



LA COUNTY BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION (BHC)  
 “Advocacy, Accountability, and Oversight in Action”  
 Victor Manalo, Chair, Presiding

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

<b>MEETING DATE</b>	August 28, 2025		
<b>START TIME</b>	12:00pm	<b>ADJOURNMENT TIME:</b> 1:28 PM	
<b>LOCATION</b>	510 South Vermont Avenue, (T) Level Conference Room, Los Angeles, CA 90020		
<b>ATTACHMENTS</b>	<a href="#">MEETING RECORDING LINK</a>	<a href="#">PUBLIC COMMENT DOCUMENT LINK</a>	<a href="#">AGENDA</a>

<b>IN ATTENDANCE</b>		<b>ABSENT (E = Excused, U = Unexcused)</b>	
<b>Commissioner Name</b>			
Victor Manalo, Chair, Stacy Dalglish, First Vice Chair, Reba Stevens, Second Vice Chair, and Susan Friedman, Member-at-Large		Brittney Weissman, Member-at-Large (E)	
<b>QUORUM PRESENT: YES</b>		<b>APPROVAL:</b> YES. Motion made by Commissioner Dalglish. Seconded by Commissioner Friedman. Minutes approved on 9/25/25.	
		<b>ADJOURNMENT:</b> 1: 28 PM	

**MEETING MINUTES**

<b>AGENDA / ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>DISCUSSION/DECISION SUMMARIES</b>	<b>FOLLOW-UP ITEMS</b>	<b>UPDATE ON FOLLOW-UP ITEMS</b>
<b>3. PUBLIC COMMENT –</b>			
<i>Stakeholder Group Reports</i>	<b>Stakeholder groups in attendance:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>SALT 7</li> </ul> <b>Stakeholder reports:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>SALT 7</b> Reported on the outcome of clergy round table and the lack of knowledge around 988.</li> </ul>		
<i>General Comments</i>	Jim “The Hat”, and Dr. Esroruleh Mohammad addressed the Commission by phone, in-person, and/or with emailed communication. <b>See attached public comment document.</b>		



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<b>CONSENT AGENDA (Item #4)</b>			
a. Approval of minutes for July 24, 2025 b. DMH Updates c. BHC budget report	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commissioner Dagleish asked whether the Regular Commission has any authority over the approval of the Commission’s budget.</li> <li>Commissioner Friedman asked if the BHC Budget includes an allocation for town halls.</li> </ul> <p><b>All items approved. Motion made by Commissioner Dagleish. Seconded by Commissioner Friedman.</b></p>		
<b>NEW BUSINESS (Item #5)</b>			
a. BHC Annual Report to BOS	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chair Manalo stated he and Commissioner Weissman had submitted their feedback to Kenia and encouraged the rest of the Committee to do the same.</li> <li>Commissioner Dagleish requested the Commissioners’ headshots be included in the annual report to provide recognition.</li> </ul> <p><b>Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kenia will share the most updated version with the Committee once she incorporates the recommendations from Chair Manalo and Commissioner Weissman.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kenia to share the latest version with the Commission.</li> </ul>	Final report draft was shared with full commission on 9/15/25.
b. Discuss 1 of 2 directives from Supervisor Hahn’s Improving CARE	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commissioner Stevens said she supports Supervisor Hahn’s motion and emphasized the importance of understanding each Supervisor’s goals and</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kenia to have a date set for the next CARE Court Town Hall.</li> </ul>	Given the commissioners’ availability, we are currently seeking a



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<p>Court in L.A. motion:            - Host another stakeholder forum in 6 months, and annually thereafter, to gather additional community and stakeholder feedback on CARE Court</p>	<p>objectives, as they work to advance their agendas through the Commission.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Dalglish pointed out that some Commissioners are having difficulty connecting with their supervisors and suggested finding a solution to help clarify what’s expected of them.</li> <li>• Chair Manalo agreed and said the Commission should revisit its goals from previous years, keeping only those that are realistically achievable.</li> <li>• Chair Manalo also shared that he won’t be able to attend the upcoming CARE Court Town Hall in January due to personal reasons.</li> <li>• Commissioners Weissman and Dalglish said they’re available on January 26.</li> <li>• Commissioner Dalglish added that she’s flexible between January 26–30, 2026.</li> <li>• Chair Manalo asked Kenia to have a date for the Town Hall confirmed by the time of the Behavioral Health Commission Retreat.</li> <li>• Commissioner Stevens stressed the need for clarity around the Commission’s goals and suggested setting a firm deadline.</li> </ul> <p><b>Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenia will confirm the date for the CARE Court Town Hall by September 11th.</li> </ul>		<p>venue for the week of January 26<sup>th</sup>. The town hall will likely be scheduled for that week.</p>
<p>c. Discuss review and selection of</p>	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A few Commissioners had trouble accessing the</li> </ul>		



