

MINUTES  
San Bernardino County  
**BEHAVIORAL HEALTH COMMISSION MEETING**  
February 4, 2021 - 12:00-2:00 pm

**Commissioners Present:** Monica Caffey, Lorrie Denson, Vickie Mack, Michael Grabhorn, Carol Kinzel, Jennifer Silvestri, Victoria Ogunrinu, Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Veatrice Jews, Gil Navarro, Lynn Summers

**Excused Absence:** Catherine Inscore, May Farr, Akin Merino,

**Absent:** Christopher Masa

**Guests:** Not available, guests attended via webex.

Minutes recorded by Raquel Ramos, Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC).

**CALL TO ORDER/ ROLE CALL**

Chair Dr. Monica Caffey called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and roll call followed.

**Tab 5:** Review Minutes of January 7, 2020.

**APPROVED**

Motion/Second: Carol Kinzel/ Michael Grabhorn

AYES:, Lorrie Denson Monica Caffey, Vickie Mack, Jennifer Silvestri, Victoria Ogunrinu, Veatrice Jews Jennifer Spence-Carpenter, Gil Navarro, Lynn Summers

ASBSTAIN:

ABSENT: Catherine Inscore, Christopher Massa, May Farr, Akin Merino,

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

No public comment.

**CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chair Caffey welcomed new Commissioners Gil Navarro and Lynn Summers, both representing the Fifth District. This past month Michelle Dusick presented the Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) Annual Update at the 4<sup>th</sup> District Advisory Committee (DAC). She encouraged everyone to attend the MSHA stakeholder meetings and complete the survey. It is one of the many ways for the community to have an opportunity to speak to their needs as a community. This evening Dr. Caffey will be presenting to parents in the High Desert on how to deal with children and teens in supporting their distance learning. She also attended the Poverty Symposium, this was a great event that gave attendees an understanding of what it means to be homeless during the pandemic. Dr. Caffey will be on Netflix February 17 on a series dealing with health and wellness in dealing with people of color. Lastly, she will facilitate a teen self-love workshop in Rancho Cucamonga on February 10.

**COMMISSIONERS' REPORT**

**First District:**

Commissioner Lorrie Denson acknowledged February as Black History month. She participated in the January 20 DAC meeting, where Christal Hampton from Helping Hearts shared information on a state certified program in partnership with DBH and IEHP. She shared that she also attended the Poverty Awareness Symposium. Kevin Mahany of Saint Mary's Medical Center reached out to Commissioners in the 1<sup>st</sup> District regarding a collaboration with comm colleges in San Bernardino and Riverside offering training for community health workers in the region. This is a 14 week pilot program that will award a certificate from BBC. There will be additional trainings that build on the program. Burning Bush Church and the Adelanto School District is hosting a community empowerment discussion on distance learning that Dr. Caffey referenced earlier. Commissioner Denson is working with St. Mary's Medical Center on a trial phase mass vaccination event for the senior citizen community. She is also working on a African American COVID study project in old town Victorville.

Commissioner Michael Grabhorn shared he is working with Dr. Caffey and the coalition she works with concentrating on tobacco use by minors. He is working with St. Mary's and the intersection commission on housing for seniors and housing for those in the poverty level. He also attended the Poverty Symposium and the DAC. Next week he plans to meet with the new Sheriff Captain and the Drug and Alcohol early intervention subcommittee.

Commissioner Vickie Mack shared that she participated in the First District DAC and that she found it informative. She is working with her fellow commissioner Dr. Caffey on an African American Mental Health Service Directory and working with Commissioner Lorrie Denson on adding the mental health component to Community Health Worker training and hopefully peer certification training.

#### **Second District:**

Commissioner Carol Kinzel shared that she attended the Poverty Symposium and the Second District DAC where there was also a MHA stakeholder presentation. The cabins for housing for the homeless are now being moved into. She has coordinated for the Mountain Homeless Coalition to present at the March 11 Second District DAC. She is working with her fellow Commissioner Jennifer Silvestri on more housing in the Crestline area.

