



CONTRA COSTA  
MENTAL HEALTH  
COMMISSION

1340 Arnold Drive, Suite 200  
Martinez, CA 94553

Ph (925) 313-9553

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[cchealth.org/mentalhealth/mhc](http://cchealth.org/mentalhealth/mhc)

**Mental Health Commission  
Executive Committee Meeting  
Wednesday, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2023, from 3:30 – 5:00 pm**

**Via: Zoom Teleconference:**

**<https://cchealth.zoom.us/j/5437776481>**

**Meeting number: 543 777 6481**

**Join by phone:**

**1 669 900 6833 US**

**Access code: 543 777 6481**

## AGENDA

- I. Call to Order/Introductions
- II. Public comments
- III. Commissioner comments
- IV. Chair announcements
- V. **APPROVE** minutes from the January 24, 2023, Executive Committee meeting; and minutes from the February 13, 2023 Special Executive Meeting
- VI. **DISCUSS** the end of the current State of Emergency and new remote participation rules (Assembly Bill 2449), effective March 1, 2023. How will this affect commissioners and commission meetings? Commissioners Douglas Dunn and Laura Griffin
  - **UPDATE** on the letter sent to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) requesting that the MHC be allowed to continue meeting virtually, Commissioner Laura Griffin
- VII. **UPDATES** February is African American History Month, Commissioner Leslie May
  - February 7th BOS proclaiming February 12-18, 2023 as African American Mental Health Awareness Week, February 15th as Miles Hall Day of Remembrance, and March 8th as Tyrell Wilson Day of Remembrance,
- VIII. **DISCUSS** Anna Roth's February 2023 Director's Report regarding Detention Health monitoring survey conducted January 30-February 2, 2023 Detention Health Audit, Commissioner Laura Griffin



The Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to advise them on all matters related to the county's mental health system, in accordance with mandates set forth in the California State Welfare & Institutions Code, Sections 5604 (a)(1)-5605.5. Any comments or recommendations made by the Mental Health Commission or its individual members do not represent the official position of the county or any of its officers. The Commission is pleased to make special accommodations, if needed, please call ahead at (925) 313-9553 to arrange.

- IX. DISCUSS next steps re: data collection for mental health diagnoses in the CCC Jail Population, Commissioner Barbara Serwin**
- X. DISCUSS BHS 2023-2024 Budget, Commissioner Barbara Serwin**
- BHS budget priorities
  - MHC budget concerns and priorities
  - Next steps
- XI. UPDATE on Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure (BHCIP) Round 5. What did County Behavioral Health file for? Dr. Suzanne Tavano**
- XII. UPDATE on new commissioners, committee assignments and meeting schedule, Angela Beck, MHC Executive Assistant**
- XIII. DETERMINE March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 MHC meeting agenda:**
- **CHAIR ANNOUNCEMENTS**
    - Meeting Ground Rules: No interruptions; Limit two (2) minutes; Stay on Topic; Introduction of new meeting “timer” (on screen countdown)
    - Welcome Commissioner: Skylar Cribbs
    - REVIEW/DISCUSS New remote teleconferencing rules starting March 1, 2023
    - RECEIVE Presentation: Contra Costa County Office of Education Wellness in School Program (WISP) Presentation – Ade Gobir, MS. Manager, WISP
    - RECEIVE Presentation – Innovation Project Proposal: Grants for Community Defined Practices, Jennifer Bruggeman LMFT, Program Manager, Mental Health Services Act (MHSA)
    - RECEIVE Presentation A3/Crisis Intervention – Chad Pierce, PsyD, CCBHS Chief of Behavioral Health Crisis Services (A<sup>3</sup>)
    - DISCUSS Possible use of data collection of Mental Health Diagnoses and Substance Abuse from the Detention Centers and updates on ideas for Pro-Bono attorneys to represent the MHC to access this data and work with the County Council and BHS to avoid a conflict of interest between BHS and the MHC
    - UPDATE Anna Roth’s February 2023 Director’s Report - Detention Health monitoring survey conducted January 30-February 2, 2023; Detention Health Audit
    - UPDATE on 2023 MHC Site Visits
    - UPDATE on initial tasks for the K-12 project
      - DISCUSS the need for establishing an Ad hoc committee for the K-12 project
    - UPDATE 2023-2024 MHC Budget Priorities
    - RECEIVE Behavioral Health Services Director's report, Dr. Suzanne Tavano
      - Update on Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP)
      - 2023-2024 BHS Budget Priorities and Expenditures
- XIV. Adjourn**
- ATTACHMENTS:**
- A. Teleconferencing Options, Ofc of the County Counsel Summary dated 02/01/2023
  - B. CALBHBC Remote Requirements & Allowances 02.14.2023
  - C. Letter to the Board of Supervisors regarding new teleconference rules
  - D. Measure X-fund Review Panel letter from Julie Enea
  - E. Anna Roth’s February 2023 Director’s Report (see para 3-4)