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<p>applications received for the members at-large (3) position</p>	<p>electronic files and couldn’t review the applications.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Manalo said the conversation will be revisited once all Committee members have access to the files, have reviewed them, and are ready to discuss their decisions.</li> <li>• Kenia suggested that the Executive Committee come prepared with a list of their top candidates by the date of the retreat (September 11, 2025), with a full discussion to follow at the next Executive Committee meeting.</li> </ul> <p><b>Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Committee will have their top candidates chosen and be ready for a discussion by September 11, 2025.</li> </ul>		
<p>d. Discuss 2025 Annual Retreat activity detail</p>	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenia shared that she would schedule an additional meeting between the retreat consultants and the Chair to discuss activities aligned with the goals and objectives communicated by the Executive Committee. She will also request a detailed agenda from the consultants and share it with the Executive Committee before the retreat.</li> <li>• Commissioner Stevens raised a question about the retreat location, referencing past concerns, and asked Kenia what steps have been taken to address them.</li> <li>• Kenia acknowledged past audio and visual issues and assured that different, more reliable technology will be used this time.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenia to share the details of the Retreat activities with the Executive Committee once they have been decided.</li> <li>• Kenia to ask the sound and video contractor whether it is possible to use portable microphones.</li> </ul>	<p>The detailed agenda was shared on 9/4. Wireless microphones were not needed.</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• She explained that the retreat was originally planned to be held at the California Endowment but had to be relocated due to a sudden scheduling change.</li><li>• Chair Manalo recognized that the Executive Committee prefers retreat locations other than the DMH Headquarters and confirmed there will be a focus on hosting retreats elsewhere during this fiscal year.</li><li>• Commissioner Stevens requested that microphones be used consistently throughout the retreat, including during activities, to ensure transparency.</li><li>• Chair Manalo recalled seeing videos of baseball players using portable microphones as a possible solution.</li><li>• Commissioner Stevens emphasized the importance of using the retreat to educate and inform the public.</li><li>• Commissioner Friedman expressed concern about the seating arrangements and said she would prefer to be seated in a circle alongside other Commissioners.</li><li>• Kenia responded that the setup will be like the Regular Meeting, with Commissioners seated in a U or V-shaped arrangement.</li><li>• Commissioner Dagleish stressed the importance of ensuring the public is considered and included throughout the retreat process.</li></ul> <p><b>Decisions:</b></p>		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenia will share the detailed retreat agenda with the Executive Committee.</li> <li>• Kenia will consult with the video and sound contractor to determine whether using portable microphones is feasible.</li> </ul>		
<p>e. Discuss the feasibility of changing the executive committee meeting dates and moving these to be held on the same day as the regular meeting.</p>	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Dagleish raised two key points: she suggested holding both meetings on the same day to boost stakeholder engagement and noted that the Executive Committee meeting dates currently conflict with SALT 2 meeting times.</li> <li>• Commissioner Stevens emphasized that while public convenience is important, they also need to consider the availability of access, as well as audio and visual services.</li> <li>• Commissioner Friedman asked for the meeting times so Kenia can check the availability of those services.</li> <li>• Chair Manalo pointed out that holding both meetings on the same day might encourage greater participation from Commissioners in the Executive Committee meetings.</li> <li>• Chair Manalo and Kenia have been discussing ways to improve efficiency in both the Executive Committee and Full Commission meetings.</li> <li>• They consulted with County Counsel and are currently awaiting a response.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenia to investigate what approaches other L.A. County commissions are doing.</li> </ul>	<p>Research results document was shared with the full commission on 9/16/2025.</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Manalo asked County Counsel whether the Executive Committee meetings are required and if they can be held in a different format than the Regular Commission meetings.</li> <li>• Kenia explained that meeting formats cannot be changed because access services are required.</li> <li>• She also noted that the bylaws state the Commission must meet in person to establish a quorum, and that meetings are required monthly.</li> <li>• Commissioner Dagleish suggested exploring the process to amend the bylaws.</li> <li>• Commissioner Stevens proposed creating a list of standing items to cover at each meeting to reduce the need for monthly Executive Committee meetings.</li> <li>• Commissioner Dagleish expressed interest in seeing what other commissions across the state are doing.</li> </ul> <p><b>Requests and Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Friedman requested that Kenia investigate what other commissions within L.A. County are doing</li> <li>• The Commission and Kenia will also explore what other commissions in L.A. County and across the state are doing.</li> </ul>		
f. Discuss the Data Notebook	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissioner Dagleish is leading the project and will reach out to Commissioners to ensure they</li> </ul>		



