

MINUTES OF THE
SANTA FE COUNTY
HEALTH POLICY & PLANNING COMMISSION

October 3, 2025

Santa Fe, New Mexico

This regular meeting of the Santa Fe County Health Policy & Planning Commission (HPPC) was called to order by Chair Steven Berkshire at approximately 10:00 a.m. on the above-cited date at the Plaza Conference Room, 240 Grant Ave., Santa Fe, New Mexico.

The meeting was held in a hybrid manner with both in-person and virtual participation.

The following members were present:

Members Present:

Steven Berkshire, Chair
Craig Schermerhorn
Mark Hayden
Sun Vega
Deborah Weiss
Ronald Aldrich
Arthur Culpepper [remote]

Member(s) Absent:

Maria Jose Rodriguez Cadiz (excused)

County Staff Present:

Jennifer Romero, Community Services Deputy Director
Anne Ryan, Community Services Director
Coy Maienza, Health Services Manager
Erin Rakestraw, CSD, Administrative Assistant

Others Present:

Valeria Alarcon, Executive Director of NM Alliance of Health Councils [remote]
Kate Field, Crisis Services Director, New Mexico Solutions [remote]
Kathleen Tunney, Director, Community Health & Health Equity, CSV [remote]
Kim Horan, DOH, Health Promotion Program [remote]
Kyaolin Rajbhandary, DOH, Public Health Division [remote]
Valentina White, DOH, NE Region Public Health Division [remote]
Christopher Novak, DOH, Public Health Division [remote]
Henri Hammond Paul, City of Santa Fe, Director Community Health and Safety [remote]

Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Aldrich moved to approve, and Ms. Vega seconded. The motion to approve the agenda passed without opposition.

Approval of Minutes

August 1, 2025: Mr. Aldrich moved to approve. Ms. Weiss seconded and the motion to approve the August minutes. Minutes passed without opposition.

Presentation: Behavioral Health and Investment Act (BHRIA) SB3 [*Exhibit 1: SB3 & BHRIA Presentation*]

Anne Ryan, Community Service Director

An overview was provided of the SB3 legislation, which is also known as the Behavioral Health Reform and Investment Act (BHRIA). The structure that is required by the legislation is a regional model, and the regions are to follow the counties and municipalities based on judicial districts. Santa Fe County will be part of BHRIA Region 1. The intent of this funding and structure is to help each BHRIA Region identify priorities, engage stakeholders and create a phased implementation plan that addresses both immediate needs and long-term sustainability.

SB3/BHRIA is ultimately overseen by a 7 person Executive Committee. They are meeting later in October and will provide updates and listen to concerns, as well as updates from the state entities overseeing the tasks and the flow of funding by each region. Those state entities are the NM Health Care Authority and the NM Administrative Office of the Courts. The plan is to release \$50M to the state regions, on a reoccurring basis. There are also plans to release \$26M (\$2M per region) via a Request for Proposals (RFP) within the next few weeks. Anyone interested can visit the State website for information to attend the Executive Committee meetings in person or online.

Each region must identify an “accountable entity”, which will take on the role of heading up the required processes outlined by SB3 and by enacting any clarifying information issued by AOC. A letter of interest must be submitted by the accountable entity to AOC for each region. Those letters of interest were due September 30th, but since there is not yet an accountable entity identified for Region 1, an extension has been granted.

Santa Fe County has indicated they will take the lead, barring no other government entity within the region steps forward. Our Region 1 is quite complicated, as there are 14 different government entities within the region. They are: Jicarilla Apache Nation, Okay Owingeh, Pueblo of Santa Clara, Pueblo of San Ildefonso, Pueblo of Pojoaque, Pueblo of Nambe, Pueblo of Tesuque, Los Alamos County, Rio Arriba County, Santa Fe County, City of Santa Fe, City of Espanola, Town of Edgewood, Village of Chama.

