

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH ADVISORY BOARD
Executive Committee Meeting -
Monday, September 08, 2025, 2:30 – 4:00 PM
Ventura County Behavioral Health (VCBH)
1911 Williams Drive, Training Room (first floor) • Oxnard, CA 93036
IN-PERSON & VIRTUAL MEETING VIA ZOOM

Zoom Participation

The following information referenced below is provided to you in support of your attending the upcoming BHAB Executive Committee Meeting via Zoom:

Join the zoom meeting in the following way:

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1605224617?pwd=kCoPW661jbLpfgKLFEnpHW5aucyRz.1>

Meeting ID: 160 522 4617

Password: 456530

Dial-in: +16692545252

Under AB 2449 New Teleconferencing Rules:

The Ventura County Behavioral Health Advisory Board Executive committee may take action at the beginning of the meeting regarding requests for “Just Cause” or “Emergency” allowances provided that related Brown Act guidelines are met. (Guidelines are listed on the last page of this agenda.)

AGENDA

- I. Call to Order
- II. Interpretation Instructions
- III. Introductions
- IV. Roll Call of Members with Just Cause
 - a. State others present in the room over the age of 18
- V. Requests for Emergency Circumstances – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- VI. Approval of the Agenda – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- VII. Approval of the July 14, 2025, Minutes – **ACTION** (Roll Call)
- VIII. Chair Comments – Cheryl Heitmann, Chair
- IX. Director’s Update – Dr. Loretta Denering, Director (10 min.)
- X. Presentation - Courtney Lubell, MA, PMP, LSSBB – Prop 1 (60 min)
- XI. Public Comments (3 minutes per speaker)
- XII. Executive Committee Board Member Comments (3 min. per speaker) (Round Robin)
- XIII. Old Business
 - A. Approval of the Bylaws.
 - B. Workgroups
 - a. CRISIS
 - b. TAY
 - c. Procedures
- XIV. New Business

A. Presentation Requests

XV. Develop Agenda for Hybrid **General Meeting** scheduled for September 15, 2025, at 2:00 PM

- I. *Call to Order*
- II. *Interpreter Instructions*
- III. *Introductions*
- IV. *Roll Call of Members with Just Cause*
 - a. *State others present in the room over the age of 18*
- V. *Requests for Emergency Circumstances – ACTION (Roll Call)*
- VI. *Approval of the Agenda – ACTION (Roll Call)*
- VII. *Approval of the August 18, 2025, Minutes – ACTION (Roll Call)*
- VIII. *Public Comments (3 min. per speaker)*
- IX. *Chair Announcements – Cheryl Heitmann, Chair (5 min.)*
- X. *Director’s Report – Dr. Loretta L. Denering, Director (10 min.)*
- XI. *Approval of the Bylaws – ACTION (Roll Call)*
- XII. *Presentation - Courtney Lubell, MA, PMP, LSSBB – Prop 1 (60 min)*
- XIII. *Board Member Comments and Announcements (3 min. per speaker) (Round Robin).*
- XIV. *Old Business*
 - a. *Workgroups*
 - i. *CRISIS*
 - ii. *TAY*
 - iii. *PROCEDURES*
 - iv. *Follow-up from Theresa Comstock, Executive Director*

CA Association of Local Behavioral Health Boards & Commissions presentation.
- XV. *New Business*
 - a) *Presentation*
- XVI. *Contracts*
- XVII. *Public Comments (3 min. per speaker)*
- XVIII. *Adjourn*

Next Meeting Date: October 13, 2025

All agenda reports and supporting data, including those filed in accordance with Government Code Section 54957.5 (b) (1) and (2) are available from the Behavioral Health Advisory Board Assistant at bhabadmin@ventura.org or in person at Ventura County Behavioral Health, 2nd Floor, 1911 Williams Drive, Oxnard, California. The same materials will be available and attached with each associated agenda item, when received, at the following website: www.vcbh.org/en/behavioral-health-advisory-board-meetings.

Welcome to the meeting of the Behavioral Health Advisory Board of the County of Ventura. The following information is provided to help you understand, follow, and participate in the Board meeting:

Join the Zoom meeting by clicking the link provided on the agenda at the scheduled time and date. Zoom will initially start with a **waiting room** position. You will be admitted into the meeting room when the meeting starts. All participants are muted upon entry to minimize any unintended disruption of background sounds. Please keep yourself on mute unless you are speaking.

Note: The meeting is recorded.

Public Comments

- The Behavioral Health Advisory Board (BHAB) welcomes comments from the community, consumers, and family members.
- The BHAB operates under the Brown Act. This requires that all meetings be open meetings, with the agenda and minutes posted. A public comment period will be provided on all meeting agendas.
- Due to confidentiality laws, the Board is unable to respond directly to a public comment or to discuss client-specific issues without proper releases from the individuals concerned.
- At all BHAB meetings, the BHAB Assistant provides a Grievance Form for individuals who have concerns. The form is reviewed promptly by VCBH Quality Management. Individuals can also contact the BHAB Assistant to request a VCBH Grievance Form outside a BHAB meeting or call 1-888-567-2122.
- Individuals who have further concerns are welcome to return to the BHAB for assistance.

