

Sacramento County
Mental Health Board (MHB) General Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2025

Meeting Location
700 H Street
Sacramento, CA 95814

Attendance			
MHB Members			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Corrine McIntosh Sako, <i>Chair</i>	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent	Kesha Harris	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Evan Minton, <i>Vice Chair</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Bradley Lueth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Patricia Wentzel, <i>Secretary</i>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Theresa Riviera	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Laura Asay-Bemis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Supervisor Rosario Rodriguez	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent
Melinda Avey	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Mallika Walsh	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent
Mykel Gayent	<input type="checkbox"/> Present <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Absent		
County Staff to MHB			
Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
Jason Richards	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent	Chris Costa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Present <input type="checkbox"/> Absent

Agenda Item	Discussion
I. Welcome and Introductions	<p>Vice Chair Minton called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. A quorum was declared, introductions were made, and the Conduct Agreement was acknowledged.</p> <p>Mental Health Board Announcements</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms. Wentzel announced that NAMI Sacramento held its annual walk last weekend, and that it was very well attended. NAMI is still taking donations through the end of May. Ms. Riviera expressed thanks to BHS staff who attended a community event at Land Park.
II. Public Comment	<p>Public Comment 1: Community member discussed challenges with nursing staffing at an inpatient psychiatric hospital, and advocated for renewed contracts with enforceable provisions for increased staffing, safe facilities, and union neutrality to ensure that public funds support safe, compassionate care.</p> <p>Public Comment 2: Community member advocated for increased staffing ratios to hold providers accountable for safe, effective care in psychiatric hospitals, as well as union support.</p> <p>Public Comment 3: Community member advocated for clear and enforceable safety standards, union support, and staffing support in contracts for private psychiatric hospitals that contract with the county.</p>
III. Consent Matters: Approval of Minutes	<p>Ms. Bemis moved to approve the March General Meeting minutes and Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. (Ms. Wentzel, Ms. Harris, Mr. Lueth,</p>

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	<p>and Ms. Riviera abstained. All other members voted Aye.) Motion carried.</p> <p>Ms. Wentzel moved to approve the April Special Meeting minutes and Ms. Walsh seconded the motion. (Ms. Wentzel and Ms. Harris abstained.) Motion carried.</p>
IV. Division of Behavioral Health Services Director's Report	<p>Dr. Ryan Quist, Behavioral Health Director, provided a written report on the status of Behavioral Health Services (BHS). He also provided verbal updates and answered questions as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Quist highlighted several observances and holidays, as included in the Director's Report (Handout #4), including Mental Health Awareness Month, Asian and Pacific Islander Heritage Month, Foster Care Awareness Month, National Maternal Depression Month, National Treatment Court Month, Cinco de Mayo, Fentanyl Awareness Day, Mother's Day, and International Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia, and Biphobia. • Behavioral Health Bridge Housing program – 160 beds are now live, with more in the pipeline. Grow Florin will be next to come online, and is currently planned for May 29th. • Residential treatment beds – 4 new SUD residential treatment providers are in process to offer 106 additional beds. These include Serenity Homes, Centerpoint Recovery, GLOM, and Akua Behavioral Health. Sacramento County residents are entering residential treatment much more quickly. • Staff with lived experience are now serving at the Youth Detention Facility (YDF). • Sheriff's Department update: There has not yet been a change in their policy. BHS has noted an uptick in calls and response for the Community Wellness Response Team. BHS is continuing to have conversations with other system partners on how to best collaborate to support community members. • Dr. Quist to look into the suggestion of using drones to respond to mental health calls, as requested by Ms. Riviera.
V. System Partner Updates	<p>No updates were made.</p>
VI. Mental Health Board Business	<p>Liaison Reports Written liaison reports were provided for the Mental Health Services Act Steering Committee and the Quality Improvement Committee.</p> <p>Committee Reports Members were referred to the Mental Health Board Meetings webpage for MHB Committee Meeting minutes: https://dhs.saccounty.gov/BHS/Pages/Advisory-Boards-Committees/Mental-Health-Board/BC-Mental-Health-Board-Meetings-2024.aspx</p> <p>Committee and Workgroup Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No updates were made at the present meeting.

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VII. Discussion/Action Item – Consider and Approve MHB Chair’s Nominations of Member Walsh and Member Harris to MHB Budget Committee	<p>Ms. Avey moved to approve the appointment of Ms. Walsh to the MHB Budget Committee, and Ms. Harris seconded the motion. (All members voted Aye.) Motion carried.</p> <p>No public comments were made.</p> <p>Mr. Lueth moved to approve the appointment of Ms. Harris to the MHB Budget Committee, and Ms. Avey seconded the motion. (All members voted Aye.) Motion carried.</p> <p>No public comments were made.</p>
VIII. Presentation and Roundtable Discussion on Lived Experience of Family Advocates for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness Experiencing Incarceration in Sacramento County Jails	<p>Family Advocates for Individuals with Serious Mental Illness (FAISMI) representatives provided a presentation on the lived experience of family advocates for individuals with serious mental illness experiencing incarceration in Sacramento County jails. Three families relayed their experiences regarding loved ones who either did not receive treatment while in jail or received inadequate treatment. Presenters distributed a handout, which was scanned and included in the record. MHB members discussed the possibility of making recommendations to the Board of Supervisors on this item, to be agendized at a future meeting per County Counsel recommendation.</p>
IX. Presentation and Roundtable Discussion on Sacramento County’s Response to Dr. Perrien’s 10/17/2024 Letter Regarding Unmet Mental Health Needs in the Sacramento County Jails	<p>Sacramento County Adult Correctional Health representatives provided a presentation on Sacramento County’s response to Dr. Perrien’s letter regarding unmet mental health needs in Sacramento County jails (Handout #10). Highlights included an overview of the patient population, 80-120 intakes a day, more than half of individuals released from jail being there for less than 3 days, challenges with serving this population, and current services and expansion efforts for mental health services in the jail. Members of the public and MHB members thanked the presenters, expressed support for mental health services in the jail, and advocated for timely additional service offerings and frontline staff support as needed to serve this population.</p>
X. Adjournment	<p>Vice Chair Minton adjourned the meeting at 8:09 p.m.</p>