Commissioner Jennifer Silvestri worked with Carol on the DAC meeting that took place January 14. She attended the Poverty Symposium that had an emphasis on self care towards the end of the event. She also attended the CCAC meeting on January 21 and will be joining a group this evening to learn more about local issues in the mountain communities related to drug addiction and the transient population.

#### **Third District:**

Commissioner Victoria Ogunrinu shared that she participated in her first DAC meeting yesterday. She attended the California Association of local Behavioral Health Boards and commissions. There were many meaningful presentations. There was an African American community group that presented on their village project. She is hoping to invite them to speak with the Behavioral Health Commission (BHC). She added her support to Commissioner Mack's report as her church is also interested in engaging in conversations to encourage minorities to take the vaccination. She shared that her first book was published this last month, it is about taking the NCLEX exam.

#### **Fourth District:**

Commissioner Jennifer Spence-Carpenter shared that both her parents have been sick with COVID. It has been very difficult.

#### **Fifth District:**

Commissioner Veatrice Jews welcome new Commissioners Gil Navarro and Lynn Summers. She shared that she was sick last month but is feeling much better. She thanked Michelle Dusick for her community stakeholder presentation at the Fifth District DAC. She shared that she is working with local seniors on vaccination appointments. She also attended the Poverty Symposium, there was a lot of information given during the event.

Commissioner Gil Navarro introduced himself to attendees and thanked Supervisor Joe Baca Jr for appointing him to this position. Commissioner Navarro requested the Pledge of Allegiance take place at the start of the General Session. He advised he provided public comment at the January meeting. The first item he has worked with Dr. Hougen and reached a solution on and the second item he hopes to have an outcome on at the next Commission meeting. He shared that would like a presentation on how DBH is providing services to the homeless. He is interested in how the department is reaching out. He thanked everyone for welcoming him.

Commissioner Lynn Summers thanked everyone for welcoming her. She introduced herself and advised the group that she has worked 35+ years in the medical field, she has worked in the emergency room and as an Emergency Medical Technician, she was a foster mom and has eight children. She is active in the community, a retired union worker and is a farmer. She is now a master gardener. During the pandemic this past year she worked with veterans sharing tips and practices for farming and gardening. She is currently helping the local church with COVID testing.

**Tab 6: SUBJECT MATTER PRESENTATION: COVID 19 Vaccine**

Presenter: Dr. Teresa Frausto, Chief Psychiatric Officer

- The COVID-19 vaccine helps our immune system fight future infections. There are two COVID-19 vaccines currently provided in the U.S. that require two doses (21 to 28 days apart), Pfizer and Moderna. COVID-19 vaccines have shown a 94-95% efficacy for preventing illness.
- Some side effects of the vaccine are: pain, swelling, redness in the area of the vaccine, tiredness/fatigue, headache, muscle/joint pain, chills, nausea/vomiting, feeling unwell, swollen lymph nodes.
- The vaccine has been shown to prevent COVID-19 and will help reduce the spread of the virus among friends and family.
- The County of San Bernardino is following CDC guidelines on the distribution of COVID-19 vaccines. There are two phases in the County of San Bernardino. The phases and tiers help prioritize the most vulnerable. Phase 1 includes: Health care personnel, the elderly and vulnerable, and Essential workers. Phase 2 includes all remaining people aged 16 years and older.
- Phase I is broken down in phases: Phase 1A: Health care personnel such as paramedics, dialysis centers, skilled nursing facilities, community health workers, public health, dental health clinics, pharmacy staff, etc. Phase 1B: Frontline essential workers such as teachers, childcare, police, firefighters, farmworkers, grocery store workers, individuals 65 + years of age, public transit, postal service, incarcerated individuals, homeless, etc. Phase 1C: Other essential workers such as government operations, community service providers, water and waste management, individuals 16-64 with underlying medical conditions and/or disabilities.
- The vaccine is free to anyone who wants it. You might still get COVID-19 after receiving the vaccine but symptoms are less likely to be severe. The vaccine is no mandatory and you should still get the vaccine even if you have already had COVID-19.
- Contact your healthcare provider for more information on how to get the vaccine or visit [sbccovid19.com](http://sbccovid19.com). At this time the vaccine is not recommended for children. You still have to wear a mask after you receive the COVID-19 vaccination.
- For questions or more information please visit [www.sbccovid19.com/vaccine](http://www.sbccovid19.com/vaccine).

