



# Measure O Citizen's Oversight Committee

## Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2025, from 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

### Meeting Recording:

<https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/rec/share/RgJh0qrdl4D8lEw179SGNe-SEcdEuDIq5xJToN9uBiRXnKITBs2jWxeLnqRSUcr.ZSGnzlCJxdO26nFM>

Passcode: 1@&j3on%

### Members Present:

Shirlee Zane (Chair), Gregory Fearon, Ben Ford, Kevin McDonnell, Shannon McEntee (virtual) and Ed Sheffield

### DHS Staff Present:

James Alexander, Director, Homeless Services Division  
Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Division Director, Behavioral Health  
Julie Elliot Gallegos, Fiscal Department Analyst  
David Hiatt, Program Planning and Evaluation Analyst  
Gabriel Kaplan, Assistant Director, DHS  
Lynnea Mann, CFO  
April Hurd Mattos, Deputy Chief CFO  
Josh Onellion, Housing Coordinator, Behavioral Health  
Jennifer Solito, Interim Director, DHS & Assistant County Administrator  
Alea Tantarelli, Health Program Manager  
Liz Treacy, Administrative Aide

### Additional Participants:

Mary Frances Walsh, Executive Director, NAMI Sonoma County  
Staff and supporters of Positive Images

### 1. Call to Order/Introductions/Roll Call

Chair Zane called the meeting to order at 4:08 p.m. and welcomed everyone.

### 2. Opening Comments from Chair

Chair Zane expressed an interest in exploring today's topics with positivity.

### 3. Approve Minutes of 10/23/24 (Action Item)

Attachment: Oversight Committee Minutes from the October 23, 2024 meeting  
Action: Gregory Fearon moved to approve the minutes, and Ben Ford seconded.  
No public comment was offered and the minutes were approved.

### 4. Staff Update on Measure O NOFA:

Presenters: Alea Tantarelli, Health Program Manager, DHS  
Jennifer Solito, Interim Director, DHS

The Measure O NOFA was released on September 23, 2024 and due on November 4, 2024. It combined \$4.2M in Measure O funds and \$1.4M from the County's Homeless Housing, Assistance and Prevention program (HHAP) for a total of \$5.6M. Sixty (60) applications were received, seeking a total of \$24M in funding. Jennifer Solito explained that the NOFA engaged a 5-member Community Advisory Panel (CAP) to review and rate applications. Recommendations for funding were then reviewed by DHS. Jennifer Solito and staff will be taking these recommendations to the Board of Supervisors (BOS) on March 11, 2025. (Although the Measure O Citizen's Oversight Committee provides valuable oversight, it was noted that it is not a body that makes funding decisions.)

The total ask from the community indicates that there are greater needs from the city, County, hospitals, and CBOs.

## **5. Public Comment**

Positive Images staff and supporters came to the Oversight Committee to describe their work and express interest in receiving funding, should there be another Measure O NOFA. Speakers included Chase Overholt, a Positive Images' (PI) director; Jason Newman, LMFT; therapist Dante Carlosi; Laure LeCave, PI's bilingual/bicultural program manager; Kris Spangler, LMFT; social worker Vanessa Albert Barrett; and clinical social worker Christina Zapata. Together, they described PI's services, praised its unique ability to serve Sonoma County's broad LGBTQ community, and appealed for consideration for Measure O funding to protect the safe space it offers during the current climate.

Chair Zane and Ben Ford recommended PI attend the BOS meeting on March 11, 2025. Gregory Fearon recommended PI connect with the Behavioral Health Board and pursue MHSA Community Grants which are smaller grants, due later this month.

## **6. Transitional Housing for Individuals Discharging from Crisis Services**

Presenter: Josh Onellion, Housing Coordinator, Behavioral Health

In his capacity with the County, Onellion has helped house 200 clients who were previously homeless. He works with Board and Care clients and the Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU). He noted that the 440 Arrowood site is in development and will house 60 beds for Sonoma County residents and 20 from Marin County. Felton Industries will provide Medi-Cal services at the site. Oversight will include measures built into contracts, Measure O reports and DHS evaluation.

## **7. Measure O Citizen's Oversight Committee Chair and Vice Chair Election (Action Item)**

Betsy Chavez has resigned as Vice Chair of this committee. For the next three-year term, Shirlee Zane was re-elected Chair after Kevin McDonnell nominated her, Ben Ford seconded, and there was no other comment or discussion. The vote was unanimous for the Chair. For the position of Vice Chair, Ben Ford nominated Ed Sheffield, and the committee approved the nomination unanimously.

## **8. Fiscal Update for Measure O**

Presenter: Dr. Gabriel Kaplan, Assistant Director, DHS  
Packet: Fiscal reporting

Dr. Kaplan addressed an item from the October 23, 2024 Measure O Citizen's Oversight Committee Meeting. In response to the committee's request, Dr. Kaplan has drafted an MD&A, which was not previously included by the

auditor Eide Bailly in its last report. His letter is currently under review by County Counsel. He noted that local sources of funds, like Measure O, will be increasingly important.

Jennifer Solito explained that the Opioid Settlement Funds are scheduled to go to the BOS on February 11, 2025. It was noted that the BOS intends to use \$2M-\$3M of this funding for a Behavioral Health Continuum Infrastructure Program (BHCIP) Bond grant match.

#### **9. Staff Reports: Update on Measure O Projects**

Presenters: James Alexander, Director, Homeless Services Division  
Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Director, Behavioral Health Division  
David Hiatt, PPEA  
Alea Tantarelli, Health Program Manager

James Alexander explained that new hire Chris Inclan is a Health Program Manager on the Homeless Encampment Assistance and Resource Team (HEART) and is working well. Eliza's Village is seeing success, including residents expressing interest in collaborating on an art project onsite.

Dr. Cobaleda-Kegler explained that the Crisis Assessment, Prevention & Education (CAPE) school-based services are expanding north and south into the County. She also reported that the Mobile Support Team (MST) is going strong 24/7. The Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) is opening on Saturday, February 8, 2025 after previously being closed for mold treatment and renovations. The industrial hygienist involved in reviewing the building recommended that there be another review in 3-4 months.

David Hiatt explained that the next Measure O Annual Report will be presented to the BOS on March 11, 2025.

Alea Tantarelli asked that anyone who has a recommendation for someone to hold a business seat on the Committee please contact her. This step is to fill a vacancy created by Betsy Chavez's departure after moving on to become a field representative for a County supervisor.

The next Measure O Oversight Committee Meeting will be on Wednesday, May 14. A calendar of future meeting dates will follow.

#### **10. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items: None.**

The meeting adjourned at 6:07 pm.