



---

**Clark Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board  
September 11, 2020 1:00PM – Adjournment  
APPROVED MINUTES**

**The meeting will be virtual through WebEx, in accordance with Governor Sisolak’s emergency directive on public meetings to maintain government transparency and protect public safety.**

**Please use landline to call into teleconference number**

**CALL-IN NUMBER:** +1-408-418-9388 United States Toll **ACCESS CODE:** 146 571 0839

Note: Agenda items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and or removed from the agenda at the chairperson’s discretion

1. Call to order/roll call

The meeting was called to order at 1:03 p.m. Ms. Frost determined a quorum was present.

**Members present:** Char Frost, Assemblywoman Connie Munk, Captain Nita Schmidt, Dr. Lesley Dickson, Jacqueline Harris, Michelle Guerra, Dan Musgrove, Jamie Ross, Cory Whitlock

**Members absent:** Dr. Ken McKay, Todd Fasulo

**Staff and Guests Present:** Justine Perez; Sara Hunt, University of Nevada, Las Vegas; Vera Sverdlovski; Arianna Saunders; Sean O’Donnell, Foundation for Recovery; Katy Ryan, Dignity Health; Joan Waldock, Division of Public and Behavioral Health; Sara Chohagian, Patient Protection Commission

2. Public comment

Dan Ficalora introduced himself to the Board.

3. Approval of minutes – June 19, 2020 Meeting

Ms. Ross moved to approve the minutes from the June meeting. Dr. Dickson seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition. Ms. Harris and Captain Schmidt abstained.

4. Discussion on the June 19, 2020 approved telehealth bill draft request (BDR) - Decision on drafting specific bill language sponsored by Clark Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board

Ms. Chohagian presented the [Patient Protection Commission BDR](#) that deals with telehealth. The intent of the BDR is to codify certain telehealth flexibilities that were granted during the COVID-19 public health emergency including Medicaid waivers, equitable access, and service and payment parity. She explained the service parity portion clarifies that health plans must reimburse on the same basis as if services were provided in person. The payment parity section requires that payment not be less than the amounts allowed for healthcare services.

---

Ms. Frost said the Board's BDR targeted telehealth. The Patient Protection Commission's BDR addressed the topic the Board identified. Ms. Ross asked if they could tweak the language in the Board's BDR to address mental health and substance use parity. Ms. Frost said their BDR would make various changes to mental and behavioral health. She asked if the Board would like to move forward with any or all of the [policy recommendations](#) from the American Psychiatric Association in a bill regarding mental health telehealth. She added the telehealth and parity bills would be budget neutral. Mr. Musgrove suggested the impact would be on insurance carriers, not on the state. He agreed this BDR would work well with the Patient Protection Commission's bill. Ms. Frost said the parity piece could be as simple as requiring insurance companies to report their efforts to create parity. The Board determined they could advance numbers 2, 5, and 8 of the American Psychiatric Association's recommendations regarding telehealth services for mental health and an annual report from insurance carriers and Medicaid regarding how they are conforming to the Mental Health Parity and Addiction Equity Act. Ms. Guerra made a motion to move forward with a bill draft request that includes items number 2, 5, and 8. Dr. Dickson seconded the motion. Ms. Guerra amended the motion to include items 2, 4, 5, and 8 regarding telephone being on par with in-person visits and requiring insurance companies and Medicaid to report on parity annually. Dr. Dickson seconded the motion. The motion passed without abstention or opposition.

5. Vote on member vacancy – replacement for Dr. Jobin's position, for consideration Ariana Saunders and Dan Ficalora  
The seat is for a person who represents the interests of owners or administrators of residential treatment facilities, transitional housing, or other housing for persons with a mental illness or for persons who abuse alcohol or drugs. Ms. Saunders and Mr. Ficalora shared their backgrounds and reasons they would like to serve on the Board. Ms. Harris made a motion to appoint Ariana Saunders to the Board. Mr. Musgrove seconded the motion. The motion passed without opposition or abstention.
6. Board Members Announcements – Discussion and vote on to remove Board member Todd Fasulo for non-compliance  
Ms. Frost noted Mr. Fasulo was appointed to the Board by Senate Majority Leader Nicole Cannizzaro, but he has not attended any meetings. There has been confusion as to whether he was appointed to the Clark or the Southern Regional Behavioral Health Policy Board. She tabled this agenda item in order to determine which board he was appointed to.
7. Assemblywoman Connie Munk and Board Chair: Legislative Update  
Assemblywoman Munk reported that Nevadans will have the choice to vote early, by mail, or in person on election day.  
Ms. Frost stated that Assembly Bill 3 passed. It requires a law enforcement officer to intervene, regardless of the chain of command, if another officer is using deadly force. Senate Bill 2 banned chokeholds by law enforcement. Senate Bill 4 extended immunity

---

from civil liability for businesses relating to COVID, excluding K-12 public schools and hospitals. She is concerned this will limit access to patients in psychiatric hospitals at a time when they need their support systems. Ms. Ross asked if rehabilitation centers were also exempted. Ms. Frost said they were.

8. Public Comment

There was no public comment.

9. Additional Announcements

Ms. Ross said PACT Coalition partnered with Teresa Etcheberry and Clark County Social Services to hire Lauren Lee as a substance misuse project coordinator. She is available to help with projects related to substance misuse.

Ms. Frost announced Nevada PEP is holding an event—I Care, We Care Together We Can Stop Bullying. Information is available at [nvpep.org/](http://nvpep.org/).

Members determined they would like to meet again in October.

10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 3:02 p.m.