



Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder

Meeting Minutes

May 21, 2025

9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams

Members

Jay Reeve, PhD
Chairperson

Representative Christine
Hunschofsky, Co-Chair
Speaker of the House Appointee

Senator Darryl Rouson
President of the Senate Appointee

Clara Reynolds, LCSW, MBA
Governor Appointee

Ann Berner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Sheriff William Prummell
Governor Appointee

Kathleen Moore, PhD
President of the Senate Appointee

Kelly Gray-Eurom, MD
Governor Appointee

Larry Rein
Governor Appointee

Judge Mark Mahon
Governor Appointee

Melissa Larkin-Skinner
Speaker of the House Appointee

Lee Fox
President of the Senate Appointee

Secretary Taylor Hatch
Department of Children and
Families

Secretary Shevaun L. Harris
Agency for Health Care
Administration

Richard Duggan
President of the Senate

Richard Weisberg, CRPS
President of the Senate
Appointee

Welcome/Call to Order:

Jay Reeve, Commission Chair, opened the Commission on Mental Health and Substance Use Disorder (Commission) meeting. Chair Reeve requested that DCF Staff Liaison Aaron Platt take roll.

The following members or designees were in attendance:

Jay Reeve, PhD, Chairperson (Governor Appointee: Apalachee Center)
Representative Christine Hunschofsky (Speaker of the House Appointee)
Senator Darryl Rouson (President of the Senate Appointee)
Clara Reynolds, LCSW, MBA (Governor Appointee: Crisis Center of Tampa Bay)
Ann Berner (Speaker of the House Appointee: Southeast Florida Behavioral Health Network, Inc.)
Sheriff William Prummell (Governor Appointee: Charlotte County Sheriff's Office)
Kathleen Moore, PhD (President of the Senate Appointee: University of South Florida)
Larry Rein (Governor Appointee: ChildNet)
Chief Judge Mark Mahon (Governor Appointee: Fourth Circuit Court)
Melissa Larkin-Skinner (Speaker of the House Appointee: Community Assisted & Supported Living, Inc.)
Lee Fox (President of the Senate Appointee: All Points North)
Taylor Hatch (Secretary, Department of Children and Families)
Richard Duggan (President of the Senate Appointee: Collier County Public Schools)
Richard Weisberg, CRPS (President of the Senate Appointee: Weisberg Wealth Management)

Review and Approval of the March 12, 2025 Meeting Minutes:

A motion was entered to approve the March 12, 2025 minutes. The motion was carried. The minutes were approved with no opposition.

Opening Remarks-Legislative and Commission Updates:

Chair Reeve provided opening remarks, informing Commissioners the July 16, 2025 full commission meeting is being moved to July 23, 2025 from 9:00am – 1:00pm est. Chair Reeve thanked all Commissioners for focusing on improving access and quality of care for mental health and substance use disorders in the state of Florida, and for the Commissioner's ability to transform discussions into recommendations, and recommendations into Legislation. Senate Bill 1620 (the Commission Bill) passed through the Legislature and awaits the Governor's signature. Chair Reeve thanked Senator Rouson and Representative Hunschofsky for their support of the bill.

Senator Rouson thanked Representative Hunschofsky and the overall Commission for the work involved with pushing Senate Bill 1620 through the Legislature. The bill addresses ten to thirteen of the Commission's recommendations. Senator Rouson encouraged the Commission to continue to build upon current successes.



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Representative Hunschofsky thanked Senator Rouson, Chair Reeve and all the Commissioners for being a working commission and for their work on Senate Bill 1620. Representative Hunschofsky shared that the bill is completely and solely comprised of recommendations from the Commission. Representative Hunschofsky acknowledged the support of Legislative leadership and their staff in navigating the bill through the process. She suggests the Commission revisit all the legislation that has resulted from the Commission over the years to ensure implementation is occurring according to its original intent.

Commissioner Sheriff Prummell provided a brief update on Senate Bill 168, the Tristan Murphy Act. Several provisions within the Tristan Murphy Act resulted from recommendations from the Commission's former Criminal Justice Subcommittee. Senate Bill 168 provides courts with more treatment options when dealing with someone suffering from a mental illness or substance use disorder who have committed low-level felonies or misdemeanors by saving the competency restoration process for only those with serious felonies.

Chair Reeve shared that Senate Bill 168 includes the Data Repository, which is a recommendation from the Data Analysis subcommittee. Commissioner Moore provided additional details on the Data Repository.

Chair Reeve also informed the Commission that this year's in-person Commission meeting will occur at the DCF Summit in Orlando on September 2, 2025. The meeting will be held at the JW Marriott, Orlando Grande Lake, 4040 Central Florida Parkway. Start time will be either 8:30 or 9:00am est. More information will be shared as it is available. .

Florida Center for Behavioral Health Workforce:

Courtney Whitt, Ph.D., Executive Director of the Florida Center for Behavioral Health Workforce at the University of South Florida provided an update on a provision within Senate Bill 330, the establishment of the Florida Center for Behavioral Health Workforce. The Center was established to grow, retain and innovate the state behavioral health workforce through research, education, policy and collaboration. Dr. Whitt identified previous Commission recommendations that connect back to the work of the Center for Behavioral Health Workforce.

Subcommittee Report Outs:

- **Data Analysis:** Subcommittee Chair Moore provided a brief update. The April subcommittee meeting involved members from the Northwest Regional Data Center and Dr. Amy Nelson from the AISP (Actionable Intelligence for Social Policy). Dr. Nelson's expertise is in the development of governance structure for integrated data systems. Data governance was the focus of the subcommittee meeting. The subcommittee has also begun to address data ownership, stewardship, data sharing, privacy and security considerations for the Data Repository.
- **Dual Diagnosis and Treatment:** Subcommittee Chair Representative Hunschofsky provided a brief update. The most recent meeting was held on April 11th and included two presentations. Citrus Mental Health representatives, Maria Alonso and Kimberly McGrath discussed the children and adolescent integrated continuum of behavioral health services. Brooke Altonaga from the Mental Health Resource Center presented on treating complexity through community-based care.



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- **Strategy and Planning:** Subcommittee Chair Secretary Harris provided a brief update for the Strategy and Planning subcommittee. The Agency for Healthcare Administration (AHCA) program staff presented information on the overall array of services offered under the Medicaid program. Information was also shared regarding care coordination strategies currently existing between DCF, APD and the DOH.
- **Funding:** Subcommittee Chair Senator Rouson provided the update for the Funding subcommittee. The last scheduled meeting was cancelled because of Legislative obligations. Subcommittee Chair Rouson reached out to some organizations to inquire about presenting on funding streams. The Florida Association of Managing Entities has requested to present. The next meeting is scheduled for June 12, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. est.

Commissioner Rein requested a document that tracks all the Commission recommendations and updates on the implementation.

Public Comment:

Gayle Giese commented on forensic beds for incarcerated clients who are incompetent to proceed and placed in a State Hospital.

Closing Remarks:

Chair Reeve provided closing remarks.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:40am.