

**SOUTHERN REGIONAL BEHAVIORAL HEALTH  
POLICY BOARD MEETING AGENDA**

**DATE: Wednesday, March 12, 2025**

**TIME: 8:00 a.m.- Adjournment**

*Meeting Location: Virtual - Online Only*

This meeting held via teleconference at: Join Zoom [Meeting Login Link](#) (see full details in the notes section below). – check online and links at the bottom.

**1. Call to Order and Roll Call (Chair, Dr. Kevin Osten-Garner, and Coordinator)**

**Members**

Dr. Kevin Osten-Garner (Chair)  
Stacy Smith (Vice-Chair)  
Assemblyman Gregory Hafen II  
Missie Rowe  
Boonn Hem Chief  
Scott Lewis

Sarah Dillard  
Brenda O’Neill  
Dr. Whitney Owens  
Coleen Lawrence  
Jaren Stanton  
Lt. Harry William

**2. Public Comment**

No action may be taken upon a matter raised under the public comment period unless the matter itself has been specifically included on the agenda as an action item. To provide public comments telephonically, dial the number listed below. When prompted to provide the meeting ID, enter the number and password below. Comments will be limited to **three minutes** per person. People making comments will be asked to begin by stating their name for the record and to spell their last name and provide the secretary with written comments.

**Dial:** +1-669-900-6833

**Meeting ID:** 934 9685 6860 / **Passcode:** 664346

**3. For Information and Discussion (Chair/Board):** general board updates and announcements regarding events, information, and relevant communication and data.

**4. For Discussion and Possible Action (Chair/Board):** review and vote on approving the minutes for the February 12, 2025 meeting - <https://nvbh.org/pdf-preview?id=5454>

**5. For Discussion and Possible Action (Chair/Vice-Chair and Board):** discussion on taking action to request support from policy boards and other groups for Nonemergency Secure Behavioral Health Transport legislation.

**Southern BH Regional Policy Board: [AB31](#)** - *Provides for certain Medicaid reimbursement of providers of nonemergency secure behavioral health transport services. (BDR 38-368) - increase in Medicaid reimbursement and paying for unloaded miles - incentives for rural areas as well as an overall statewide increase for this transportation. Overview with FAQs: <https://nvbh.org/pdf-preview/?id=5463>*

- 6. For Discussion and Possible Action (Chair/Vice-Chair and Board):** discussion on taking action to support pending legislation known to affect behavioral health and related issues including letters of support, testimony, or input for the following or other legislation.
- a. **Rural Policy Board: (SB68) - Senate Committee on Commerce and Labor** - *“AN ACT relating to behavioral health; requiring licensing boards that regulate various professions relating to behavioral health to report certain information; ratifying and entering into the Social Work Licensure Compact; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.”*
  - b. **AB163 (BDR 54-129) Enters into the Counseling Compact:** *“AN ACT relating to mental health; ratifying and entering into the Counseling Compact; authorizing the sharing of certain information with the coordinated database and reporting system created by the Compact; providing licensed professional counselors practicing in this State under the Compact with the same legal status as clinical professional counselors who are licensed in this State; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.”* Assemblymember Hafen.
  - c. **Northern Policy Board (AB60): HHS** - *Revises provisions relating to certain behavioral health services. (BDR 39-434) - pertaining to youth peer support and Certified Prevention Specialists.*
  - d. **Washoe Policy Board (SB47):** *“AN ACT relating to insurance; providing for a study of certain issues relating to coverage for behavioral health care; requiring the submission of certain information for the purposes of that study; providing for the confidentiality of such information; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.”* This bill supports a study of parity by insurance plans.
  - e. **Clark Policy Board (AB75): Revises provisions governing grants made by the State. (BDR 31-433) - Assembly Committee on Government Affairs**  
*AN ACT relating to grants; declaring the policy of this State to make payments under a grant agreement within a certain period of time; imposing interest on amounts due under a written grant agreement which are not timely paid after the receipt of a proper invoice; requiring State entities that take grants to certain actions upon receipt of an invoice; authorizing use of media other than original paper documents to process grant payments; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.*
  - f. **SB165: AN ACT relating to behavioral health; providing for the licensure and regulation of behavioral health and wellness practitioners;** *authorizing the establishment of a Behavioral Health and Wellness Practitioner Advisory Group; authorizing the Board of Psychological Examiners to investigate and impose discipline on a behavioral health and wellness practitioner; prohibiting the unlicensed practice of behavioral health promotion and prevention; establishing a privilege for certain confidential communications between a patient and a behavioral health and wellness practitioner; requiring certain insurers to cover behavioral health promotion and prevention services provided by a behavioral health and wellness practitioner; providing penalties; making appropriations; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.*
  - g. **SB78: Revises provisions relating to boards commissions, councils, and similar bodies.** *May impact on the structure and oversight of mental health professionals and services.*

