

Henderson County Board of Social Services
September 16th, 2025, Regular Meeting Minutes

A. Call to Order

The Henderson County Board of Social Services meeting was called to order by Chair Simpson at 12:02 pm

Board Members Present	Josh Simpson, Chair Melinda Lowrance, Member Stephen Gwaltney, Member Amy Holt, Member Jerrie McFalls, Member
Staff Leadership Present	Lorie Horne, Social Services Director Debra Dunn, Deputy Director Kandi Bridges, Interim Economic Services Administrator Candice Fowler, Administrative Assistant
Guest	Mary Kay Krokowski, League of Women Voters

B. Public Input

None

C. Adjustments to the Agenda

None

D. Approval of Minutes

Mr. Gwaltney moved to approve the August 19th, 2025, minutes, Mrs. Holt seconded the motion. The August 19th, 2025, meeting minutes were approved.

E. Reports

Director's Monthly Report (Attachment I)

Mrs. McFalls asked if they are going to allow clients to stay on expanded Medicaid. Director Horne stated yes clients are still on Medicaid expansion at this time. DHHS has made provider rate reductions to be effective October 1st, 2025, as a way of addressing the shortfall of the Medicaid rebase for state fiscal year 2025-2026. There are many concerns around the provider rate reductions and the impact that it will have on needed services for our consumers.

August 2024- August 2025 Statistical Report (Attachment III)

None

September Program Administrator's Report (Attachment IV)

Mrs. Bridges let the board know that we are re-classing a position for quality control and auditing purposes in the Food & Nutrition department.

Chair Simpson asked about the increase in CPS, Deputy Director Dunn stated that we are in line with expectations. Mr. Gwaltney asked what kind of data we review to gather this information. Deputy Director Dunn stated that we have a red, yellow, and green area for things that we are falling short on, areas that could be of concern, and things that we do well. The information allows us to set goals and activities to achieve those goals for staff.

Mrs. McFalls asked if 25 domestic violence reports are normal. Ms. Dunn stated that the total number of calls was 71 but only 32 were screened.

F. Financial Report August 2025 (Attachment V)

None

G. Old Business

DSS Staffing Update

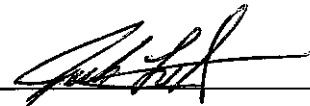
Director Horne stated that we have two social work positions, and seven economic services positions with a total of 9 vacancies currently. Right now, we have a position being re-classed for the Food and Nutrition department for quality control. There are two external candidates starting Monday. We are making progress.

H. Closed session

Chair Simpson made a motion to go into closed session at 12:29 pm.

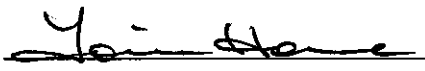
I. Adjournment

Chair Simpson made a motion to adjourn, Mr. Gwaltney seconded the motion. Chair Simpson adjourned the meeting at 1:20 pm.

 10/21/25

Josh Simpson, Chair

Date

 10-21-25

Lorie Horne, Secretary to the Board

Date

Attachments:

- I. Director's Report –September 2025
- II. Statistical Report – August 2025
- III. Program Administrators' Report –September 2025
- IV. Financial Report – August 2025