



Agenda Item 4.0

REVIEW AND VOTE ON WHETHER TO APPROVE PREVIOUS MEETING'S MINUTES

BRN Enforcement, Investigations and Intervention Committee |
November 5, 2026

**STATE OF CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS
BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING
ENFORCEMENT, INTERVENTION, AND INVESTIGATIONS COMMITTEE
MEETING MINUTES**

DRAFT

Date: Tuesday, August 11, 2026

Start Time: 3:15 p.m.

Location: The Enforcement, Intervention, and Investigations Committee meeting was held via remote access in accordance with Government Code section 11123.5. All Committee members joined the meeting remotely.

3:15 p.m.

1.0

Call to order, roll call, and establishment of a quorum

Committee Chair Patricia “Tricia” Wynne, Esq. called the meeting to order at 3:15 p.m. Roll was taken. A quorum was established at 3:16 p.m. with the following attendance:

Committee Members: Patricia “Tricia” Wynne, Esq., Chair
Alison Cormack
Katie Nair, MSN, MBA/HCM, RN (Absent)

BRN Staff: Loretta (Lori) Melby, RN, MSN, Executive Officer BRN
Reza Pejuhesh, DCA Legal Affairs Division, Attorney
Shannon Johnson, Enforcement Division Chief, Staff Liaison (Absent)
Timothy (Tim) Buntjer, Deputy Chief, Discipline, Citations & Probation
Jaspreet Pabla, Deputy Chief, Enforcement Division - Complaints & Intervention; Intervention Program Manager
Nichole Bowles, Deputy Chief, Investigations Division

Chair Wynne clarified that Shannon Johnson was unavailable due to an emergency. **Tim Buntjer** and **Jaspreet Pabla** confirmed they would cover agenda items for Enforcement and Intervention, respectively.

3:17 p.m.

2.0

General instructions for the format of a teleconference meeting

The BRN Moderator reviewed teleconference procedures, including use of WebEx Q&A/Slido to request public comment (type “I would like to make a comment”), muting protocols, time limits, and reminders that Committee Members cannot discuss

items not on the agenda. In person public comment was also queried at the physical location for each item.

3:19 p.m.

3.0

Public comment for items not on the agenda; items for future agendas

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item
3.0:**

None (no WebEx requests; no in-person comments)

3:21 p.m.

4.0

Review and vote on whether to approve previous meeting minutes

4.1 May 13, 2026

**Committee
Discussion:**

None

Motion: **Alison Cormack** moved to accept the EICC Meeting Minutes from May 13, 2026, and to allow BRN staff to make non-substantive corrections (e.g., name spelling and typographical errors).

Second: **Patricia Wynne**

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item
4.1:**

None (no WebEx requests; no in-person comments)

Vote:

	PW	AC	KN
	Y	Y	AB
Key: Yes: Y No: N Abstain: A Absent for Vote: AB			

Motion Passed

3:23 p.m.

5.0

Information and discussion only: Enforcement Division updates

Presenter: Timothy (Tim) Buntjer, Deputy Chief, Discipline, Citations & Probation

Staff Report Highlights:

- NCSBN pilot study participation continues; study scheduled to conclude in 2027.
- Nurse support group facilitator survey results are being reviewed; next steps to implement feedback are in progress.
- Ongoing recruitment of Expert Practice Consultants across multiple specialties (10–15 areas) continues; interested individuals directed to BRN's website.

Complaint Intake Unit:

- Received ~1,400 more complaints in the past fiscal year, reaching an all-time high; multi-year upward trend continues.
- Increase driven in part by “viral complaints” (single events generating hundreds to 1,000+ submissions) and by AI-generated complaint narratives often lengthy and vague, complicating triage.
- Analyst-to-position caseloads up ~21% year-over-year; existing staff absorbed the additional volume/complexity.

Discipline Unit:

- Referrals to the Attorney General (AG) decreased ~2.9% year-over-year; average caseloads decreased ~11.5%.
- Currently ~13% of AG cases are >1 year at the AG’s office.

Citations Desk:

- A previously vacant citation analyst position was filled late in State Fiscal Year (FY) 2024-25, and citations issued increased from 57 (FY 2024-25) to >660 (FY 2025-26) with the desk staffed.

Probation Unit:

- Referrals expected to increase over the next couple of years as cases flow through complaint intake and investigations; there are currently two vacancies in the unit, and interviews were held in the beginning of August 2026.

Committee Discussion: **Chair Wynne** asked about drivers of the dramatic year over year increase.

Buntjer explained that “viral” mass-submission events and auto-generated email complaints (one website encouraged one-click submissions) created volume spikes; underlying conduct is reviewed case-by-case, with First Amendment considerations occasionally implicated for social-media posts.

Cormack acknowledged staff work on the nurse support group facilitator survey and noted improvements on Performance Measure 4 (Investigations cycle times) despite higher volumes; she thanked staff and the AG’s Office for cycle-time reductions.