**Office of the County Counsel**  
1025 Escobar Street, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Martinez, CA 94553

Contra Costa County  
Phone: (925) 655-2200  
Fax: (925) 655-2263

*Date:* February 1, 2023

*To:* Board of Supervisors

*From:* Thomas L. Geiger, Chief Assistant County Counsel 

*Re:* **Teleconferencing Options Under the Brown Act for Members of County Boards, Commissions, and Committees**

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### SUMMARY

Members of the Board of Supervisors may continue attending meetings remotely until the current statewide state of emergency ends on February 28, 2023. Once the state of emergency ends, Board members may participate in meetings remotely under new Brown Act teleconferencing rules that allow Board members to attend remotely for limited reasons and a limited number of times per year. Specifically, these new rules allow individual members of the Board to participate in Board meetings by teleconference for “just cause” reasons or due to “emergency circumstances” when certain legal requirements are met. Board members may also participate in meetings remotely under the traditional Brown Act teleconference option. This option allows individual Board members to participate in meetings by teleconference if the location from where they are participating is listed on the agenda and other legal requirements are met.

In addition to applying to the Board of Supervisors, the new teleconferencing rules and the traditional teleconferencing option apply to all County boards, commissions, and committees that are subject to the Brown Act. These County boards, commissions, and committees are considered “legislative bodies” under the Brown Act and include, in addition to the Board of Supervisors: (1) committees created by statute; (2) committees created by formal action of the Board of Supervisors, whether composed of lay persons or a combination of lay persons and Board members; (3) standing committees, composed solely of members of the Board, that have a continuing subject matter jurisdiction (for example, the Board’s Internal Operations committee); and (4) standing committees created by a Board-appointed committee and composed solely of members of that body (for example, a subcommittee of the Mental Health Commission). Once the state of emergency ends on February 28, all members of County legislative bodies will be required to meet in person unless they attend remotely under the new or traditional Brown Act teleconferencing rules.

The Board of Supervisors previously directed that meetings of County legislative bodies provide for remote attendance by the public. These “hybrid” meetings, which allow in-person and remote attendance, may continue unless the Board of Supervisors directs otherwise, but as discussed below, some form of remote public participation must be in place for members of legislative bodies to use the new “just cause” or “emergency circumstances” options.

## **TELECONFERENCING OPTIONS AVAILABLE TO ALL COUNTY BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

### **1. Teleconferencing Is Allowed Under the Brown Act for “Just Cause” Reasons or Under “Emergency Circumstances”**

Assembly Bill 2449 amended the Brown Act (Government Code sections 54950-54963) to provide an alternative to the traditional Brown Act teleconferencing rules. Specifically, AB 2449 amended Government Code section 54953 to permit individual members of a County legislative body to participate in meetings by teleconference for “just cause” or due to “emergency circumstances” when certain legal requirements are met. (Gov. Code, § 53953(f).)

**Teleconference Participation for Just Cause.** If a member of a County legislative body wishes to attend a meeting remotely for “just cause,” the member must notify the County legislative body at the earliest opportunity, up to and including the start of a regular meeting, of the need to participate remotely. The member must provide a general description of one of the following “just cause” circumstances:

- There is a childcare or caregiving need for a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner.
- A contagious illness that prevents the member from attending in person.
- A need related to a physical or mental disability that is not otherwise accommodated for.
- Travel while on official business of the County legislative body or another state or local agency.

**Teleconference Participation for Emergency Circumstances.** If a member of a County legislative body wishes to attend a meeting remotely due to “emergency circumstances,” the member must provide a general description of the need to appear remotely, which need not exceed 20 words or include any personal medical information. The member must make the request to participate remotely as soon as possible. “Emergency circumstances” means a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.

**Legislative Body Action Requirements.** The County legislative body need not take action to allow a member to attend remotely for “just cause.” To allow a member to attend remotely for “emergency circumstances,” the County legislative body must take action on the request at the meeting. If there is insufficient time to include the item on a posted agenda, the County legislative body may take action on the request at the beginning of the meeting. Approval for the member to participate remotely based on the “emergency circumstances” exception must be by majority vote. The member requesting the remote appearance may not vote on the request or be counted as part of the quorum until the legislative body approved the “emergency circumstances” exception.

