

MOUNT ROGERS COMMUNITY SERVICES

July 28, 2025

Minutes

The Mount Rogers Community Services Board of Directors met on Monday, July 28, 2025, at 1:00 p.m. at the E. W. Cline, Jr., Building in Wytheville, Virginia, including available attendance via Zoom meeting, a teleconferencing program.

PRESENT:

Ms. Susan Clark  
Ms. Kathy Cole  
Ms. Michelle DeBord  
Ms. Susie Dixon Garner  
Mr. Patton Graham  
Ms. Joanne Groseclose  
Ms. Kathy Havens  
Ms. Kristyna Lathem  
Ms. Christin Long  
Mr. Kris Ratliff  
Ms. Rebecca Taylor  
Ms. Sandy Worrell

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Ms. Betsy Shearin  
Ms. Jo Viars

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Xavia Barnett  
Ms. Patty Belcher  
Mr. Adam Blevins  
Ms. Sandy Bryant  
Mr. Shaun Charles  
Ms. Kathy Cressel  
Ms. Samantha Crockett  
Ms. Laura Davis  
Mr. Michael Duncan  
Mr. Austin Edwards  
Ms. Kayla Fisher  
Ms. Wendy Gullion  
Ms. KJ Holbrook  
Ms. Becca Martel  
Ms. Lakesha Mayes  
Mr. Mark Morin  
Mr. Logan Nester  
Ms. Gracie Odham  
Mr. Richie Pack  
Ms. Rita Viars  
Ms. Kim Woodlee

OTHERS:

Ms. Barbara Bartnik  
Ms. Lauren Ellerman  
Ms. Elizabeth Heddleston - Zoom  
Ms. Charlotte Lewis Parsons  
Special Olympian Athletes

## I. CALL TO ORDER

Ms. Susie Dixon Garner, Chairperson, called the meeting to order.

## II. MOMENT OF SILENCE

Ms. Dixon Garner offered a moment of silence in recognition of the decisions made during the meeting and the people whose lives are affected by the decisions.

## III. CITIZEN'S TIME

MOTION: Ms. Joanne Groseclose moved to extend the ten-minute speaking time limit for each citizen to an additional ten minutes.

The motion, seconded by Ms. Kathy Havens, passed unanimously.

Ms. Charlotte Lewis Parsons and Ms. Lauren Ellerman, legal counsel for Ms. Parsons, along with family and friends as supporters of Ms. Parsons, presented concerns relative to the death of her daughter receiving services at the Rhea B. Lawrence (Cornerstone) facility in Marion, Virginia in 2023.

Based on the recommendations from the Agency's legal counsel, Ms. Elizabeth Heddleston of Woods Rogers Law Firm, the Board of Directors, along with the Agency's legal counsel, will address the concerns presented by Ms. Parsons at the August 25, 2025, Board meeting in Closed Session.

## IV. PRESENTATION – Chief Executive Officer's Report

Ms. Becca Martel, Director of Behavioral Specialty Services, and Mr. Adam Blevins, Developmental Disabilities Support Coordinator/Case Manager, reported on the State and Regional Special Olympics that were held June 6 – 8, 2025. The Special Olympians were recognized for their performance and achievements at the events.

Ms. Bryant presented an award to Mr. Austin Edwards, Direct Support Professional (DSP,) at Wythe Day Services Program, supporting adults with developmental and intellectual disability, for his heroism in saving the life of an individual during a choking incident. Two video testimonials were viewed; 1) Ms. Jessica Quesenberry, Day Services Supervisor, and 2) Ms. Yvonne Smith, Day Services DSP, shared information about Mr. Edwards' heroism during the incident.

## V. APPROVAL OF June 23, 2025, MINUTES

The minutes of June 23, 2025, were approved as presented on the motion of Ms. Kathy Havens and seconded by Ms. Kathy Cole. The motion passed unanimously.

## VI. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

Ms. Kayla Fisher, Director of Executive Office Operations, announced the Agency had received donations for June totaling \$13,894.99 including:

- Lorrie Mitchell – \$169.99 In-Kind contribution for a Keurig K-Duo Single Serve K-Cup Pod & Carafe Coffee Maker for the administrative office at the E. W. Cline, Jr., building.
- Royal Building – \$500 cash toward the Prevention and Wellness Fair for food.
- Chris Long – \$1,500 In-Kind contribution toward the Prevention and Wellness Fair for sound discount.
- Jim Young – \$230 In-Kind contribution toward the Prevention and Wellness Fair for mapmaking.
- Hungry Mother State Park – \$4,075 In-Kind contribution toward the Prevention and Wellness Fair for parking and waived facility rental fees.
- Bank of Marion – \$750 cash toward the Prevention and Wellness Fair to sponsor the Kid’s Corner.
- Smyth County Administrator’s Office – \$500 cash toward the Prevention and Wellness Fair for lunches.
- Smyth County Community Hospital – \$500 cash for the Prevention and Wellness Fair for food.
- Andy Rhudy – \$4,500 In-Kind contribution toward ID/IDD Program for medical supplies.
- First United Methodist Church – \$250 In-Kind contribution for One Day at a Time Resource Boxes for supplies.
- Ebenezer Lutheran Church – \$50 In-Kind contribution for One Day at a Time Resource Boxes for supplies.
- Ammi’s Barber Shop – \$150 In-Kind contribution for One Day at a Time Resource Boxes for supplies.
- Virginia Rural Health Association – \$350 cash donation for Creating Connections Program.
- Art League of Marion – \$200 In-Kind contribution for C3 Recovery Program for meals.
- Shirley Lockhart – \$50 In-Kind contribution for Creating Connections for meals.
- Sally Moorner – \$50 In-Kind contribution for Creating Connections for meals.

MOTION: Ms. Joanne Groseclose moved that the Board accept the donations for June 2025 as presented.

The motion, seconded by Ms. Sandy Worrell, passed unanimously.

## VII. OLD BUSINESS

None.

## VIII. NEW BUSINESS

### A. Budget and Finance Committee Report

1. Ms. Patty Belcher presented the financial statement for June 30, 2025, for Board review and approval.

MOTION: On behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee Ms. Susie Dixon Garner, Acting Chairperson, moved that the Board accept the financial statement for June 30, 2025, as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Ms. Belcher presented the proposed FY2026 Performance Contract Financial Summary Report for Board review and approval.

MOTION: On behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee, Ms. Susie Dixon Garner, Acting Chairperson, moved that the Board accept the proposed FY2026 Performance Contract Financial Summary Report as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

3. Ms. Belcher presented the proposed update to the FY26 Agency Charge Structure, effective July 1, 2025.

MOTION: On behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee, Ms. Susie Dixon Garner, Acting Chairperson, moved that the Board approve the FY26 Agency Charge Structure as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

4. Ms. Belcher referenced numerous funding notifications received from the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services in the Board packet for review.

## IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- Program and Administrative Monthly Reports

1. Ms. Sandy Bryant introduced Mr. Shaun Charles, the new Chief Information Officer (CIO) and Mr. Mark Morin, the new Senior Director of Case Management and Discharge Planning. Both employees will become part of the Advisory Council of the Agency.
2. Ms. Bryant offered to give each Board Member a tour of Agency facilities located in their represented localities.
3. Ms. Bryant commented that the Agency is the second largest CSB in the state of Virginia; however, the Agency anticipates a budget reduction due to state and federal funding cuts.

X. There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on the motion of Ms. Kathy Cole and seconded by Ms. Sandy Worrell, which passed unanimously.

*Kathy Cole*

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Ms. Kathy Cole, Secretary