



BHSPC

***Behavioral Health Services
of Pickens County***

...where change begins

BOARD MEETING MINUTES FEBRUARY 11, 2026

The Board of Behavioral Health Services of Pickens County held its monthly meeting on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 12:00 p.m. in the BHSPC Board Room at the agency located at 208 East 1st Ave., Easley, South Carolina. All Board Members were in-person, with guests joining virtually.

Item I. Call to Order. Tobias Vogel, Chairman, called the meeting to order, and established that a quorum of voting members was present.

Item II. Public Input. There was no one present for public input.

Item III. Approval and Adoption.

- A. February 11, 2026 Agenda. Jessica Merrill made a motion to accept the agenda as presented. Pam Winters seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
- B. January 14, 2026 Board Meeting Minutes. Pam Winters made a motion to accept the minutes from the January 14, 2026 Board Meeting as presented. Tracie Freeman seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Item IV. Financial Report. Ms. Farmer referred to Carly Davidson, Director of Financial Services, for an overview of the Financial Report for December 2025 and the Profit and Loss Statement covering the period July through December 2025. Ms. Davidson reported that any revenues from the sale of Pickens Properties and investments have been removed from the reports so that a clearer picture of operational status is reflected. The Financial Report for December reflects that the agency has received 44% of the projected revenues for this budget year, while expenses are reflected at 54%. The Profit and Loss statement covering the period July through December 2025, reflects that the agency is operating at a loss of over \$180K at this point in the fiscal year, with funds outstanding from OSUS, MUSC, School District and Pickens County. The Financial Report for December and the Profit and Loss Statement covering the period July through December 2025 were accepted as information, pending the audit.

Item V. Program Report. Ms. Farmer reviewed the Program Report for January 2026. Ms. Farmer indicated that the report reflects an increase in clients served, despite the inclement weather during January. The numbers reflected in the ADSAP and MAT programs have slightly increased, while the numbers in the child and adolescent services have slightly decreased. Ms. Farmer and Susanna Deming will continue to monitor the activities reported on the Program Reports. The report was accepted as information.

Item VI. Virtual Board Training – Attorney Kelly Jolley. Ms. Farmer welcomed Attorney Kelly Jolley via TEAMS for the virtual Board Training. Ms. Jolley presented a Virtual Board Training that was planned to be presented at the recent Board Seminar that was cancelled due to inclement weather.

Item VII. Old Business.

- A. Legislative Update. Angela Farmer reported that there are several pieces of legislation that are being watched closely that could impact the system. She praised the legislative committee of BHSA (Behavioral Health Services Association) for their work on the amazing progress on the S52 DUI bill that passed. This will allow for a significant increase in ADSAP (Alcohol and Drug Safety Action Program) fees for the first time in over 25 years. There are several bills regarding hemp that are being watched. These bills aim to ban hemp-infused products such as drinks, consumables and edibles. There are also some bills regarding Kratom. The increase in clients seeking MAT services is due to issues resulting from Kratom use. Another bill would require all flavors and cartoon imagery to be removed from vapes and advertisements to discourage underage use. The other bill that is being watched requires that the age of consent be increased from 16 to 18. This bill could be detrimental to adolescents from abusive situations seeking services. Ms. Farmer will keep the Board updated on any legislative issues.
- B. Research Project. Angela Farmer reported that the Research department continues to struggle with recruitment for the smoking cessation project, as fewer individuals smoke cigarettes. Ms. Farmer will keep the Board updated on the research projects.
- C. By-Laws Revisions. Tobias Vogel reported that a copy of the revised By-Laws was included in the Board Member packets and was presented for consideration of approval. Ernie Dandeneau made a motion to accept the revised By-Laws as presented. Eddie Talley seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Jessica Merrill asked about the last sentence in Article VIII, Section A, which states, "The Executive Committee shall also carry out the function of the Finance Committee," although the Finance Committee members is defined in the next section as the Board Treasurer and at least two other appointed Board Members. After discussion of eliminating the last sentence of the Executive Committee section, Jessica Merrill made a motion to rescind the motion to accept the revised By-Laws as presented. Ernie Dandeneau seconded. The motion carried unanimously. Tobias Vogel stated that, after review with the By-Laws Committee, changes would be made to the By-Laws and a revised version would be distributed to be considered for approval in the next meeting.
- D. BHSA Board Seminar: January 30 – February 1, 2026. Due to inclement weather, the seminar was cancelled at the last minute, after many Board Members were in route to the venue. Ms. Farmer stated that she had emailed the fundraising webinar, that was scheduled to be presented at the seminar, out to all Board Members for review.
- E. Drug Screen Testing Lab Update. Angela Farmer reported that the Drug Screen Testing Laboratory is going well. There are still a few nuances being settled, especially with insurance companies and the billing procedures. Ms. Farmer stated that in reviewing the income data for two months, she found that the difference between the projected amount expected and the actual revenues received are still not to an acceptable level, but should improve. Currently, the lab is

processing screens for clients and the outside entities that were serviced before the lab was implemented. The plan is to market the lab services to other entities to increase volume. Ms. Farmer will keep the Board updated on the progress in this area.

- F. Pickens Properties Update – 303 East Main Street Closing. Ms. Farmer reported that she had attempted to reach out to realtor, Tim Elder to inquire about the closing for the property at 303 East Main Street, as she had not received any update since the buyer requested to postpone the closing. The closing was expected to be scheduled by the end of February. Ms. Farmer will keep the Board updated on this item.

Item VIII. New Business. Angie Farmer reported that, as a matter of information, she has begun collecting data for the County Plan, the annual strategic plan. The plan is a contractual requirement of OSUS (Office of Substance Use Services) and entails establishing and prioritizing the agency's strategic goals for the next year, along with a projected budget. Also, the triennial CARF (Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities) survey will be due before the end of 2026. The two-day on-site survey will likely be scheduled sometime in October or November. CARF will survey all aspects of the agency, including policies and procedures, client services, personnel records, financial records and the physical safety of the facility. CARF surveyors will likely request to interview a couple stakeholders, clients, and Board Members. All policies and procedures will be reviewed in preparation of this survey to ensure compliance with the most CARF recent standards, which were just published and received this week.

Item IX. Executive Session. There was no need for Executive Session indicated.

Item X. Action from Executive Session. There was no action to report.

Item XI. Adjournment. There being no further business, Ernie Dandeneau made a motion to adjourn. Rhonda Billingsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 11, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,



Roslyn Holcombe
Recording Secretary

Members Present In-Person:
Tobias Vogel, Chair
Pamela Winters, Vice-Chair
Jessica Merrill, Treasurer
Rhonda Billingsley, Secretary
Ernie Dandeneau
Traci Freeman
Mandy Merchant
Liz Rampy
Eddie Talley

Members Excused:

Others Present:
Angie Farmer
Susanna Deming
Carly Davidson
Roslyn Holcombe
Kelly Jolley (Virtual)