SOUTHWEST BEHAVIORAL HEALTH CENTER
AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING MINUTES
May 14, 2025
Cedar City, Utah

PRESENT:	Commissioner Paul Cozzens Commissioner Victor Iverson Commissioner Wade Hollingshead
EXCUSED:	Commissioner Celeste Meyeres Commissioner Jerry Taylor
STAFF MEMBERS:	Mike Deal, Executive Director Michael Sherratt, Clinical Director Crystal Stock, Executive Assistant

CALL TO ORDER/ INTRODUCTIONS

The meeting was called to order by Commissioner Iverson, Vice Chairperson of the Authority Board, who welcomed all those in attendance.

APPROVAL OF MARCH MINUTES

Commissioner Iverson asked for a motion to approve the March 2025 Authority Board minutes. Commissioner Cozzens moved to adopt the minutes and Commissioner Hollingshead seconded the motion. The minutes were unanimously approved.

FY2025 BUDGET REVISION

Commissioner Iverson declared the Public Hearing opened. He noted there were no public in attendance.

Mike Deal proposed a revision of the 2025 Budget. Mr. Deal first discussed how the Center's total estimated revenue is up by $757,123. Then Mr. Deal went into explaining the proposed revisions of a $776,000 increase in total operating expenditures. Within the operating expenditures, there is an increase of $635,000 in personnel expenditures and an increase of $141,00 in non-personnel expenditures. These personnel variances accounted for salaries and fringe benefits, including an ARPA-funded retention allowance for all current staff. The operating expense adjustments were for allowances for late subcontractor invoicing, and an increase for general travel costs.

After discussion, a motion to approve the FY2025 Budget Revision 1 was made by Commissioner Hollingshead and seconded by Commissioner Cozzens. The voting was unanimous in favor. With this discussion done, Commissioner Iverson declared the Public Meeting closed.

FY2026 BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Iverson declared the Public Hearing opened related to the tentative FY26 Budget. Mr. Deal also noted that the hearing notice was published on the State site and in the newspaper.

Mr. Deal noted that State code requires us to present the budget to the Board in May. He started by saying there is no new significant dollars by the State and the Legislature did not appropriate any significant new money this year. The only real differences seen in funding is generally based on population due to the formula used by the State when allocating funding.

Mr. Deal continued to review the projected FY2026 budget and reviewed various line items that were worth noting. Revenue discussion included State General Funds, Federal Block Grants and various other grants. Several Prevention grants are ending this fiscal year; however, Prevention is not worried for these funds are not related to staffing and no employees are needing to be laid off. It was noted the Center is looking for increases in Medicaid; however, these have not yet been finalized, so budgets were based on requests and best estimates. A review of expenditures included Select Health asked for a 30% increase, tied to high use cases. The Center ended up making minor plan adjustments by raising employees out of pocket and deductible. By doing this, the Center landed on a 21% increase which is seen within the FY26 budget. A tentative merit was built into the budget. Discussion ensued on various other expenditures that had substantial changes. All other expense line items were reviewed.

Mr. Deal added that although discussion will take place today, the budget will be voted on in the June Board Meeting. We feel we are operating within our means and are pleased with the budget. There were no additional questions.

With this discussion done, Commissioner Iverson declared the Public Meeting closed.

FY 2026 AREA PLAN

Commissioner Iverson declared the Public Hearing opened associated with the Area Plan. This is an effort to gain public input into the Plan.

Mike Deal presented the FY2026 Area Plan Narrative and Budgets which as of two years ago is a 3-year plan FY2024-FY2026. This plan is an annual comprehensive description of all services delivered by the three components of Southwest Behavioral Health Center: Mental Health Treatment, Substance Use Disorder Treatment, and Prevention. Mr. Deal noted this plan is due the 15th of May with a signature due from the Board Chair. A finalized .pdf copy will be sent to the Board and Mr. Deal added that if the Commissioners found questions or changes, they would like made, to please let him know. He noted there weren't a lot of changes from last year's plan.

Mike Sherratt covered the changes seen from last year. One of the biggest changes is the hiring of a youth liaison related to inpatient avoidance. Mr. Sherratt expressed these changes are part of the reduction in inpatient costs the Center is seeing. He also noted the increased use of the residential side of the Crisis Center. He continued discussing other changes, such as the First Episode Psychosis. (FEP), completing training on cognitive behavioral therapy for psychosis, and growth of the Stabilization and Mobile Response (SMR) team.

BI-MONTHLY FINANCIAL REPORT & BI-MONTHLY OPERATIONS REPORT

Mike Deal discussed the Bi-Monthly Operation Report for March and April. Mr. Deal highlighted the Incident Report and a recent suicide attempt by a patient at the Receiving Center. The incident was reported to licensing for review. Mr. Deal noted the Receiving Center is a unique place where those in crisis come for care. The Center has been fortunate to have no recorded injuries to staff or clients.

A motion to approve the Bi-Monthly Financial Report and Bi-Monthly Operations Report was made by Commissioner Hollingshead and seconded by Commissioner Cozzens. The voting was unanimous in favor. Commissioner Iverson, Vice Chair of the Authority Board, provided his signature.

ST. GEORGE HOUSING UNITS

Mr. Deal explained the three Saint George duplexes, Dixie View, built in 2005, will no longer be under the contract with HUD at the end of the year. With the contract responsibility ending, the Center will have free will to manage the duplexes how they see fit. Mike Deal is working internally to see how to proceed with the duplexes.

DIRECTORS REPORT

Mike Deal stated the June meeting will be pushed to 11:00am to approve the FY26 Budget.

NATCON25 TAKEAWAYS

Mr. Deal opened a discussion for Commissioners to speak on their experiences at the National Council in Philadelphia, PA. The Commissioners expressed appreciation for their time there and shared what stood out to them, and what they would like the see change for next year. It was a very good discussion.

MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Iverson moved to adjourn the meeting and Commissioner Hollingshead seconded the motion. The voting was unanimously in favor of adjournment.

MAY MINUTES APPROVAL

The May 14^{th}, 2025 Board Meeting minutes were unanimously approved at the June 11^{th}, 2025 Board Meeting.

Southwest Behavioral Health Center Authority Board Chairperson