**Participation Requirements.** A member appearing by teleconference under one of the AB 2449 options must participate in the meeting through both audio and visual technology.

**Disclosure Requirements.** A member appearing by teleconference under an AB 2449 option must publicly disclose at the meeting whether any other individuals 18 years or older are in the room at the remote location with the member and must publicly disclose the general nature

of the member's relationship with these individuals. This disclosure must occur before any action is taken.

**Quorum Required.** If a teleconference meeting is conducted with a member participating under an AB 2449 option, at least a quorum of the County legislative body must participate in person, and the quorum must meet in a single, physical location identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the County.

**Limitations on Number of Remote Appearances.** A member may not use a "just cause" reason to appear remotely for more than two meetings per calendar year. In total, a member may not participate remotely under an AB 2449 option for more than three consecutive months or 20 percent of the regular meetings of the County legislative body within the calendar year, or for more than two meetings if the body regularly meets less than 10 times per year.

**Roll Call.** All votes taken during a teleconference meeting conducted under this option must be by roll call.

**Technological and Access Requirements.** If a member participates remotely under an AB 2449 option, the County legislative body must also provide either a two-way audiovisual platform, or a two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting, so that the public may remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and remotely address the legislative body.

The body must provide notice and post agendas as otherwise required under the Brown Act and must indicate on the notice how the public may access the meeting and offer comment. The agenda must include an opportunity for all persons to attend and address the legislative body via a call-in option, via an internet-based service option, and at the in-person location of the meeting.

If the broadcasting of the meeting to the public by phone or internet service is disrupted, or a disruption within the local agency's control prevents members of the public from commenting using the phone or internet service, the legislative body may not take any action at the meeting until public access to the meeting via the phone option or the internet service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the legislative body from broadcasting the meeting may be subject to legal challenge.

When a member appears remotely for a just cause or emergency circumstances reason, the Brown Act does not require that the agency post an agenda at the remote location, include the address of the remote location, or provide for public access to the remote location.

The body may not require public comments to be submitted in advance of the meeting and must allow the public to address the body and comment in real time.

An individual may be required to register for public comment before being allowed to provide comment, where the body uses a third-party platform (like Zoom) for the meeting.

The Brown Act rules allowing "just cause" or "emergency circumstances" participation remain in effect through 2025. Beginning January 1, 2026, only the traditional Brown Act teleconference rules will be available (unless further legislation is adopted in the meantime).

## **2. Teleconferencing Under Traditional Brown Act Rules**

Members of County legislative bodies also may continue to participate remotely under the traditional Brown Act teleconferencing rules in Government Code section 54953(b). Under these rules:

- At least a quorum of the legislative body must participate from locations in the County.
- Each telephone conference location and the meeting location must be shown on the agenda for the meeting. In addition, the agenda must provide an opportunity for members of the public to give public comment from each teleconference location.
- In addition to the usual agenda-posting agenda locations and the County website, an agenda must be posted at each teleconference location at least 96 hours in advance of the meeting under the County's Better Government Ordinance, or at least 24 in advance for a special meeting.
- Each teleconference location must be open and accessible to members of the public.
- All votes taken during a teleconference meeting must be by roll call.

TLG:

## Teleconference Meeting Participation Options

	AB 361- State of Emergency Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, §54953(e).)	AB 2449 Just Cause/Emergency Circumstances Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(f); becomes (e) on 1/1/24.)	Traditional Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(b).)
<b>Applicable Timeframe</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Available until the state of emergency ends, currently scheduled for February 28, 2023. In no event may the AB 361 rules continue past December 31, 2023.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Available beginning <u>January 1, 2023</u>, and ending <u>December 31, 2025</u>.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Available anytime.</li> </ul>
<b>Who May Appear Remotely and Quorum Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Any or all board members.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Individual board members if:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) a quorum of the members participates in person; and</li> <li>(2) the quorum meets in a single, physical location clearly identified on the agenda that is open to the public and situated within the agency’s jurisdiction.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Individual board members, if at least a quorum of the members of the body participate from locations within the jurisdictional boundaries of the body.</li> </ul>
<b>Bases for Remote Appearance</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must be a proclaimed state of emergency; and either:                             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) State or local officials have imposed or recommended measures to promote social distancing;</li> <li>(2) The body is holding a meeting to determine if meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees; or</li> <li>(3) The body finds that meeting in person would present imminent risks to the health or safety of attendees.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A member may appear remotely for “Just Cause” or “Emergency Circumstances”:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>“Just cause”</b> is any of the following:                                     <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) A need to care for a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner;</li> <li>(2) A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person;</li> <li>(3) A need related to a physical or mental disability that is not otherwise accommodated for; or</li> <li>(4) Travel while on official business of the body or another state or local agency.</li> </ol> </li> <li>▶ <b>“Emergency circumstances”</b> is a physical or family medical emergency that prevents a member from attending in person.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Applies when a board member is unable to attend in person.</li> </ul>

