



Measure O Citizens' Oversight Committee Meeting Minutes

Sonoma County Department of Health Services

December 10, 2025 from 4:00pm-6:00pm

Zoom: <https://sonomacounty.zoom.us/j/82548076619?pwd=5HgmYyt7lrQHLjN8Oa64z6dwgZBiLg.1>

Passcode: 936205 Telephone: +1 669 444 9171 Webinar ID: 825 4807 6619

Members:

Present: Shirlee Zane (Chair), Mark Beiting, Gregory Fearon, Kevin McDonnell, Colleen O'Neal, Ben Ford.

Not present: Ed Sheffield

DHS Staff Present:

Nolan Sullivan, Director, DHS

Gabriel Kaplan, Assistant Director, DHS

Dr. Jan Cobaleda-Kegler, Behavioral Health Division Director, DHS

Julie Elliot Gallegos, Analyst, Fiscal Department, DHS

David Hiatt, Program Planning and Evaluation Analyst, DHS

Alea Tantarelli, Health Program Manager, DHS

Liz Treacy, Administrative Aide, DHS

Additional Attendees:

Adrienne L., SAY/Homeless Action

Tina Simons, Hanna Center

1. Call to Order/Introductions/Roll Call:

Chair Zane called the meeting to order at 4:09 pm. She led a roll call and confirmed that a quorum was present.

2. Opening Comments from Committee Chair:

In 2031, Measure O will come up for renewal. Chair Zane asked the committee to describe their thoughts on how to relaunch the Measure, both internally and publicly. She discussed the importance of getting prepared for the renewal and bringing on a consultant to do polling, feasibility analysis, and communications. Director Sullivan suggested doing a "A Day Without Measure O Road Show" to visit city councils, Rotary clubs, and other locations. Ben Ford recommended asking DHS staff to do Measure O renewal feasibility work. Gregory Fearon recommended using a Behavioral Health report as a model for comparing state to county goals.

3. Approve minutes of 8/20/25 Meeting (Action Item):

- Attachment: Measure O Citizen's Oversight Committee Minutes, 8.20.25
- Action: Kevin McDonnell made a motion to approve the minutes and Ben Ford seconded. The committee approved the minutes.

4. Psychiatric Health Facility (PHF) Presentation led by Sonoma County Healing Center Staff

Administrator Debra Kolman and Clinical Director Stephen Palmer explained that the Healing Center (formerly the "PHF") has a mission to create a partnership with families, business associates, and community. Its trauma-informed approach has paid dividends by giving people a safe space and choices in their recovery. The facility offers 16 beds, 24/7 services, and typically 45-day stays there. Director Sullivan explained that Measure O pays extensive costs for conservatorships. Dr. Cobaleda-Kegler reported that the facility has been successful, taking

in Medi-Cal patients from Sonoma County Mental Health ACCESS appointments and treating co-occurring issues. She reported that DHS is applying for another Behavioral Health Bridge Housing (BHBH) grant.

5. Eide Bailly Measure O Audit Presentation (Action Item) - Karlee Ransom, Sr. Manager, Eide Bailly

- Eide Bailly PowerPoint - DRAFT Measure O Audit of Financial Statements
Financial Statement for Measure O ending June 30, 2025
- DRAFT Management's Discussion and Analysis Document for Audit

This audit represents Eide Bailly's opinion on Measure O financial statements provided by the County. The firm confirmed that it is offering a clean audit and that its compliance testing revealed that there were no weaknesses, no deficiencies, no significant risks, no audit adjustments, no difficulties working with County management, and no exceptions to report. Dr. Kaplan explained that it will take time, over the next three years, to spend \$10M of the new Measure O Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) being announced this week. Director Sullivan suggested including non-profits and city governments funded by Measure O in the Manager's Discussion and Analysis (MD&A) in the audit. Gregory Fearon made a motion to a confirm receipt of the audit and Ben Ford seconded. The audit was accepted with the above caveat for Eide Bailly to update the MD&A.

6. Fiscal Update for Measure O (DHS Staff)

Dr. Kaplan presented financial records documenting accounts and special revenue funds that transfer into operating accounts and get used to fund behavioral health or homelessness contracts. Conservatorships were added to the FY 25-26 estimated budget. Dr. Cobaleda-Kegler explained Short Doyle payments, which a county can use for people who have to go to a non-Medi-Cal (for profit) hospital; however, emergency rooms are no longer required to take these patients. The need remains, and the County is spending a lot of money on sending people to the hospital. Kevin McDonnell felt hospitals should cover the costs of intake for these patients. Director Sullivan asked the committee to review the financials provided, highlight them, and ask questions to help improve the Measure O Road Show. Local cities are asking for more funds for Mobile Support Teams (MST). The County has \$1.5M-\$3M available per fiscal year for these needs. The Measure O NOFA being announced this week will fund some, but not all, applicants due to the great need expressed by the community.

7. Staff Reports

- Update on Measure O projects (Dr. Cobaleda-Kegler and Director Sullivan)

The County is embarking on a fiscal diet due to anticipated funding losses. It is pausing and, in some cases, freezing hiring. It is aiming for a 5-10% reduction in the number of contracts. It is trying to regrow Realignment and Measure O funds, in addition to having Opioid Settlement Funds (OSF) and Mental Health Services Act (MHSA) funding sources. The County will be combining its Homelessness and Behavioral Health divisions. DHS's Crisis Assessment, Prevention and Education (CAPE) teams will help support MST needs in the future. It should be noted that Measure O funds are particularly valuable because they are locally funded.

- Measure O Annual Report Update (David Hiett)

A new draft of the annual report will be available in a matter of days. It will include in-depth stories about the County's Crisis Stabilization Unit (CSU) and homelessness, and it will demonstrate to the public how Measure O funds are being leveraged. Director Sullivan asked the Committee to help with the dissemination of the annual report.

- Measure O NOFA Update (Alea Tantarelli)

The latest Measure O NOFA was released in August and came due in September. The award of \$10M in funding is planned along with Homeless Housing Assistance and Prevention (HHAP) funding. Fifty-two applications were received. The Notice of Intent to Award (NOITA) was scheduled to be released December 12th. On February 3rd, the Board of Supervisors is scheduled to review and approve the NOFA recommendations. Director Sullivan expressed interest in discovering how soon results can be shared with the Board of Supervisors and this committee.

- Measure O Meeting Schedule (Alea Tantarelli)

Following are the Committee's 2026 meeting dates: February 18 (4-6 pm); May 13; August 19 & December 9.

8. Public Comment on Non-Agendized Items:

Adrienne L. of SAY/Homeless Action voiced concerns that the federal government may place the homeless in dire situations such as detention. She recommended that a facility would be the way to help address this problem. Tina Simons of Hanna Center mentioned she was new to the County and interested in learning about the work of this committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 pm.