

FINAL APPROVED MINUTES

State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

REGULAR QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

DBHDS Central Office, 13th Floor South Conference Room
 Jefferson Building, 1220 Bank Street, Richmond, VA 23219

The meeting was held in person with a physical quorum present and with electronic or phone connection available.

MEMBERS PRESENT	Sandra Price-Stroble R. Blake Andis Varun Choudhary, MD Rebecca Graser Cindy Lamb Tony Vadella
MEMBERS ABSENT	Sandy Chung, MD Moira Mazzi Jane McDonald
DBHDS STAFF PRESENT	Mary Broz-Vaughan, Regulatory Affairs Director/State Board Liaison Lauren Cunningham, Communications Director Braden Curtis, Chief Deputy Commissioner Madelyn Lent, Public Policy Manager Crystal Lipford, Director of Quality and Risk Management (virtual) Josie Mace, Legislative Affairs Director (virtual) Meghan McGuire, Deputy Commissioner, Policy and Public Affairs Heather Norton, Deputy Commissioner, Community Services Susan Puglisi, Regulatory Research Specialist Margaret Steele, Deputy Director, Office of Community Operations (virtual)
INVITED GUEST	Jennifer Faison, VACSB Executive Director (virtual)
VIRTUAL ATTENDEES	Charlotte Arbogast, DARS Senior Policy Analyst; Katie Boyle, VACo Deputy Director; Sarah Craddock; Rima Forrest, Service Facilitator; Robin Hubert, On Our Own Executive Director; Heather Linke; Leah Mills, Deputy Secretary of Health and Human Resources; Heather Pettrus; Teresa Smith, OSIG Healthcare Compliance Unit Manager; Jayda (no last name), Kameelah (no last name)

CALL TO ORDER	Finding a quorum of the board present, Vice Chair Sandra Price-Stroble called the meeting to order at 9:35 a.m.
Adoption of Agenda	Ms. Price-Stroble advised the board of one amendment to the agenda. The Commissioner’s Report was moved earlier to Item #4, after the Public Comment Period. Ms. Lamb moved to adopt the agenda as amended. Dr. Choudhary seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
Introductions	Ms. Price-Stroble welcomed those present and asked for introductions.
Approval of Minutes	Ms. Price-Stroble opened the floor to any additions or corrections to the draft minutes of the April 1, 2025, dinner meeting, or the April 2, 2025, committee and board meetings. Hearing none, Mr. Vadella moved to approve the minutes en bloc. Ms. Graser seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
Officer Elections	Ms. Price-Stroble reported that the Nominating Committee held an all-virtual meeting on July 8, 2025. The committee voted unanimously to nominate a slate of candidates with Blake Andis for the position of chair position and Jane McDonald for the position of vice chair. In accordance with the board’s bylaws, Ms. Price-Stroble opened the floor for any additional nominations. Hearing none, Dr. Choudhary moved to elect Blake Andis as Board Chair. Ms. Lamb seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Dr. Choudhary moved to elect Jane McDonald as Board Vice Chair. Mr. Vadella seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.
TRANSFER OF CHAIR	Ms. Price-Stroble congratulated the newly elected officers and passed the gavel to Sheriff Andis. Sheriff Andis thanked Ms. Price-Stroble and assumed the chair.
Public Comment Period	Sheriff Andis called for public comment. No commenters were present. One written comment was received and read into the record. (<i>see attached</i>)
Commissioner’s Report	Braden Curtis, Chief Deputy Commissioner, provided an update on the Hiram W. Davis Medical Center closure process and Planning and Consensus Team. Heather Norton, Deputy Commissioner for Community Services, briefed the board on internal restructuring that will integrate and elevate recovery and prevention within the division’s behavioral health area.

REORDERING OF AGENDA	<p>Sheriff Andis noted the meeting was running ahead of schedule and requested unanimous consent to take business out of order.</p> <p>Without objection, the board agreed to reorder the agenda and take the committee report and regulatory updates up for immediate consideration.</p>
Committee Report	<p>Madelyn Lent, Public Policy Manager, reported that the Policy and Evaluation Committee received background information on the next policies scheduled for periodic review:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Policy 2010 (ADM) 88-2 – Policy Development and Education, and • Policy 2011 (ADM) 88-3 – Naming of Buildings, Rooms and Other Areas at State Facilities. <p>Ms. Lent said the agency will recommend revisions to Policy 2011 (ADM) 88-3 for the committee to review at its next meeting.</p> <p>The committee voted to recommend Policy 5008 (FAC) 87-12 – Accreditation/Certification and Policy 5010 (FAC) 00-1 – State Facility Uniform Clinical and Operational Policies and Procedures to the full board with revisions, which Ms. Lent indicated would be included in the next quarterly meeting agenda packet.</p> <p>Ms. Lent called members’ attention to the committee’s recommended changes to Policy 5006 (FAC) 86-29 – Razing of Dilapidated Buildings for the board’s consideration, on pages 18-19 of the meeting packet.</p> <p>On a motion by Ms. Lamb, properly seconded by Ms. Graser, the board unanimously approved the revisions to Policy 5006 (FAC) 86-29.</p>
Regulatory Updates	<p>Sheriff Andis asked Ms. Broz-Vaughan and Ms. Puglisi to guide board members through the action items.</p>
<i>Action Item 1</i>	<p>Consideration of Final/Exempt Action for Conditional Certification of Recovery Residences [12VAC35-360]</p> <p>Ms. Broz-Vaughan explained that the 2025 Session of the General Assembly directed the board to establish a non-renewable, nine-month “conditional” certification for recovery residences. The draft language is narrowly drawn to comply with the requirement that exempt regulatory actions exercise no discretion.</p> <p>MOTION: Ms. Lamb moved to initiate an exempt action to adopt final amendments to Chapter 260, the Certified Recovery Residences regulations, as presented. Ms. Price-Stroble seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.</p>
<i>Action Item 2</i>	<p>Consideration of Fast-Track Action for Technical and Clarifying Revisions to Crisis Services [12VAC35-105]</p>