## Teleconference Meeting Participation Options

	AB 361- State of Emergency Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, §54953(e).)	AB 2449 Just Cause/Emergency Circumstances Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(f); becomes (e) on 1/1/24.)	Traditional Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(b).)
<p><b>Notification and Approval Requirements</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The body must reconsider the circumstances of the state of emergency every 30 days and find that the emergency continues to exist and either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) it continues to directly impact the ability of officials and members of the public to meet safely in person; or</li> <li>(2) state or local officials continue to impose or recommend measures to promote social distancing.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ To attend remotely for:               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▶ <b>“Just Cause”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The member must notify the body at the earliest possible opportunity, including at the start of a regular meeting, of the need to participate remotely.</li> <li>▪ The member must provide a general description of the circumstances necessitating the remote appearance.</li> <li>▪ The body need not take action in response.</li> </ul> </li> <li>▶ <b>“Emergency Circumstances”</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The member’s request to appear remotely must include a general description of the need to appear remotely, which need not exceed 20 words, and need not include any personal medical information.</li> <li>▪ The member must make the request to participate remotely as soon as possible and must make a separate request for each meeting.</li> <li>▪ The body must take action on the request at a public meeting.</li> <li>▪ If there is insufficient time to include the item on a posted agenda, the body may take action at the beginning of the meeting.</li> <li>▪ Approval must be by majority vote.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> </li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ No additional requirements.</li> </ul>



## Teleconference Meeting Participation Options

	<b>AB 361- State of Emergency Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, §54953(e).)</b>	<b>AB 2449 Just Cause/Emergency Circumstances Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(f); becomes (e) on 1/1/24.)</b>	<b>Traditional Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(b).)</b>
<b>Agenda and Public Access and Comment Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The notice and agenda are required to state the means by which the public may access the meeting and provide public comment.</li> <li>▪ The agenda does not need to be posted at each teleconference location or identify each teleconference location.</li> <li>▪ The body is not required to provide a physical location from which the public may attend or comment.</li> <li>▪ The body may not require public comments to be submitted in advance and must allow the public to address the body and comment in real time.</li> <li>▪ An individual may be required to register for public comment before being allowed to comment, where the body uses a third-party platform (like Zoom) for the meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Must provide notice and post agendas as otherwise required under the Brown Act and must indicate on the notice how the public may access the meeting and offer comment.</li> <li>▪ The agenda must include an opportunity for all persons to attend and address the body via a call-in option, an internet-based service option, and at the in-person location.</li> <li>▪ The law does not require that the agency post an agenda at the remote location, include the address of the remote location, or provide for public access to the remote location.</li> <li>▪ The body may not require public comments to be submitted in advance and must allow the public to address the body and comment in real time.</li> <li>▪ An individual may be required to register for public comment before being allowed to comment, where the body uses a third-party platform (like Zoom) for the meeting.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The teleconference location must be open to the public.</li> <li>▪ The agenda must be posted at all meeting locations, including the teleconference location.</li> <li>▪ The agenda must identify all meeting locations, including the teleconference location.</li> <li>▪ The agenda must provide for public comment at all meeting locations, including the teleconference location.</li> </ul>
<b>Voting Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members must vote by roll call.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members must vote by roll call.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members must vote by roll call.</li> </ul>

## Teleconference Meeting Participation Options

	AB 361- State of Emergency Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, §54953(e).)	AB 2449 Just Cause/Emergency Circumstances Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(f); becomes (e) on 1/1/24.)	Traditional Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(b).)
<b>Technological Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Members of the public must be able to attend via a call-in option or an internet-based service option.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The public must be able to remotely hear and visually observe the meeting, and remotely address the body. Thus, the body must provide either:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) a two-way audiovisual platform; or</li> <li>(2) a two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting.</li> </ol> </li> </ul>	
<b>Other Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If the broadcasting of the meeting to the public by phone or internet service is disrupted, or a disruption within the local agency’s control prevents members of the public from commenting using the phone or internet service, the body shall not take any action at the meeting, until public access to the meeting via the phone option or the internet service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption that prevents the body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ If a member participates remotely, the member must also:               <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(1) Publicly disclose at the meeting before any action is taken, whether any other individuals 18 years or older are in the room at the remote location with the member and the general nature of the member’s relationship with such individuals; and</li> <li>(2) Participate through both audio and visual technology.</li> </ol> </li> <li>▪ If the broadcasting of the meeting to the public by phone or internet service is disrupted, or a disruption within the local agency’s control prevents members of the public from commenting using the phone or internet service, the body shall not take any action at the meeting, until public access to the meeting via the phone option or the internet service option is restored. Actions taken on agenda items during a disruption</li> </ul>	

