

Henderson County Board of Social Services

March 24th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

The Henderson County Board of Social Services meeting was called to order by Chair Simpson at **11:59 am**.

Board Members Present	Josh Simpson, Chair Melinda Lowrance, Member Stephen Gwaltney, Member Rebecca McCall, Member Amy Holt, Member
Staff Leadership Present	Debra Dunn, Deputy Director Melissa Novack, Finance Officer Debby Freeman, Program Administrator Candice Fowler, Administrative Assistant
Guest	None

B. Public Input

None

C. Adjustments to the Agenda

None

D. Approval of Minutes

Mrs. Lowrance moved to approve February 18th, 2025, minutes, Mr. Gwaltney seconded the motion. All board members present were in favor, the minutes were approved.

E. Reports

Director's Monthly Report (Attachment I)

Questions Only

Mrs. Lowrance asked about the current senate bills. Mrs. Dunn stated that most of the bills are still in the intro phase.

March Employees of the Month (Attachment II)

Questions only

None

February 2024- February 2025 Statistical Report (Attachment III)

Questions only

February Program Administrator's Report (Attachment IV)

Questions only

Mrs. Lowrance asked what impact the new administration has on county funding. Mrs. Freeman stated that North Carolina has a clause that states if there is not a 90% fund reimbursement, Medicaid expansion will go away.

Financial Report February 2025 (Attachment V)

G. Old Business

DSS Staffing Update

Deputy Dunn stated that we have 9 vacancies at this time with 3 external candidates pending.

H. New Business

FY 25/26 Budget Approval:

Mrs. Novack stated that there is a request that is not in the budget packet, we have requested an elevator rebuild. The elevator is a major need in the agency for clientele as well as staff.

There is an uptick in the IT portion of the budget for laptop replacements as well as a file scanning project. We are requesting 2 new vehicles to replace the Prius vehicles that are ten years with high mileage.

Mrs. Lowrance asked about an amended budget once it has been approved by the county. Mrs. Novack stated that once the budget has been approved by the county in June, the agency will make amendments along the way to recognize the changes that have been made.

Mr. Gwaltney moved to approve the budget; Mrs. Holt seconded the motion. All board members were in favor and the FY 25/26 budget was approved.

I. Adjournment

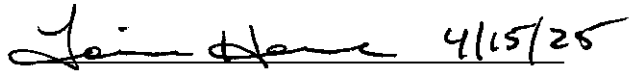
Chair Simpson adjourned the meeting at **12:18 pm**.



Josh Simpson, Chair

4/15/25

Date



Lorie Horne, Secretary to the Board

Date

Attachments:

- I. Director's Report – March 2025
- II. March Employees of the Month
- III. Statistical Report – February 2025
- IV. Program Administrators' Report – March 2025
- V. Financial Report – February 2024
- VI. FY 25/26 DSS Budget Approval