Note: As this was the Commission's final meeting, the minutes below were reviewed by members and approved by the Chair on the Commission's behalf.

Special Commission on Access to Behavioral Health Services for Children and Families

Meeting Minutes
June 10, 2026
2:30 - 4:00 pm

Date of meeting: Wednesday, June 10, 2026
Start time: 2:30 pm
End time: 3:15 pm
Location: Virtual Meeting (Zoom)

Member Votes		Present	Vote 1*	Vote 2*
1	**Amy Rosenthal** – Executive Office of Health and Human Service *(Chair)*	X	X	X
2	**Lauren Almeida** – Department of Children and Families (DCF)	X	X	X
3	**Kevin Beagan** – Division of Insurance (DOI)	X	X	X
4	**Carmel Craig** – Association for Behavioral Health (ABH)	X	X	X
5	**Rachel Gwaltney** – Children's League of Massachusetts	X	A	X
6	**Paul Hyry-Dermith** – Bridge Resilient Youth in Transition, Brookline Center for Community Mental Health	X	X	X
7	**Robyn Kennedy** – Massachusetts Senate	X	-	X
8	**Jessica Larochelle** – Mass Association for Mental Health (MAMH)	-	-	-
9	**David Matteodo** – Mass Association of Behavioral Health Systems (MABHS)	X	X	X
10	**Kristen McKinnon** – Student and Family Support, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)	X	X	X
11	**Lisa Morrow** – Health Law Advocates	X	X	X
12	**Lee Robinson** – Office of Accountable Care & Behavioral Health, MassHealth	X	X	X
13	**Pam Sager** – Parent/Professional Advocacy League (PPAL)	X	X	X
14	**Leigh Simons** – Mass Health and Hospital Association (MHA)	X	-	X
15	**Aimee Smith-Zeoli** – Department of Early Education and Care (EEC)	X	A	X
16	**Charlene Zuffante** – Child, Youth, & Family Services, DMH	X	X	X

* (X) Voted in favor; (O) Opposed; (A) Abstained from vote; (-) Absent from meeting or during vote

Agenda

1. Welcome
2. Approval of 5/20/2026 Meeting Minutes
3. Discussion of Draft Recommendations and Report
4. Next Steps

Proceedings

Undersecretary Rosenthal called the meeting to order at 2:30 pm. She welcomed members and reminded them that the Commission meeting is subject to the Open Meeting Law and that all votes taken during the meeting would be conducted via roll-call vote.

Undersecretary Rosenthal explained that as meeting minutes are traditionally approved at subsequent meetings and this was to be the group's final meeting, she proposed that as Chair, she approve the minutes from this meeting on the group's behalf.

Vote 1 to approve the 5/20/2026 meeting minutes: Undersecretary Rosenthal requested a motion to approve the minutes from the Commission's previous meeting on 5/20/2026. Carmel Craig introduced the motion, which was seconded by Charlene Zuffante and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

Undersecretary Rosenthal facilitated a discussion of a draft version of the Commission's report, which had been circulated to the Commission prior to the meeting. She explained that the report was developed around the package of proposed recommendations, which had been compiled by the Challenges and Recommendations workgroup and refined by Lee Robinson. She noted that the recommendations include those which could potentially be implemented in the short-term (fairly cost neutral) and those which would likely require significant investment from the state, therefore considered longer-term strategies for a less restrictive budgetary climate. She explained that a draft of the report had been shared with members and then revised based on written comments received from three members. Undersecretary Rosenthal and Commission staff walked members through the draft report. Members shared specific feedback on the draft document.

In closing, Undersecretary Rosenthal explained that her staff would be incorporating members' comments into a final draft, which will be submitted to the Legislature by June 30. She requested that any members interested in continuing the work of the Commission and staying engaged in any follow-on work reach out to Commission staff.

Vote 2 to adjourn the meeting: Undersecretary Rosenthal requested a motion to adjourn the meeting. Leigh Simons introduced the motion, which was seconded by Pam Sager and approved by roll-call vote (see detailed record of votes above).

The meeting was adjourned at 3:15 pm.

Meeting Materials

1. Draft 5/20/2026 meeting minutes
2. Draft report