## Teleconference Meeting Participation Options

	AB 361- State of Emergency Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, §54953(e).)	AB 2449 Just Cause/Emergency Circumstances Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(f); becomes (e) on 1/1/24.)	Traditional Teleconferencing (Gov. Code, § 54953(b).)
		<p>that prevents the body from broadcasting the meeting may be challenged pursuant to Section 54960.1.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The body must have and implement a procedure for receiving and quickly resolving reasonable accommodation requests for individuals with disabilities. Any doubt should be resolved in favor of accessibility.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Limitations on Frequency of Remote Appearances</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ A member may participate remotely for “just cause” no more than two times per calendar year.</li> <li>▪ A member may not participate remotely for more than three consecutive months or 20 percent of the regular meetings for the local agency within the calendar year, or more than two meetings if the body regularly meets less than 10 times per year.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ None.</li> </ul>



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February 13, 2023

Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors  
Supervisor John Gioia, Chair  
651 Pine Street, #106  
Martinez, California 94533

SUBJECT: Request to be excused re: In-person Meeting mandate starting March 1, 2023

Dear Supervisor Gioia and Supervisors:

Please consider allowing the Contra Costa Mental Health Commission to be excused from the new teleconferencing rules enacted due to the state of emergency ending on February 28, 2023.

The Mental Health Commission is an all-volunteer commission, a majority of whom are made up of senior citizens and who are concerned about the possibility of being exposed to Covid strains while confined in small meeting spaces. Several of the commissioners have contracted COVID-19 despite being fully vaccinated with the latest bivalent vaccines, some of which have contracted several times. In addition, several commissioners also have major health conditions which makes them very concerned about and the need to drive back and forth to meetings, sometimes in the dark with major health conditions. Just as important, our young commissioners, who we are so lucky to have, will have great difficulty getting to in-person meetings with job obligations and childcare issues.

Also, during the past three years of meeting virtually, participation and engagement by commissioners and members of the public has been at an all-time high. Additionally, when meeting in person prior to covid, meetings were frequently cancelled at the last minute due to lack of quorum, which caused great inconvenience to the people who did show up and slowed down the work of the commission. Since meeting via Zoom, that has not been the case and no meetings have been cancelled due to lack of Quorum.

Additionally, with the recession and the price of gasoline at an all time high and no mileage reimbursement, this is another hardship and should be taken into consideration.



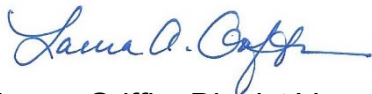
The Contra Costa County Mental Health Commission is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to advise them on all matters related to the county's mental health system, in accordance with mandates set forth in the California State Welfare & Institutions Code, Sections 5604 (a)(1)-5605.5. Any comments or recommendations made by the Mental Health Commission or its individual members do not represent the official position of the county or any of its officers. The Commission is pleased to make special accommodations, if needed, please call ahead at (925) 313-9553 to arrange.

We currently do not have a meeting room with adequate meeting space available to safely conduct hybrid meetings. We also need a room that will meet NEC meeting room requirements - not to exceed the maximum room occupancy - and a room that meets ADA compliance guidelines for at least 15 persons.

We are also concerned that we will lose a good part of our commission because of these new rules. Several commissioners have already notified me that they will not be able to continue serving on the commission as of March 1.

We respectfully ask, for the reasons I mentioned above, that the Board of Supervisors consider allowing the Mental Health Commission to continue meeting virtually so that we can continue advocating and supporting mental health for the constituents in our county.

Sincerely,



Laura Griffin, District V  
Chair, Contra Costa Mental Health Commission



Douglas Dunn, MBA, District III  
Vice-Chair, Contra Costa Mental Health Commission

## [EXTERNAL] Important Notes: Remote Requirements & Allowances (Suggested Agenda Text) for local Boards/Commissions

CAL BHBC <cal@calbhbc.com>

Tue 2/14/2023 1:48 PM

To: Angela Beck <Angela.Beck@cchealth.org>

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### **This Message Is From an External Sender**

This message came from outside your organization.

Since Brown Act public emergency allowances related to COVID-19 end in California on February 28th, teleconferencing allowances (related to posting members' physical locations on agendas) also end.

Please note the following requirements and allowances.