**Public Comment
for Agenda Item
5.0:**

None (no WebEx requests; no in-person comments)

3:33 p.m.

6.0

Information and discussion only: Investigations Division updates

Presenter: Nichole Bowles, Deputy Chief, Investigations Division
Staff Report Highlights:

- Collaboration continues with the Office of Organizational Improvement (OIO) to map workflows, timeframes, and procedures; OIO paused in June for a higher-priority project and is expected to resume in September.
- BRN staff continue using a Nursing Education Consultant for scope-of-practice complaint reviews; process is monitored for efficiency and unintended impacts.
- On June 30, 2026, Investigations announced recruitment for eight (8) full-time Special Investigator positions authorized via the Board's FY 2026-27 BCP; in total, recruiting ten (10) FTE (3 northern CA, 4 central CA, 3 southern CA), plus one limited-term position in the northern region for succession planning.
- As of July 24, 2026, full-time Special Investigators carried an average of 29 active cases; to prioritize hiring/onboarding, investigators have temporarily paused taking new cases.
- FY 2025-26 closed with highest numbers referred, pending, and completed in the five-year table; cycle time decreased by ~2 days despite rising volume.

Committee Discussion: None

Public Comment for Agenda Item 6.0: None (no WebEx requests; no in-person comments)

3:40 p.m.

7.0

Information and discussion only: Intervention Program updates

Presenter: Jaspreet Pabla, Deputy Chief, Complaints & Intervention; Intervention Program Manager
Staff Report Highlights:

- Management continues attending IEC meetings, providing education and support to IEC members and participants, and identifying regulatory gaps.
- Beginning August 2025, Executive Officer Melby has attended IEC open sessions to educate members on the Intervention Program and the Board's role.
- At the June 2026 Board Meeting, the Board approved reassignment of three IEC members; changes implemented immediately, with ongoing monitoring.
- Vendor (Premier Health): Program Director Dale Osborne has departed; Alexander Etzkorn promoted to Program Director.
- As of January 2026, IECs meet six times per year; current vacancies noted (physician, RN, public member categories) with continued recruitment for members experienced in substance use disorder recovery and mental health.

Committee Discussion: **Wynne** asked whether staff attendance at IEC meetings might diminish over time. Pabla stated ongoing attendance is important given frequent questions on regulations, Uniform Standards, and Board policies/procedures.

Executive Officer Melby added that while executive leadership plans to limit attendance to Pabla (or designee) and the BRN Moderator for operations, manager level participation will continue to ensure accurate application of standards and consistent meeting facilitation.

Public Comment for Agenda Item 7.0: None (no WebEx requests; no in-person comments)

3:46 p.m.	8.0	<p>Information and discussion only: Presentation by the Executive Officer on education provided to the Intervention Evaluation Committees and report out on any feedback from Board staff, Board vendor and stakeholders received</p> <p>Presenter: Executive Officer Loretta Melby, RN, MSN</p> <p>Presentation Summary:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Over the past year, EO Melby attended each IEC's open session to deliver focused training and level-setting for consistent practice. <p>Completed trainings included:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work requirements for participants (Board motion previously adopted). • Conditional recommendations - allowing IECs to authorize certain participant status changes between meeting dates (e.g., move from part-time to full-time work upon meeting Uniform Standards; adjust drug-screen frequency when the year-1 to year-2 threshold is reached), eliminating unnecessary return appearances. • Mental health-only participants (no SUD): tailored guidance to ensure appropriate monitoring and support. <p>Additional Points:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IEC 10 has faced quorum issues since late 2025 and has not met since December 2025; a meeting is scheduled later this month to resume education and case reviews. • Work is underway to leverage Work Site Monitor tools in Intervention more similarly to Probation, enabling earlier return to work while maintaining public protection. • New training topics for IEC meetings have launched on the participant journey and the role of the IEC. The Board is supportive of a cultural shift where nurses chose the path of intervention for SUD/mental-health issues affecting competence and probation for practice-related issues. • Participation trends: EO noted prior declines in total intakes, but reported recent increases in applicants due to
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outreach. In the last six months, 19 petitions for acceptance were granted, indicating a positive shift.

Committee Discussion: None

Public Comment for Agenda Item 8.0: None (no WebEx requests; no in-person comments)

3:58 p.m.

9.0

Adjournment

- Patricia Wynne, Chairperson, adjourned the meeting at 3:58 p.m..

Submitted by:

Accepted by:

Loretta Melby, MSN, RN
Executive Officer
California Board of Registered Nursing

Patricia Wynne, Esq.
Chairperson, Enforcement, Investigations and
Intervention Committee
California Board of Registered Nursing

Please Note: BRN staff prepared these meeting minutes with the assistance of artificial intelligence and conducted a full review to ensure completeness and accuracy.