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	<p>provide the requested feedback.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Planning Council plans to first create a document summarizing information from the past five data notebooks to show changes over time. They also want updates on Peer Resource Centers, also known as hubs.</li> <li>The deadline for this work is November 1st.</li> </ul> <p><b>Requests and Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Commissioner Dagleish requested that enough time be allocated during the next Regular Meeting to have a full conversation on this topic.</li> </ul>		
<p>g. Review the topics of interest list</p>	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Topics of Interest List was updated to highlight the topics scheduled for discussion on upcoming agendas for the rest of the year and to indicate how much space remains for new topics.</li> <li>Commissioner Stevens asked BHSa staff to encourage SALTs and UsCCs to attend the BHC meetings.</li> <li>Commissioner Dagleish expressed interest in understanding how stakeholders are spending their funds.</li> <li>She also suggested creating a tracking sheet to better identify who is attending meetings and who might need more encouragement from the Commission, while acknowledging that the public is not required to sign in.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Kenia to add the topic of Stakeholder Engagement into the list of standing items.</li> <li>BHC staff to review the bylaws or charters of the stakeholders, UsCCs and SALTs.</li> </ul>	<p>Added</p>



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Kenia and Melissa are currently developing a tracker to record stakeholder attendance and engagement.</li> </ul> <p><b>Requests and Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stevens requested Stakeholder engagement be added to the list of standing items.</li> <li>• Commissioner Stevens requested that BHC staff review the bylaws or charters of the stakeholders, UsCCs and SALTs.</li> </ul>		
<b>DISCUSS AND DRAFT THE AGENDA FOR THE ANNUAL RETREAT (Item #6)</b>			
	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The retreat is scheduled for September 11, 2025, at the Department of Mental Health Headquarters, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.</li> <li>• Chair Manalo asked the Committee whether they preferred to keep the SAPC presentation on the retreat agenda or move it to the next Regular Meeting.</li> <li>• Commissioner Dagleish said she preferred to keep the retreat focused.</li> </ul> <p><b>Requests and Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The SAPC presentation will be removed from the agenda and rescheduled for the next Regular Meeting.</li> </ul>		
<b>UPDATES/ANNOUNCEMENTS (Item #7)</b>			
	<p><b>Discussion:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair Manalo is scheduled to attend most UsCC and SALT meetings throughout October.</li> </ul>		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• The purpose of these meetings is to gather ideas on how to increase stakeholder engagement and encourage participation. Chair Manalo emphasized the importance of their feedback for improving accountability and meeting community needs.</li><li>• Commissioner Dagleish expressed interest in attending these stakeholder meetings alongside Chair Manalo.</li><li>• Commissioner Stevens emphasized the need to hold the Department of Mental Health leadership accountable for their lack of engagement with stakeholders. She noted that she has previously raised this concern with Dr. Wong, Director of the Mental Health Department, but has yet to see any changes. She stated she will continue to advocate on this issue until it is addressed.</li><li>• In response to concerns raised by Commissioner Stevens at a past meeting, Chair Manalo committed to providing regular reports on his goals and accomplishments, including meetings with Dr. Wong. He will also ensure that the Executive Committee’s concerns are communicated to her.</li><li>• Commissioner Dagleish suggested that Chair Manalo include a report on his discussions with Dr. Wong. She also recommended providing Commissioners with an opportunity to share their efforts to connect with their communities and receive recognition for their work.</li></ul>		



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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Commissioner Friedman noted that while she attends every meeting of the SALT she is assigned to, stakeholder attendance has been low, with most attendees being DMH staff. She suggested holding stakeholder meetings in the evening to increase public participation.</li><li>• Commissioner Stevens observed that attendance may be low partly due to a lack of participation from executive leaders, including Dr. Wong, who may be unaware of what is happening within the BHC and stakeholder groups.</li><li>• Commissioner Friedman recalled when BHC meetings were held at the Hall of Administration and had full attendance. She suggested considering that location again, as it may be more accessible than the current venue.</li></ul> <p><b>Requests and Decisions:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chair Manalo will provide updates on his current activities contributing to the BHC and will also create space for Commissioners to share their efforts.</li></ul>		