### **I. Teleconference Requirements** (when there are no public emergency or other allowances)

1. Agendas must be posted at all teleconference physical locations
2. Each teleconference location must be listed on the meeting notice and agenda
3. Each teleconference location must be accessible to the public, allowing for public comment.
4. Quorum within county: At least a quorum of the members must participate from locations within the county (or jurisdiction)
5. Votes by Roll Call: All votes must be by roll call
6. Allowances have additional requirements (see below)

### **II. Allowances related to "Just Cause" or "Member Emergency"**

*Suggested Agenda & Agenda Addendum Text:*

At the beginning of the agenda:

[ Name of Board/Commission ] 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.)

At the end of the agenda:

Brown Act "Just Cause" or "Member Emergency" Allowance Guidelines:

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

1. Quorum at Physical Location - At least a quorum of the members of the board/commission participate 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:
  - o A two-way audiovisual platform or
  - o A two-way telephonic service and a live webcasting of the meeting
  - o 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 at a meeting pursuant to this clause as soon as possible. The member 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 member 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 of a child, parent, grandparent, grandchild, sibling, spouse, or domestic partner that requires them to participate remotely.
2. A contagious illness that prevents a member from attending in person.
3. A need related to a physical or mental disability.
4. Travel while on official business of the legislative body or another state or local agency.

For additional information, see pages 4+ of the Brown Act Guide: [calbhbc.org/brown-act](http://calbhbc.org/brown-act)  
[\[calbhbc.org\]](http://calbhbc.org)

## [EXTERNAL] For Consideration of the Mental Health Commission - Time Sensitive Request

Julie Enea <Julie.Enea@cao.cccounty.us>

Mon 1/30/2023 3:26 PM

To: Laura Griffin <nynylag@att.net>;Angela Beck <Angela.Beck@cchealth.org>

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### This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.

Hi Laura and Angela,

I am writing to request your Advisory Body's assistance in the assemblage of a panel of individuals ("Review Panel") whose purpose will be to review, evaluate and rank proposals submitted for the County's Measure X-funded Innovation Fund grant program. A more detailed report on Measure X and the Innovation Fund can be found at this [link \[gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com\]](https://gcc02.safelinks.protection.outlook.com). Briefly, the Board of Supervisors, last October 18, set the policies and parameters of the Innovation Fund, a one-time allocation of \$2M to seed innovative public service programs. The Innovation Fund was among the many recommendations of the Measure X Community Adv Board on how to spend Measure X sales tax proceeds.

The County Administrator initiated Phase I of the Innovation Fund process with the November 1, 2022 issuance of a request for Statements of Qualifications (SoQs) and Concept Papers. The County received 14 applications from eligible organizations. The proposals generally fall into the following service areas:

- 3 relating to mental health/substance abuse and living skills counseling and substance abuse treatment;
- 4 relating to hubs/connections to myriad public services, e.g., financial literacy, legal, education, career development, family resources, health and social services;
- 3 relating to access to healthy food;
- 1 relating to transitional housing development;
- 1 relating to job training and readiness;
- 1 relating to closing the digital divide; and
- 1 relating to small business support and development.

The role of the Review Panel will be to review the eligible proposals, receive presentations on each of the proposals, and make recommendations to the County Administrator for Phase 1 planning grants of \$5,000, the purpose of which are to fund the preparation of comprehensive grant applications for up to \$1.95M in Innovation Funds that will be considered in Phase 2. The Review Panel will also evaluate the comprehensive Phase 2 grant applications and make recommendations to the County Administrator on award of Innovation Funds. It is anticipated that serving on the Review Panel will require approximately 12-24 hours to review Phase 1 and Phase 2 applications and approximately 12 hours of interview time between both phases, so approximately a 24-36 hour time commitment over the two phases. Phase 1 work would likely occur in late February and Phase 2 evaluations would likely occur in June.

The Review Panel will be composed of 7 individuals, up to 3 of whom will be selected from nominations made by selected Board advisory bodies. The County Administrator's Office will make final selections of panelists from the pool of nominees according to the representation needs of the panel.

We ask that your body meet and vote to nominate up to 2 individuals for consideration by the County Administrator. To be eligible for selection, panelists will need to meet the criteria below:

- Be knowledgeable in one or more of the service areas described above, preferably with "lived experience".
- Be able to commit the necessary time and energy, as described above, to the evaluation process
- Have neither affiliation nor conflict of interest regarding any of the proposers (this will be determined during the final selection)
- Be willing to maintain strict confidentiality throughout the entire process until recommendations are made public by the County Administrator

To be considered, nominations should be submitted to the attention of Julie Enea, Senior Deputy County Administrator, [Julie.ene@cao.cccounty.us](mailto:Julie.ene@cao.cccounty.us), along with a copy of meeting minutes documenting the nominations, **no later than February 24, 2023**. Please provide a brief explanation of how your nominee(s) meet the criteria for the panel.

