

Sacramento County Health Authority Commission

General Meeting Minutes

February 3, 2025

Meeting Location

Sierra Health Foundation, Bannon Island Conf. Room, 1321 Garden Highway,
Sacramento, CA 95833

Attendance

Name	Attendance	Name	Attendance
SCHA Voting Members			
Ann Boynton	☒ Present ☐ Absent	Marvin Kamras, MD	☐ Present ☒ Absent
April Ludwig	☒ Present ☐ Absent	Michelle Monroe	☒ Present ☐ Absent
Britta Guerrero	☒ Present ☐ Absent	Phylis Baltz	☒ Present ☐ Absent
Edwin Kirby, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	☒ Present ☐ Absent	Ravinder Khaira, MD	☐ Present ☒ Absent
Jerry Bliatout	☒ Present ☐ Absent	Stacy Lorenzen	☐ Present ☒ Absent
Keri Thomas	☐ Present ☒ Absent	Supervisor Kennedy	☒ Present ☐ Absent
Kim Williams	☒ Present ☐ Absent	Tim Lutz	☒ Present ☐ Absent
Kirti Malhotra, MD	☐ Present ☒ Absent		
Kyle Stefano	☒ Present ☐ Absent		
SCHA Non-voting Members			
Abbie Totten	☐ Present ☒ Absent	Beau Henneman	☒ Present ☐ Absent
Amber Kemp	☒ Present ☐ Absent	Janice Milligan	☐ Present ☒ Absent
Banafsheh Siadat	☐ Present ☒ Absent	Venu Kondle	☐ Present ☒ Absent
County Staff to SCHA			
Jenine Spotnitz	☒ Present ☐ Absent	Yevgeniy Kurdyumov	☐ Present ☒ Absent
Gina Patterson	☐ Present ☒ Absent	Alyxe Lett	☒ Present ☐ Absent
Angelica Jackson	☐ Present ☒ Absent	Maryam Muslih	☒ Present ☐ Absent

Agenda Item	Time
1. Welcome/Opening Remarks and Updates – Eddie Kirby, Vice-Chair a. Updates from Vice-Chair and Chair, Eddie Kirby and Chet Hewitt Chair Chet Hewitt informed the Commission of his resignation from the Health Authority. Eddie Kirby will serve as interim Chair until a new nominee is proposed and has been approved by the Board of Supervisors. Vice-Chair Eddie Kirby introduced newly appointed Commission member, Britta Guerrero, who is Chief Executive Officer of the Sacramento Native American Health Center (SNAHC) and one of the original founding members of the SCHA.	3:00 – 3:10pm

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b. Updates from Department of Health Services, Jenine Spotnitz Department of Health Services (DHS) Program Manager, Jenine Spotnitz, shared that the contract with NORC is still in the process of being executed.	
2. Agenda Review – <i>Alyxe Lett, Sacramento County Department of Health Services</i> Department of Health Services Program Planner, Alyxe Lett, presented the agenda for the meeting.	3:10 -3:15pm
3. Action: Approval of Meeting Minutes from 9/17 and 11/19 and 2025 SCHA Meeting Calendar – <i>Alyxe Lett, Sacramento County Department of Health Services</i> Vice-Chair Eddie Kirby facilitated the voting to approve the meeting minutes from the September 17 and November 19, 2024 General Commission meetings as well as the proposed 2025 SCHA General Commission Meeting Calendar. Michelle Monroe motioned to approve. Ann Boynton seconded the motion. Jenine Spotnitz did a rollcall of votes. The motion passed to approve the meeting minutes from 9/17/24 and 11/19/24 and the 2025 SCHA General Commission Meeting Calendar.	3:15 – 3:20pm
4. Presentation and Discussion: 2025 Policy Updates and MCP 2023 Quality Data – <i>Meredith Wurden, Sellers Dorsey</i> Meredith Wurden provided a walkthrough of Managed Care Plan (MCP) 2023 quality data and 2025 policy updates, including the following topics: MCP quality ratings and related sanctions; Managed Care Organization (MCO) provider tax; transitional rent; Enhanced Care Management (ECM) and Community Supports (CS); and network adequacy certification. <u>MCP Quality Monitoring Key Findings for Measure Year 2023 (MY2023)</u> - Sacramento County plans Aetna, Anthem, Molina, and Health Net were designated Tier 3, in which 3 or more measures are below the Minimum Performance Level (MPL) in two or more domains and were subject to relevant enforcement. - Aetna had 13 measures below MPL - Anthem with 12 below MPL - Health Net with 10 below MPL - Molina with 13 below MPL - Kaiser with 2 below MPL - Kaiser NorCal, was designated Tier 2 (in which two or more measures are below MPL in any one domain) with 2 measures below MPL in MY2023 and was subject to relevant enforcement	3:20 – 4:25pm