Before an accountable entity can apply for the funds, they must complete the Sequential Intercept Model (SIM) mapping. As all three counties within Region 1 have already completed their respective SIM mapping events, the plan is to conduct an Extended-SIM, to include youth, which were not addressed in the original SIM mapping events. After establishing the priorities for the region, a proposal for the funding must be submitted by the accountable entity. This includes the early release funding of \$26M, as well as the recurring funding of \$50M.

The question from HPPC was posed, “What is the ask for HPPC?”

The first thing is to read all legislation and related published information regarding BHRIA. Subject Matter Experts (behavioral health, Medicaid, and related matters) from Health Councils will be asked to participate in the E-SIM. Ms. Vega’s role within the community is providing behavioral health services, so it makes sense to have her act as the HPPC representative in the E-SIM.

Serving Vulnerable Populations

Coy Maienza, Health Services Division Manager

Information was shared regarding the impacts of federal cuts and what has been discussed and shared in meetings, such as the Food Policy and Planning Commission, CONNECT, DOH, and from the Santa Fe New Mexican. There is an estimated 58,000 New Mexicans who will lose SNAP benefits in November. The governor is planning to sign emergency legislation providing \$162M to cover the gaps by federal cuts to SNAP recipients, food banks, and to assist with health care.

County Senior Services and CONNECT are preparing for this shortage and looking to tap as many resources as possible. The county expects an uptick in requests for services and supports for rent and utilities.

DOH FY26 Health Council Activities

Coy Maienza, Health Services Division Manager

The Health Council has been given several behavioral health initiatives to choose from to receive financial support from DOH. Based on the data that DOH has shared regarding the enormous increase in fentanyl and other opioid overdoses within Santa Fe County, Rio Arriba County, and Taos County, choosing the Harm Reduction initiative seems like a logical choice. We need to choose a second initiative and will make that determination within the next few weeks.

Matters from the Commission

- Meeting with perinatal program (Steve Berkshire)
The information shared by Jasmine Meyer during the last HPPC meeting was impactful, and Chair Berkshire suggested that HPPC could help and promote the program. There was a discussion about how HPPC could help with promoting this, and a suggestion was made to invite Jasmine back to clarify how HPPC can assist. Chair Berkshire and Ms. Rodriguez Cadiz have been meeting with Jasmine and will continue to do so in the meantime. There was a suggestion to convene a seminar regarding this in Spring 2026.
- Collaborative Consortium - Department of Health - forum meetings (Steve Berkshire)
The NM Alliance of Health Councils offers great opportunities to learn about what’s happening in the state. Their Community Collaborative Forums have been especially rich

with knowledge and sharing. Most are offered virtually; Chair Berkshire or Ms. Maienza will forward those invitations to the HPPC upon receipt.

- Behavioral Health Leadership Council Update (Mark Hayden)
The SB3 has been the focus for many discussions. Hearing the presentation provided by Ms. Ryan, there is much surprise at how quickly the turnaround times are for providing the AOC the information they're requesting.

Another issue at hand is the services for immigrants and undocumented community members. Getting services to these people has proven to be complicated.

Public Comment

None made.

Matters from Staff

The HPPC District 1 slot is still vacant. We have not received any applications.

Jane Hajovsky just vacated her District 5 slot. A suggestion was made to post the vacancies in the Round the Roundhouse publication. Ms. Maienza will follow up with them.

A discussion on possible dates for the Healthy Climate NM training was had. November 20th was tentatively selected. Ms. Romero will follow up with Shelley Mann-Lev to see if they're available to present that day. A suggestion was made to invite the County Commissioners to the training once it's established.

Next meeting: Friday, December 5, 2025

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn by Mr. Hayden, second by Mr. Aldrich. No dissention, motion carries.

Approved by:

Steven Berkshire Chair
Health Policy & Planning Commission

Respectfully submitted by:

Coy Maienza, Santa Fe County

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SUBJECT TO APPROVAL

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