*Julie DiMaggio Enea*

**Senior Deputy County Administrator  
Contra Costa County Administrator's Office  
(925) 655-2056**



## February Director's Message

Anna Roth <anna.roth+cchealth.org@ccsend.com>

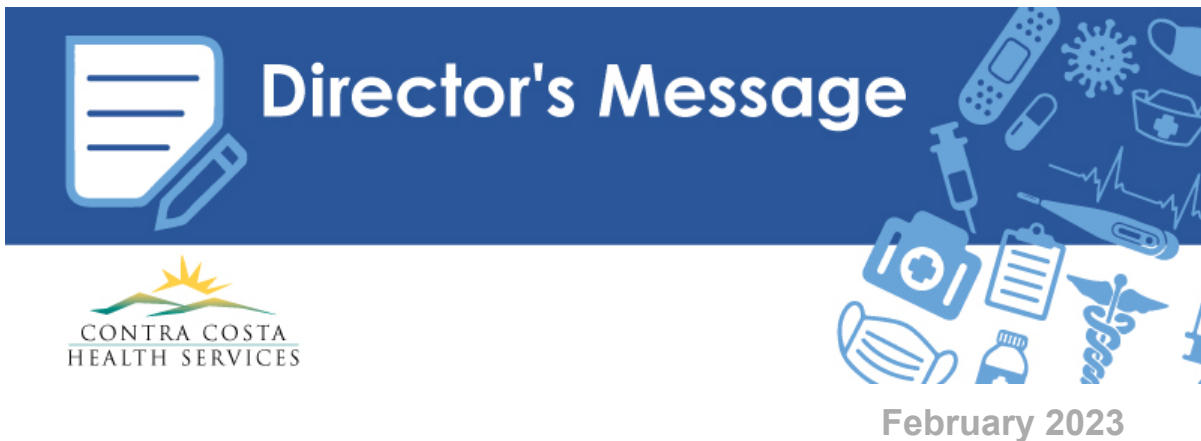
Tue 2/14/2023 4:31 PM

To: Angela Beck <Angela.Beck@cchealth.org>

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### This Message Is From an External Sender

This message came from outside your organization.



Colleagues:

One of the great joys of my job as CEO of Contra Costa Health is telling people about the great work we do, and I'm thrilled to share some positive news.

Thanks to the hard work, dedication and technical skill of many of our staff, Detention Health, Contra Costa Regional Medical Center, Behavioral Health, and Contra Costa Health Plan have earned high praise in recent weeks from regulators and accreditors conducting comprehensive audits of our services.



Most recently, staff in Detention Health underwent a mental health monitoring survey from Jan. 30 - Feb. 2. Surveyors looked at established metrics to ensure people who are incarcerated get the same level of quality care as anyone in our communities.

Detention Health staff are also preparing for a medical health audit in April. I'm grateful to our amazing staff who work daily to ensure we're meeting survey metrics every single day.

Their efforts ensure that people in detention are getting proper care and have healthier outcomes while incarcerated.

After a rigorous, unannounced on-site review during the week of Jan, 23 Contra Costa Regional Medical Center and our Health Centers & Clinics received a gold seal of approval from [The Joint Commission \[r20.rs6.net\]](#), showing our strong commitment to health, safety and wellness, and to advancing equity in all we do.

During the five-day review, seven surveyors visited 10 health centers, two school-based clinics, and a dental clinic. They looked at our practices and evaluated our performance, making sure we met hundreds of quality and safety measures. CCH not only performed better than most organizations, but also better than we did during our 2019 review.

Just the week before, our Behavioral Health division underwent an annual external quality review, required for all county mental health plans by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services.

More than 90 staff members and contracting providers participated in the 2-day event, and we earned high praise for our preparation and participation.

Contra Costa Health Plan, meanwhile, is now completing its accreditation process with the National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA), which last year recognized CCHP as [among the best Medi-Cal HMOs in California for patient experience and quality of care \[r20.rs6.net\]](#).

During a recent survey, the surveyors were really impressed – they identified dedicated and knowledgeable staff, staying power in the community, clinical documentation and our integrated delivery system among CCHP's strengths.

As a nurse, I know it's difficult to accommodate this kind of review while continuing to provide care and service to community members. All of these were truly team efforts, and I am proud of how consistently the inclusive, collaborative culture and compassion of our staff shone through in each case.