**NEW BUSINESS – ACTION ITEMS**

Identify Commissioner to Prepare Presentation Findings:

- Commissioner Lorrie Denson, volunteered to prepare today's presentation memo of findings.

**Tab 7:** Election of 2021 Officers. On behalf of the Chair of the Nominating Committee, and with the assistance of the Clerk of the Commission, Commissioner Lorrie Denson announced the slate of officers and asked for further nominations from the floor. Commissioner Carol Kinzel declined the nomination for Secretary. Commissioner Grabhorn declined the nomination for Treasurer. As a result, there was only one nomination for Chair, two nominations for Vice Chair, one nomination for Secretary and one nomination for Treasurer. All commissioners present voted for the one nominee in each officer position. The Vice Chair position votes are as follows:

**Voting of Vice Chair was conducted verbally**

Lorrie Denson voted for Michael Grabhorn  
Michael Grabhorn voted for Michael Grabhorn  
Vickie Mack voted for Michael Grabhorn  
Carol Kinzel voted for Michael Grabhorn  
Jennifer Silvestri voted for Michael Grabhorn  
Victoria Ogunrinu voted for Michael Grabhorn  
Jennifer Spence-Carpenter voted for May Farr  
Monica Caffey voted for Michael Grabhorn  
Gil Navarro voted for Michael Grabhorn  
Lynn Summers voted for Michael Grabhorn

The voting resulted in the following for the 2021 election of officers: Chair: Monica Caffey; Vice-Chair: Michael Grabhorn; Secretary: Vickie Mack; Treasurer: Lorrie Denson.

### DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Assistant Director Michael Knight provided the following report to meeting attendees on behalf of Dr. Veronica Kelley:

- Dr. Kelley is unable to make today's meeting, as she is presenting to the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission.
- He thanked everyone for their attendance at today's meeting.
- He attended the COVID vaccination event at the Fontana Speedway. There were over 3200 people served at the event. Some showed up at the site without an appointment, this caused a little bit of a bottleneck. The County is continuing to look for ways to improve operations at these mass vaccination events. The County is working to have more up to date availability on the COVID website. He reminded attendees to sign up at [www.SBCOVID19.com](http://www.SBCOVID19.com) for information on COVID.
- There have not been many changes in the budget since Dr. Kelley's last updates.
- The Department of State Hospitals has reached out to DBH for the Incompetent to Stand Trial population. We are in discussions at this time, there have been no formal agreements.
- He welcomed new Commissioners Gil Navarro and Lynn Summers.
- He thanked everyone for their participation in the MHSA Stakeholder engagement meetings.
- He asked attendees to acknowledge the recent passing of DBH staff and colleagues: Lovelyn Santos, Social Worker II; Julian Ellison, Mental Health Specialist; Jose Barboza of Patients' Rights; Dr. Tina London, Public Health Nurse.

### OUTSIDE AGENCY REPORTS

- Michelle Dusick provided a report out on the County Performance Contract Review. DBH received an amendment from the Department of Health Care Services called the County Performance Contract. This is a non-financial agreement on rules and regulations, grants and various funding sources. This year the Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment block grant was included as well. Commissioners received a copy of this contract. This does not require approval, this is the department informing the BHC and public of the amendment and DBH's performance requirements prior to the contract going to the Board of Supervisors for approval. This will expire June 30 of this year. We anticipate receiving a renewed three year contract from DHCS in the coming months.
  - It was confirmed that Behavioral Health Commissioners may be invited to sit on review panels for review of proposals in response to a request for proposals. This is determined per request by the program manager. Commissioners are also able to review all county contracts via the Clerk of the Board website. The link to the website will be shared with the commissioners via email.

### ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 1:58 p.m.

---

*Monica Caffey, Chair*  
Behavioral Health Commission

---

*Raquel Ramos*  
Clerk of the Behavioral Health Commission