Public comments may be provided using one of the following options:

a. Email or Mail Public Comment in Advance of the Meeting

To make a written public comment, you must send an email to bhabadmin@ventura.org, with the specific agenda item or topic, if a general comment, by no later than 10:00 AM on the day of the BHAB meeting. Your written public comment may also be mailed to the following address and must be received by the BHAB Assistant no later than 10 AM on the day of the meeting: *BHAB Assistant, 1911 Williams Drive, Suite 200, Oxnard, CA 93036*

Please indicate in the subject line the agenda item number (e.g., Item No. 9) on which you are commenting. Your written public comment sent via email or regular mail will be distributed to the BHAB Members and placed into the item's record of the meeting.

Or

b. Video Public Comment using Zoom

You may use the raise hand feature when the Chair invites public comments in the following ways:

If you are running an older version of Zoom, you can raise your hand by clicking on the Participant button at the bottom of the Zoom screen and then click on the raise hand feature in that participant window.

If you are running the most current version of Zoom (5.4.9 and above) you can raise your hand by clicking on the Reactions button and then clicking on raise hand feature. Your hand will appear in the upper left-hand corner of your individual Zoom window as well as the participant window.

Call-In Public Comment using Zoom If you are joining the meeting by telephone only, you can join the comment queue by pressing *9. When it is your turn to make your comment, press *6 to unmute and then again to mute yourself after speaking.

Note: Your raised hand will appear TO THE HOST in the order it was received.

Comments are taken in the order they are received in the queue/participant window. When it is your turn to make a comment, you will be asked to unmute yourself. **Public comments on agenda items can be made prior to or during consideration of agenda items and are limited to 3 minutes per speaker.** Public comment periods are limited to no more than (20) minutes total for all speakers. The assigned timekeeper will track each public comment time. When your time is up, the timekeeper will interrupt to let you know that you have reached the 3-minute maximum. At the end of the three minutes, the next person in the comment queue will be invited to speak.

REMINDER: In order to minimize distractions during public meetings, all personal communication devices should be turned off or put in a non-audible mode.

Brown Act “Just Cause” or “Member Emergency” Allowance Guidelines for Board Members:

Requirements: A local board/commission member may participate remotely without posting their physical location on the agenda if all the following requirements are met:

1. Quorum at Physical Location - At least a quorum of the members of the board/commission participates in person from a singular physical location clearly identified in the agenda.
2. Public Access - (Both Remote and In-Person) The public may access the meeting through:
 - A two-way audiovisual platform or
 - A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting
 - In-Person Public Access to the physical location.

Circumstances: One of the following circumstances applies:

1. **“Just Cause”** - The member notifies the legislative body at the earliest opportunity possible, including at the start of a regular meeting, of their need to participate remotely for just cause, including a general description of the circumstances relating to their need to appear remotely at the given meeting. The provisions of this clause shall not be used by any member of the legislative body for more than two meetings per calendar year. **or**
2. **“Emergency Circumstances”** - The member requests to participate in the meeting remotely due to emergency circumstances and the board/commission takes action to approve the request. The board/commission shall request a general description of the circumstances relating to the member’s need to appear remotely at the given meeting. A general description of an item generally need not exceed 20 words and shall not require the member to disclose any medical diagnosis or disability, or any personal medical information.

Procedures:

1. Member Request - A member shall make a request to participate remotely in a meeting pursuant to this clause as soon as possible. The members shall make a separate request for each meeting in which they seek to participate remotely.
2. Board/Commission Response - The board/commission may take action on a request to participate remotely at the earliest opportunity. If the request does not allow sufficient time to place proposed action on such a request on the posted agenda for the meeting for which the request is made, the legislative body may take action at the beginning of the meeting.
3. Disclosure - The member shall publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years of age or older are present in the room at the remote location with the member, and the general nature of the member's relationship with any such individuals.
4. BOTH Audio & Visual Participation - The members shall participate through both audio and visual technology.
5. Limits to Remote Participation - The provisions of this subdivision [of the Brown Act] shall not serve as a means for any member of a legislative body to participate in meetings of the legislative body solely by teleconference from a remote location for a period of more than three consecutive months or 20 percent of the regular meetings for the local agency within a calendar year, or more than two meetings if the legislative body regularly meets fewer than 10 times per calendar year.

DEFINITIONS:

“Emergency circumstances”: A physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.

“Just cause”: means any of the following:

1. A childcare or caregiving need (for a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner) that requires the member to participate remotely.
2. A contagious illness prevents the member from attending the meeting in person.
3. A need related to defined physical or mental disability that is not otherwise accommodated for.
4. Traveling while on official business of the Brown Act Bode or another state or local agency.
5. Just Cause is limited to two instances per calendar year.

For additional information, see pages 4+ of the Brown Act Guide: calbhbc.org/brown-act