I want to leave you with a few of comments from the Joint Commission survey team:

***“You have very committed staff that exemplifies your work in diversity, equity, inclusion and accessibility.”***

***“There are publishable practices happening here, and I will carry what I saw forever.”***

***“Every organization is required to do what you're already doing. You ought to teach the country what you're doing here.”***

Thank you for your efforts to make these efforts a success. Congratulations to everyone involved.

With deep appreciation,

Anna Roth  
CEO, Contra Costa Health

## Appointment Scheduling Now Available For Immunization Clinics



People can now schedule appointments at our weekly [Immunization-Only Clinics \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) by going online to [vax.cchealth.org \[r20.rs6.net\]](#) or by calling 925-605-5350.



These clinics offer all routine vaccines, including school-required shots, as well as vaccines for COVID and Mpox.

The immunization clinics primarily serve the uninsured and patients with Medi-Cal or CCHP. People with private insurance should see their regular provider.

The clinics previously were drop-in only. Drop-ins are still welcome, although priority is given to people with appointments, so scheduling is encouraged.



Every February, Black History Month is a time Contra Costa Health honors and celebrates Black individuals' accomplishments and contributions throughout history.

It's also a time we recognize the health challenges and inequities that Black people in our communities still face today. That is why CCH is committed to prioritizing diversity, equity and inclusion in all aspects of our work year-round.

We are proud to continue this work while celebrating Black History Month. Here are some events taking place across CCH and our communities this month:

**Noon Conference Room Presents: Black History Month**

Feb. 21 from 12-1 p.m.

CCRMC's Noon Conference Room

Lunch will be provided

**COVID-19 Youth and Young Adult Ambassadors Present: Celebrating Black History Month**

Feb. 25 from 9:30-11:30 a.m.

A free event for youth ages 15-24

[Reserve a Spot \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://r20.rs6.net)

**Black Joy Parade, Presented by Black Infant Health**

Feb. 26 at 12:30 p.m.

A free, family-friendly event in Oakland featuring a parade and festival to celebrate the Black experience past, present and future

[Learn more \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://r20.rs6.net)



Thank you to the incredible volunteers who participated in our annual Point-in-Time Count on Jan. 25. Nearly 200 CCH staff, partners and community members canvassed neighborhoods throughout the county to provide a one-day snapshot of unsheltered Contra Costans.

Volunteers began the day at 5:30 a.m. at different sites throughout the county where they split into teams to walk or drive around their designated areas. This year's count was observational, which means volunteers digitally documented people they saw living outdoors, in cars, or other places not meant for human habitation.

Led by CCH's Health, Housing and Homeless (H3) Team and Contra Costa County's Continuum of Care, the PIT Count is an important tool for understanding the needs of people experiencing homelessness in our county.

After the initial count is finished, the H3 team enters a second phase where they interview people living in shelters.

It takes time to process and analyze the information gathered, so we won't know how this year's count compares to previous years for a few months.

Thank you again to our volunteers who help make this important day happen.



**CELEBRATING 2023 BLACK HISTORY MONTH**

 **Wednesday, Feb. 15th & 22th | 12:10p.m. – 12:30p.m.**  
**#HipHopTurnUp: Find Your Groove** livestream class w/ The Wonders  
Music: Afro Beats – R&B

 [CCHSWellness@cchealth.org](mailto:CCHSWellness@cchealth.org)  

CCH's Wellness Team has three exciting events during Black History Month. They're free and open to all.

**Black Stories Matter: The power and tradition of storytelling in the Black/AA community as a tool to promote mental wellbeing and resilience**

**SPEAKER:** Angela Towler, MSW, LCSW

[Watch online \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://www.r20.rs6.net)

**#HipHopTurnUp: Find Your Groove – Livestream Class with the Wonders**

**WHEN:** Feb. 15 & Feb. 22 from 12:10 p.m. – 12:30 p.m.

**WHAT:** Low intensity movement, HIIT exercises, light weights. Music: Afro Beats/R&B

**WHERE:** [On Zoom \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://www.r20.rs6.net) (Passcode: wellness)

For more information, visit [cchealth.org/wellness \[r20.rs6.net\]](https://www.cchealth.org/wellness) or email [CCHSWellness@cchealth.org](mailto:CCHSWellness@cchealth.org).



Congratulations to all the Contra Costa Health employees celebrating milestone anniversaries this month. You are an essential part of the work we do.

Thank you for investing in the health and wellness of our communities.

### February Milestones [r20.rs6.net]



[\[r20.rs6.net\]](#)



[\[r20.rs6.net\]](#)



[\[r20.rs6.net\]](#)

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