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MCP representatives present said they are willing to share more updated data to the Commission and their outcome measures for MY2024. They noted that they have seen improvement in most domains, except for the ones in the children's health domain. <u>MCO Provider Tax</u> AB119 reauthorized a new MCO provider tax from April 1, 2023 through December 2026 to support the Medi-Cal program. Proposition 35, passed by voters in November 2024, permanently continues the tax subject to ongoing federal approvals and includes changes to how revenues are spent effective 1/1/2025 and requires DHCS to consult with a stakeholder advisory committee regarding development and implementation. The federal government approved the tax in December 2024 and it is expected to provide an estimated net \$7.2 billion. Several Commissioners referenced a Cal Matters article that described the unintended consequences of Proposition 35 regarding maintaining continuity of Medi-Cal coverage for children. <u>Transitional Rent</u> In December 2024, the federal government approved the Behavioral Health Community-Based Organized Networks of Equitable Care and Treatment (BH-CONNECT). A key feature includes transitional rent assistance for up to six months for MCP members that meet certain criteria. DHS plans to launch transitional rent starting July 1, 2025 as an additional community support under CalAIM and it is mandatory for MCPs starting January 1, 2026 to implement this for behavioral health populations of focus. Health Net mentioned they have already formed a transitional rent workgroup with DHCS and are aiming for the January 2026 implementation date. Additionally, Deputy County Executive Chevon Kothari mentioned that homeless services and behavioral health teams are working to braid services together and will be submitting a PATH CITED grant to support implementation of a flexible housing pool program for people experiencing homelessness. <u>ECM & CS Measures & Monitoring:</u> DHCS launched new ECM/CS monitoring in 2025 with three main goals: • Ensuring an adequate network of providers • Increasing access to and uptake of services • Improving delivery of services DHCS is also requiring MCPs to define and standardize the information they collect through ECM referrals so referring entities avoid navigating different information requirements. Also, updated presumptive	

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authorization requirements allow select ECM providers to directly authorize and be paid for ECM services without waiting for MCP authorization. <u>Network Adequacy Certification</u> Annual certification components include provider-to-member ratios, mandatory provider types, time or distance standards, and timely access. A pass means all required standards were met. Aetna, Anthem, Health Net, Kaiser NorCal, and Molina all passed the 2023 Adequacy Certification, some through alternative access standards. Several commissioners described a severe shortage of access to specialist care and cited a wait list of six to twelve months for patients to access specialty care such as a mammogram or gastrointestinal care.	
5. Presentation, Discussion and Action: Approval to Adopt Sacramento County Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Councils Conflict of Interest (COI) – Jenine Spotnitz, Sacramento County Department of Health Services Jenine presented the two options to the Commission for enabling electronic filing: a) Adopting the Boards, Committees, Commissions, and Councils (BCCC) COI and identifying relevant disclosure categories (A-E), which would then be adopted by the Board of Supervisors as an amendment to the BCCC COI to add the SCHA to the code with listed categories or B) Adopt a separate COI code with defined positions, disclosure categories and approved by the SCHA. The code would then need to be approved by the Board of Supervisors. Vice-Chair Eddie Kirby facilitated the voting to approve Option A to adopt the BCCC COI and Appendix A identifying relevant disclosure categories (A-E) Michelle Monroe motioned to approve. April Ludwig seconded the motion. Jenine Spotnitz did a roll call of votes. The motion passed to approve the adoption of the BCCC COI and Appendix A identifying relevant disclosure categories (A-E).	4:25 – 4:45pm
6. Public Comment – One comment per person, limited to two minutes Chevon Kothari encouraged the Commission to create a formal workgroup or ad-hoc committee to address the challenges regarding specialty care access this year.	4:45 - 4:55pm
7. Closing Comments and Adjournment – Eddie Kirby, Vice-Chair Vice-Chair Eddie Kirby gave a reminder that the next General Commission meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2025 at 3pm.	4:55 – 5:00pm

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Agenda Item	Time
Vice-Chair Eddie Kirby facilitated a vote to adjourn the meeting early. Britta Guerrero motioned to approve. Ann Boynton seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 4:31pm.	

Members of the public are encouraged to attend. Public comments are accepted during the designated time. Members of the public may also submit written comments electronically to scha@sacounty.gov, or by US Postal Service to 7001-A East Parkway, Suite 1000, Sacramento, CA 95823. Public comments will be accepted until the adjournment of the meeting, distributed to Health Authority Commission members, and included in the record. Electronic or hard copies of documents are available upon request. To request documents, or if you wish to attend and need to arrange for an interpreter or a reasonable accommodation, please contact scha@sacounty.gov. Electronic copies of documents will be emailed upon request and hard copies of documents may be picked up at 7001-A East Parkway, Sacramento, CA 95823. For more information regarding the Sacramento County Health Authority Commission, please visit our website at Sacramento County Health Authority.