



Utah Behavioral Health Commission
DRAFT Meeting Minutes
August 20, 2026, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
Utah State Capitol Complex
Senate Building Room 110

Commission Chair: Ally Isom

Vice Chair: Tammer Attallah

Second Vice Chair: Kyle Snow

Commission Members:

Jim Ashworth

Adam Cohen

Mike Deal

Evan Done

Tracy Gruber

Elaine Navar

Jordan Sorenson

Josie White

	Time/Presenter	Discussion Topics
1	1:00 - 1:10 pm: Chair Ally Isom	Welcome Approval of July 16, 2026, meeting minutes - Adam Cohen made a motion to approve the July meeting minutes. This motion was seconded by Jordan Sorenson. This motion passed unanimously. New Commissioner introduction: Dr. Jeremy Kendrick - Dr. Jeremy Kendrick introduced himself. He will be attending the September commission meeting in person to be sworn in. <i>(Action required: Vote)</i>
Workstream 1: Strategic planning		
2	1:10 - 1:30 pm: Nolan Bell	Utah Medicaid Justice-Involved Reentry 1115 waiver Goals & Eligibility: Focused on improving access to services, continuity of coverage, coordination, and reducing recidivism and overdose deaths. Covers eligible adjudicated youth (<21) and adults up to 90 days prior to release from participating correctional facilities. Facility Readiness & Engagement: Medicaid

		engagement includes readiness assessments, EHR integration for health assessments/MAT, and case management. Planning for each facility takes approximately one year. ● Eligibility Portal: Partnership with CCJJ enables real-time sharing of intake/release dates, allowing DWS to unsuspend Medicaid coverage 90 days prior to release. ● Implementation Status: ○ Weber County and the CATS Program (SLCo) have been operating since March 1, 2026. ○ Operational Guide Version 2 is currently receiving PR/internal stakeholder review before distribution to ACOs and facilities. ○ Received 8 readiness assessments in the last 3 months. ● Commission Q&A: ○ Commissioners discussed facility onboarding, noting juvenile justice coverage is active while county jail integration continues. To minimize administrative burden, the program uses standard Medicaid billing codes, though rural providers may need added support. Discussions also covered warm handoffs, county funding reinvestment, and measuring success through claims data, CMS metrics, and qualitative interviews. Finally, members highlighted that standardized release date reporting across facilities is critical for seamless benefit activation. <i>(Action required: None)</i>
Workstream 2: Legislative		
3	1:30 - 1:40 pm: Chair Ally Isom	Update on legislative interim working group ● Structure & Authority: Convened to address OLAG report outcomes and central authority recommendations. Evaluating 5 structural models for OSUMH and the Commission to create a durable, agile framework. ● Key Recommendations: ○ Compress the timeline by 1 month to present bills to interim earlier.

		○ Formalize a regular meeting rhythm in statute or rule. ● Strategy: Recommended finding specific legislative champions for individual bills rather than bundling them under a single commission bill. ● Capital Budgeting Discussion: It was noted a new state process requiring pre-planning approval before requesting funding for facility/building projects (e.g., State Hospital). SUMH Staff to look into this more. <i>(Action required: None)</i>
4	1:40 - 1:50 pm: Megan West 1:50 - 2:00 pm: Chair Ally Isom	UBHC prioritization list (2027 legislative session) ● Process Overview: Megan West reviewed the prioritization timeline that began in March 2026. 15 recommendations were evaluated and scored based on strategic alignment. ● Next Steps: Chair Isom proposed voting at the September meeting on shifting the recommendation process timeline up by one month for future cycles. <i>(Action required: None)</i>
Workstream 3: Data analysis		
5	2:00 - 2:05 pm: Tammer Attallah 2:05 - 2:30 pm: Scott Barlow & Sri Bose 2:30-2:50 pm: Kyle Lunt	Introduction (Tammer Attallah): Emphasized private sector engagement, collaborative data strategy, and partnership with the One Utah Health Collaborative and OSUMH. Overview of UBHC Data Strategy (Scott Barlow & Sri Bose): ● <i>Context & Spending:</i> One Utah Health Collaborative (founded Sept 2022) focuses on rising behavioral health (BH) utilization and spending. ● <i>Strategic Focus:</i> Tracking access, quality, HEDIS prevalence metrics, ghost networks, payment parity, and cost-vs-quality benchmarking. ● <i>Data Access Reality:</i> APCD claims request has been active since April 2026 and remains under legal/privacy review. Recommended DHHS grant Data Sharing Agreement (DSA) tracking visibility to external parties to resolve delays. ● <i>Projected Timeline:</i> Initial draft of data framework

		expected Late Sept–Early Oct 2026; stakeholder convening planned for late October. HB 199: Health Data Amendments 2026 (Kyle Lunt): • Overview of the All Payer Claims Database (APCD) covering ~90% of commercial group/individual plans and 60–70% of non-Medicare populations in Utah. • HB 199 extended the act by 10 years and updated data-sharing provisions allowing DHHS to share identifiable health data (excluding direct identifiers like name, SSN, exact dates, etc.) with local mental health/substance use authorities. Commission Discussion: • Commissioners discussed expanding data collection beyond standard claims and mortality metrics. Recommendations included incorporating patient-reported outcomes, tracking social determinants of health, and analyzing differences between commercial and public benefit designs—specifically comparing acute versus chronic care models. Additionally, members suggested tracking patient transitions from Employee Assistance Programs (EAPs) to private insurance. <i>(Action required: None)</i>
Workstream 4: Communications		
		No items to discuss
Project management		
6	2:50-3:00 pm: Chair Ally Isom	Review priorities for next meeting • Chair Isom requested staff return with recommendations to compress the committee input timeline by 6–8 weeks and accelerate commission voting. • All presentation slides from the meeting will be distributed to the Commissioners.

		Adjourn • Mike Deal made a motion to adjourn. Adam Cohen seconded this motion. This motion passed unanimously. Meeting adjourned. <i>(Action required: Vote)</i>
Next Meeting: September 17, 2026 1 PM - 3 PM Senate Building, Room 210		