7. **For Discussion and Possible Action (Chair/Vice-Chair/Board):** discussion on updates and possible action to vote on recommended changes to the Non-Emergency Secure Behavioral Health Transportation Bill (AB31) and documents. *Bill will be moving to legislative committee work group and board will need to be available for questions. See also FAQs: <https://nvbh.org/pdf-preview/?id=5462>.*

8. **For Discussion and Possible Action:** Discussion and Approval of Future Agenda Items (Coordinator/Board)

- a. **Board Opening:** “representative of residential treatment facility, transitional housing or other housing program serving persons with mental illness or who abuse alcohol or drugs. Section 3, subsection 8(b) - Board appointed ([Link](#)).
- b. **Information:** Possible experts or additional input on LCB review and possible feedback related to legislative priority (BDR) on non-emergency behavioral health transportation.

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10. **For Possible Action:** Adjournment (Chair/Vice-Chair)

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## AGENDA POSTED AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

### Physical Locations:

Nevada Rural Hospital Partners: 4600 Kietzke Lane; Suite I-209, Reno, Nevada 89502, and  
Division of Public Behavioral Health: 4126 Technology Way, 2nd Floor, Carson City, Nevada 89706.

**Southern Regional Behavioral Health Website:** <https://nvbh.org/southern-behavioral-health-region/>. Please refer to the Publications and Reports Section for more information.

### Department of Health and Human Services Website:

[https://dphh.nv.gov/Boards/RBHPB/Board\\_Meetings/Meetings/](https://dphh.nv.gov/Boards/RBHPB/Board_Meetings/Meetings/) (here you can find the agendas and minutes for current meetings including an archive of previous meetings and a listing of board members)

**Nevada Public Notices:** <https://notice.nv.gov/>.

## Accommodation Requests:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/93496856860?pwd=RnUxd0xYV0dHeXpZcklwazFuNmN0Zz09&from=addon>

Meeting ID: 934 9685 6860

Passcode: 664346

One tap mobile

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+16694449171,,93496856860#,,,,\*664346# US

Dial by your location

- +1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
- +1 669 444 9171 US
- +1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)
- +1 719 359 4580 US
- +1 253 205 0468 US
- +1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
- +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
- +1 305 224 1968 US
- +1 309 205 3325 US
- +1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
- +1 360 209 5623 US
- +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Find your local number: <https://zoom.us/u/absjhTR8SJ>

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## Meeting Materials:

- This meeting is a public meeting, recorded and held in compliance with and pursuant to the Nevada Open Meeting Law, NRS 241. By participating, you consent to recording of your participation in this meeting. All voting members should leave their cameras on for the duration of the meeting and refrain from entering any information into the chat function of the video platform.
- Items may be taken out of order, combined for consideration, and/or removed from the agenda at the Chairperson's discretion. The public body may combine two or more agenda items for consideration. The public body may remove an item from the agenda or delay discussion relating to an item on the agenda at any time. The public body may place reasonable restrictions on the time, place, and manner of public comments but may not restrict comments based on viewpoint.
- We are pleased to make reasonable accommodations for members of the public who are disabled and wish to attend the meeting. If special arrangements for the meeting are necessary, please notify the contact below. Also, if you need supporting documents for this meeting, please use the following contact: Mark Funkhouser, Southern Regional Behavioral Health Coordinator; 4600 Kietzke Lane I-209, Reno, Nevada 89502, or by email at

[mark@nrhp.org](mailto:mark@nrhp.org), or by calling (775) 827-4770 ext. 107 as soon as possible.

- If at any time during the meeting an individual who has been named on the agenda or has an item specifically regarding them included on the agenda is unable to participate because of technical or other difficulties, please email Mark Funkhouser at [mark@nrhp.org](mailto:mark@nrhp.org) and note at what time the difficulty started so that matters pertaining specifically to their participation may be continued to a future agenda if needed or otherwise addressed.
- Please be cautious and do not click on links in the chat area of the meeting unless you have verified that they are safe. If you ever have questions about a link in a document purporting to be from Nevada Rural Hospital Partners, please do not hesitate to contact [mark@nrhp.org](mailto:mark@nrhp.org) for verification.