PENDING - SUBJECT TO CHANGE

MINUTES
CENTRAL UTAH COUNSELING CENTER
AUTHORITY BOARD MEETING

DATE: **June 10, 2026**

PLACE: **47 E 300 S**
Richfield, UT 84701

TIME: **5:00 PM**

PRESENT:
Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown, Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually), Richard Anderson, Jace Ellsworth, Jared Kummer, Lynnette Robinson, Chad Williams, Christian Matthews, Kory Meacham, Kristofer Lundeberg, Samantha Payne

EXCUSED: **Nathan Strait**

I. PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Present.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ralph Brown to approve the minutes of the May 13th, 2026 Authority Board Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Scott Bartholomew. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown,Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried.

III. RATIFICATION of VEHICLE PURCHASE:

The purchase of two Ford Transit Vans was approved via email. Board ratification of this approval is requested.

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Bartholomew to ratify the purchase of two Ford Transit Vans. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis Blackburn. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown, Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried.

IV. FY2026 REVISED BUDGET:

Richard Anderson presented the revised budget, with 92% of the year completed, the original line items approved last June were presented alongside the proposed revised items. A significant portion of the Mental Health (MH) Cap, totaling $2.6 million, is attributed to funding for the receiving center. Conversely, $700,000 less was received for the Substance Use Disorder (SUD) Cap. While last year's budgeting may have been slightly conservative, Richard stated they have already met to balance the FY27 budget. Overall, the financial outlook is positive, though we are observing a notable shift from SUD to MH. Adjustments are needed for Wages and Fringe benefits due to ARPA payments, front-line bonuses, and direct service incentives. Additionally, the revised budget reflects decreased travel expenses. Inpatient (IP) remains unchanged at $533,000. Approval is sought to approve the revised budget allocations from $9,847,198 to $14,039,665 for MH and from $4,033,862 to $3,097,166 for SUD.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dennis Blackburn to accept the FY2026 Revised Budget Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Ralph Brown. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown, Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried.

V. FY2027 BUDGET DISCUSSION:

Richard Anderson explained that the Medicaid budget request process has changed, with requests now driven by the Medical Loss Ratio (MLR) report. A combined total of $10.5 million was requested for Substance Use Disorder (SUD) and Mental Health (MH) services. Although actuarial data suggests the center should receive $11.1 million, Richard is continuing to budget based on the $10.5 million figure. Any surplus funds received could be allocated to reserves or special projects. Additionally, $1 million ($850,000 and $150,000) has been specifically budgeted for the Ephraim facility addition. Commissioner Marty Palmer inquired about the flexibility of any additional funds; Richard clarified that while they cannot be used for the Medicaid match, they can be utilized for other team projects and operational needs.

There is a projected increase of $220,000 in travel, wages, and fringe benefits, which includes the Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA). Travel expenses specifically are $29,000 higher than the previous year. The budget for Inpatient (IP) services has been slightly reduced, while the capital and equipment lines reflect the Ephraim addition. Funding for SUD residential services will remain at $20,000. In response to Commissioner Marty Palmer’s follow-up, it was confirmed that the COLA is set at 4%.

A motion was made by Commissioner Ralph Brown to accept the FY2027 Budget Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marty Palmer. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown,

Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried.

VI. CURRENT FINANCIAL REPORT:

The current financial report indicated minimal changes from the revised budget. Regarding the 'non-covered meals' line item, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew inquired about its purpose. Richard clarified that although these meals are not covered by Medicaid, they are essential for client skill-building and group participation; consequently, they must be excluded from the cost study and are listed as a separate line item for this reason. This exclusion also applies to room and board costs at the residential facilities.

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Bartholomew to accept the Current Financial Report as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marty Palmer. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown, Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried.

VII. RECEIVING CENTER UPDATE:

Richard provided an update on the receiving center's construction, noting that trusses are scheduled for delivery next week as the building begins to move vertical. Following a meeting with the contractor today, adjustments were made to the entryway, and the overall process continues to proceed smoothly. In response to an inquiry from Commissioner Sam Steed regarding the project timeline, Richard confirmed that construction remains on schedule.

VIII. FACILITIES/GROUNDS - SIDEWALKS:

Security entry controls will be installed at the Delta office to enable remote locking and unlocking by secretaries. Additionally, the sidewalk and concrete lifting project in Ephraim has been successfully completed by Concrete Leveling Solutions of Fairview.

IX. HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT:

Jace Ellsworth presented the Human Resources Report.

A. New Hires and Terminations
Katie Poulsen, a SUDC in Delta, was terminated on May 26, 2026. Christopher Clark was hired as a therapist in Nephi.

B. Open Positions
The case manager vacancy remains unfilled, and its base of operations is being transitioned from Delta to Nephi/Fillmore. Efforts are underway to backfill the position left open by the recent termination. Additionally, while the Recreational Therapist position is still open, active recruitment has been scaled back for the time being.

C. Mandatory and Required Staff Trainings show that Admin is 97% compliant, Tri-County 98%, and Sanpete 97%.

X. SCHOOL BASED SERVICES

The Central Utah Education System (CUES) school districts, excluding Millard County, receive grant funding to support School-Based Services (SBS). We have proposed that they utilize these funds ($240,000) to hire personnel to provide SBS for non-Medicaid students, while we continue to provide SBS for Medicaid-eligible students. Commissioner Scott Bartholomew inquired if the grant money was earmarked for behavioral health, and Richard confirmed that it is. Richard noted that providing services outside of Medicaid impacts our Medicaid rates. Commissioner Sam Steed inquired about any opposition; Richard indicated that some superintendents have expressed concern, misinterpreting the proposal as the termination of SBS. He clarified that we are not discontinuing SBS, but rather suggesting that districts utilize their own staff or subcontractors for non-Medicaid student services.

XI. OTHER:

This marked Lynnette Robinson's final meeting as an employee. The Board expressed appreciation for her 30 years of service managing financial records between CUCC and Six County. Lynnette joined CUCC full-time 11 years ago, and throughout her tenure, she has witnessed the organization's growth from a budget of just under $1 million in 1986 to $18 million today.

XII. CLOSED SESSION:

A. The character professional competence of employee(s)
B. Pending Litigation
C. CEO and CFO Performance Review

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Bartholomew to move into Closed Session for the purpose of discussing pending or threatened litigation and/or the character, professional competence of employee(s), property, or strategy session as provided by Utah Code Annotated §52-4-205. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dennis Blackburn. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown, Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried. Roll call of those in attendance included Marty Palmer, Ralph Brown, Sam Steed, Scott Bartholomew, Dennis Blackburn, Vicki Lyman (attended virtually), Richard Anderson, Jace Ellsworth, Jared Kummer, and Chad Williams.

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Bartholomew to move out of Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marty Palmer. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown, Commissioner

Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried.

XIII. CLOSED SESSION ACTION:

A motion was made by Commissioner Scott Bartholomew to allow Richard Anderson to move in the direction that the attorney has recommended. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Sam Steed. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown, Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried.

XIV. MEETING SCHEDULE:

August 12, 2026, location TBD

XV: MATTERS FROM THE BOARD:

A motion was made by Commissioner Ralph Brown to move to close the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Marty Palmer. Votes by voice included Commissioner Sam Steed, Commissioner Ralph Brown, Commissioner Dennis Blackburn, Commissioner Marty Palmer, Commissioner Scott Bartholomew, Commissioner Vicki Lyman (attended virtually) Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:27 p.m.

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Samantha Payne, AP Clerk