: Minutes were generated and maintained by Behavioral Health Services staff as required by Article VI, Section 4, of the bylaws. No corrections were requested; minutes were deemed accurate and approved.

1. Public Comment on Matters Not on the Posted Agenda

Participants: Public Comment

Public Comment

No public comment

2. Review and Approve Agenda for May General Meeting

Participants: BHC Executive Committee

Discussion

Summary of Discussion

- Commissioners reviewed the draft agenda for the May General Meeting, which will be finalized at the May Executive Committee Meeting.
- Chairperson Weber requested time for discussion of the Crisis and Justice Involved Continuum Committee's recommendation letter.

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- Draft agenda items included:
 1. Public Comment
 2. Director's Report
 3. Committee Updates
 4. BHS Budget Overview Presentation
 5. Crisis and Justice Involved Committee Letter Discussion

Public Comment

No public comment

Motion/Vote

- **Agenda Item/Vote:** Agendize the BHS Budget Overview Presentation and the Crisis and Justice Involved Continuum Committees recommendation letter.
- **Action:** Moved/Seconded: Chairperson Weber/Commissioner Wentzel
- **Yes:** Commissioners Weber, Churchill, Wentzel, Paige, Asay-Bemis
- **No:** None
- **Abstention:** None
- **Motion:** Passed

3. Revisit BHC Retreat Planning Agenda

Participants: BHC Executive Committee

Discussion/Action Item

Summary of Discussion

- Commissioners discussed two potential facilitators for the retreat, noting Dr. Ellis's background in psychology, their lived experience, and equity-focused work. The discussion also addressed the importance of representation and balance in selecting a facilitator.
- On the recommendation of County Counsel, the Executive Committee replaced the Committee Breakouts agenda item with an overview presentation of the New Commissioner Orientation created by BHS staff.
- Commissioners discussed the need for clearer information about liaison roles, including identifying the BHC representative at each external meeting, providing a list of available liaison positions with brief descriptions of the committees or commissions, and sharing meeting schedules so Commissioners can make informed decisions. They also emphasized the importance of outlining liaison's expectations, including responsibilities during meetings and what information should be brought back to the Commission.
- Commissioners also discussed potential liaison placements, including the CHIA Mental Health Subcommittee and broader Public Health Board representation.
- Commissioners reviewed the final retreat agenda structure:
 - Welcome and Introductions
 - 1. Public Comment
 - 2. Orientation Presentation and Commissioner Feedback
 - 3. BHC Operational Procedures and Structure
 - 4. Priority Setting

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5. Committee Nominations
 6. BHC Liaison Discussion
- Meeting Conclusion

Public Comment

No public comment

Motion/Vote

Agenda Item/Vote: Extend an invitation to Dr. Addie Ellis to facilitate the retreat.

Action: Moved/Seconded: Commissioner Churchill/Paige

Yes: Commissioner Weber, Paige, Asay-Bemis, Churchill, Wentzel

No: None

Abstention: None

Motion: Passed

Motion/Vote

Agenda Item/Vote: Approve the April 2026 BHC Retreat Agenda

Action: Moved/Seconded: Commissioner Weber/Churchill

Yes: Commissioner Weber, Paige, Asay-Bemis, Churchill, Wentzel

No: None

Abstention: None

Motion: Passed

No public comment

Meeting Conclusion

Presenter: Chairperson

Meeting Logistics

- Commissioner Announcements:
 - Commissioner Wentzel provided information about the upcoming NAMIWalks Sacramento event and noted that individuals may register or donate at [NAMIWalks Northern California](#).
 - Director Quist announced that May is Mental Health Month.
 - Commissioner Paige shared that WellSpace Health is holding a groundbreaking celebration on April 7, 2026, for the new Mental Health Rehabilitation Center. This ceremony demonstrates progress toward adding 32 beds to the county's subacute treatment capacity.
- Chairperson Weber adjourned the meeting at 07:26PM.

Recurring Meeting Schedule: First Thursday of the Month 6:00PM – 7:30PM (unless specified otherwise).

For more information regarding the Sacramento County Behavioral Health Commission, please visit our website at [Behavioral Health Commission](#). If you plan to attend a meeting and need to arrange for an interpreter or a reasonable accommodation, please contact Gail Brosnan prior to the scheduled meeting at (916) 709-1653 or at BrosnanG@saccounty.gov.