



Health and Human Services Agency

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BEHAVIORAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT

NEVADA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Board Agenda Memo

MEETING DATE: March 24, 2026

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Cari Yardley, Acting Behavioral Health Director

SUBJECT: Resolution authorizing naming of the new secure mental health facility, located at 935 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, California, as “Deer Creek Behavioral Health Center.”

RECOMMENDATION: Approve the attached Resolution.

FUNDING: N/A

BACKGROUND: On November 12, 2024, per Resolution 24-592, the Board of Supervisors authorized Nevada County Behavioral Health to apply for a Bond Behavioral Health Infrastructure Continuum Program (Bond BHCIP) grant for an inpatient treatment facility, a critical missing piece in our local continuum of care. On May 6, 2025, Nevada County Behavioral Health was conditionally awarded the grant of \$23,713,908 to construct a sixteen bed inpatient facility offering two levels of care: psychiatric health facility (PHF) and mental health rehabilitation center (MHRC). Behavioral Health (BH) realignment and Patient Care revenue funds currently residing in fund balance will be used to meet the required cash match of \$1,935,859 to the BHCIP funds. The Board affirmed authorization of the Program Funding Agreement on February 17, 2026, and construction is beginning in Spring 2026. The facility will be constructed on an unused portion of the Eric Rood Administrative Center, the County’s main campus.

The County Facilities Department established Policy 24-001 Facilities Naming Policy in June 2024 to guide the formal naming of public buildings and facilities. In compliance with the policy, a list of potential names for the new secure mental health facility to be constructed was brought to the Capital Projects Ad Hoc Subcommittee on February 2, 2026. Input was gathered from Health and Human Services staff, facilities staff, and the Consumer Advisory Committee. Following

presentation of the names, the Ad Hoc requested more time to consider and new ideas to be offered, and Health and Human Services Administration returned to the Capital Projects Ad Hoc Subcommittee via email communication with an additional name, Deer Creek Behavioral Health Center. Through email and verbal input, the Capital Projects Ad Hoc Subcommittee articulated their support of this name.

Deer Creek is reflective of the Deer Creek watershed, in which the new facility is located. From a description by local nonprofit Sierra Streams: *Deer Creek begins as a trickle in the Sierra Nevada foothills, high above Scotts Flat Reservoir at 4000' elevation. A ribbon of nature, it winds its way through pine forests and alpine meadows, forging canyons and shaping the landscape on its journey downhill. As it rushes through downtown Nevada City, it hosts spawning rainbow and brown trout.*

As with the description of Deer Creek, which was shaped by the topography and also shapes the topography, and which ultimately serves as a life-giving body, so also this reflects one's life journey. It is through life experiences and times of hardship that a person is shaped and changed, and they also shape and change those around them. The hope of the Deer Creek Behavioral Health Center is that meaning is found on a person's path to recovery, and through that process of movement there is personal growth, improvement, and ultimately giving back.

In compliance with Policy 24-001 Facilities Naming Policy, the facility is not named after a living individual, it is not thought to be controversial, offensive, or discriminatory, and it is not a commercial or corporate name and does not reflect any sponsor or donor.

The Facilities policy guiding naming policy describes that once presented to the Capital Projects Ad Hoc Subcommittee the requesting department will bring the item before the full Board of Supervisors for approval during a regular meeting.

It is recommended that the Board adopt this resolution approving the name Deer Creek Behavioral Health Center for the secure mental health facility to be located at 935 Maidu Avenue, Nevada City, CA 95959. This critically needed facility will assist Nevada County residents to have access to quality local treatment services.

Approved by: Cari Yardley, Acting Behavioral Health Director