

MOUNT ROGERS COMMUNITY SERVICES

July 27, 2026

Minutes

The Mount Rogers Community Services Board of Directors met on Monday, July 27, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. at the E. W. Cline Jr. Building in Wytheville, Virginia.

PRESENT:

Ms. Susie Dixon Garner
Ms. Tammy Terry
Ms. Sandy Worrell
Mr. Patton Graham
Ms. Kathy Havens
Ms. Michelle DeBord
Ms. Susan Clark
Ms. Joanne Groseclose
Ms. Kristyna Lathem

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Mr. Kris Ratliff
Mr. Andrew Moss
Ms. Sandra Venzie
Ms. Betsy Shearin

STAFF PRESENT:

Ms. Winoki Phillips
Ms. Sandy Bryant
Ms. Patty Belcher
Ms. Kathy Cressel
Ms. Kayla Fisher
Ms. Wendy Gullion
Ms. Dedra Helbert
Mr. Mark Morin
Mr. Shaun Charles
Dr. Bobby Miglani
Ms. Rebecca Martel
Mr. Duncan Sandoz
Mr. Matt Sabo
Dr. James Nachbar
Ms. Angie Prater

OTHER:

Ms. Barbara Bartnik

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

None.

IV. ACCEPTANCE OF June 22, 2026, MINUTES

The minutes of June 22, 2026, were approved by Ms. Michelle DeBord and seconded by Ms. Sandy Worrell.

The motion passed unanimously.

V. ACCEPTANCE OF DONATIONS

Ms. Kayla Fisher, Director of Executive Office Operations, announced the agency had received various donations for June 2026 for a total of \$15,300:

- First United Methodist Church - \$250.00 - Supplies - One Day at a Time Boxes
- Ebenezer Lutheran Church - \$50.00 - Supplies - One Day at a Time Boxes
- Ammi's Barbershop - \$150.00 - Supplies - One Day at a Time Boxes
- Sally Moorer - \$50.00 - Meals- Creating Connection Class
- Southwest Virginia Settler's Museum - \$750.00 - Volunteer hours, materials, space rental for arts recovery workshops
- Shirley Lockhart - \$50.00 - Meals- Creating Connection Class
- The Henderson - \$800.00 -Facility Rental Space- Creating Connections and C3 Recovery Groups
- Lincoln Theatre - \$300.00 - Rental Space & Snacks - CHATS
- Hungry Mother State Park - \$6,750.00 - Facility and shelter rental, staff support, and parking for 5 Bridges Wellness Fair
- Chris Long - \$1,650.00 - Discounted Sound fee for 5 Bridges Wellness Fair
- Groovy Elephant - \$100.00 - Yoga classes for 5 Bridges Wellness Fair participants
- Phyllis Ayers - \$2,000 - Food, clothing, parties, etc. for residents of the Carroll House

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

The motion, seconded, passed unanimously.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

None.

VII. EXECUTIVE SESSION – Legal Advisory

Mr. Susie Dixon Garner, Chairperson, entertained a motion to move into closed session.

MOTION: Ms. Joanne Groseclose moved that the Mount Rogers Community Services, Incorporation convene a closed meeting under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to discuss legal advice under Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)(8).

The motion, seconded by Ms. Kristyna Lathem, passed unanimously.

Ms. Susie Dixon Garner entertained a motion to reconvene into public session.

MOTION: Ms. Kristyna Lathem moved to reconvene the board meeting into public session.

The motion, seconded, passed unanimously.

After reconvening, each Board member certified that, to the best of each member's knowledge, only public business matters lawfully exempt from statutory open meeting requirements and only public business matters identified in the motion to convene the Executive Session were discussed in the Executive Session.

No motion needed at this time following the discussion.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS

A. Budget and Finance Committee Report

1. Ms. Patty Belcher presented the financial statement for June 2026 for Board review and approval.

MOTION: On behalf of the Budget and Finance Committee, Ms. Kristyna Lathem, Chairperson, moved that the Board accept the financial statement for June 2026, as presented.

The motion passed unanimously.

2. Ms. Patty Belcher presented the plan for implementing a multi-step salary increase. A 2% increase was given to all full-time and part-time employees effective July 1, 2026, and a

1.5% increase for full-time employees will be given January 1, 2027.

3. Ms. Patty Belcher presented the use of loan credits. Patty explained the potential for \$2.5 million in new market credits for the \$15 million Smyth campus project. The credits would reduce the total payout, allowing Mount Rogers to pay only \$13.5 million.
4. Ms. Patty Belcher presented the local funding amounts from each county and city. Overall local funding amounts have been decreasing since the previous year, except for Wythe, Bland, and Grayson.

B. Chief Executive Officer Report

Ms. Sandy Bryant presented Ms. Angie Prater and Dr. Nachbar with awards for their statewide recognition at VMAP conference. Dr. Bobby Miglani presented VMAP (Virginia Mental Health Access Program) and its status. VMAP is a top-rated Virginia initiative that improves children's mental health care by training primary care providers and offering a statewide consult and care navigation line from the Southwest Hub team.

1. Ms. Becca Martel presented Ms. Winoki Phillips with the Hero award for a quick response to a crisis event. It was a well-informed decision and the correct one.

IX. INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

A. Program and Administrative Monthly Reports

Mr. Matt Sabo discusses the updates to the website, aiming to make it user-friendly and ADA-compliant. The website's content is being refreshed to improve search engine results and connect people quickly with services. Social media and newsletters are being used to increase visibility and engagement, and to publish at least one article per month. The efforts are paying off, with Mount Rogers Community Services now appearing at the top of search results for mental health services in Southwest Virginia.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned on the motion of Ms. Kristyna Lathem, motion seconded, which passed unanimously.

Signed by:


Ms. Betsy Shearin, Secretary