	<p>Ms. Puglisi reviewed the proposed “clean-up” amendments, which ease unintended administrative costs on providers and promote increased compliance, while preserving health and safety protections for individuals receiving crisis services. The changes are expected to be non-controversial because they address concerns expressed by stakeholders since the crisis regulations were first implemented last year.</p> <p>MOTION: Dr. Choudhary moved to initiate a fast-track action to make the technical and clarifying amendments to Chapter 105, the Licensing Regulations, as presented. Ms. Lamb seconded, and the motion carried unanimously.</p>
<i>Status Report</i>	Ms. Broz-Vaughan reviewed the chart of current and upcoming regulatory activity. She advised board members of recent movement on the fast-track action amending the Early Intervention System (12VAC35-225) regulations, which the Governor’s Office approved.
Recess	Sheriff Andis recessed the meeting for a short break. He announced the meeting would reconvene at 10:30 a.m.
The Board recessed at 10:20 a.m. to reconvene at 10:30 a.m.	
The Board reconvened at 10:30 a.m.	
Reconvene	Sheriff Andis reconvened the meeting to receive the VACSB presentation and complete the agenda.
VACSB Presentation	Ms. Faison briefed the board on the Virginia Association of Community Services Boards (VACSB) planning activities and major priorities related to the next General Assembly session.
New Business	Sheriff Andis directed members to Item 8 on the agenda, New Business.
<i>2025-27 Board Meeting Schedule</i>	<p>Sheriff Andis reviewed the proposed schedule for the biennium, noting it completes the post-pandemic facility visit cycle by April 2026.</p> <p>On a motion by Mr. Vadella, properly seconded by Ms. Graser, the board unanimously adopted the 2025-27 meeting schedule as presented.</p>
<i>Announcements</i>	Ms. Broz-Vaughan reminded members of the budget report handout, which was for informational purposes only and did not require any action.
ADJOURNMENT	Sheriff Andis adjourned the meeting at 11:07 a.m.
The State Board adjourned at 11:07 a.m.	

NEXT MEETING SCHEDULED FOR WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2025
 DBHDS Southeastern Virginia Training Center (SVTC) in Chesapeake

Public Comment to the DBHDS State Board

Submitted by Cheryl DeHaven, BS, CPC, CPRS

July 2025

Good morning, members of the Board,

My name is Cheryl DeHaven, and I'm a Certified Peer Recovery Specialist. I offer this comment on behalf of many others in the peer recovery community who have expressed serious concerns about the recent restructuring of the Office of Recovery Services (ORS). As you listen, I ask you to consider this moment through the lens of the six principles of a trauma-informed system - principles DBHDS has long committed to.

1. Safety

Peer recovery thrives when people - and programs - feel safe, supported, and protected. The sudden restructuring of ORS, without transparency or clear communication to those most impacted, undermined that safety. ORS staff and the wider community were left uncertain about their future, their value, and their voice. That is not how a trauma-informed system operates.

2. Trustworthiness and Transparency

Trust is built when people are included in decisions that affect them. In this case, ORS staff - individuals who are the backbone of recovery leadership in Virginia - were excluded from the decision-making process. Only afterward were explanations offered. Transparency means bringing people into the room early, not informing them after the fact.

3. Peer Support

It's ironic - and heartbreaking - that the very office tasked with championing peer support was dismantled without the support of its peers. The federal Peer Support Act, introduced by Virginia's

own Senator Tim Kaine, shows how peer leadership should be elevated, resourced, and formalized. Virginia must align with this model - not drift away from it.

4. Collaboration and Mutuality

The restructuring process was not collaborative. ORS staff were not treated as partners in the change, despite years of experience and national recognition. Decisions were made about them, not with them. Collaboration means shared power - not top-down mandates.

5. Empowerment, Voice, and Choice

The peer recovery movement is rooted in the belief that lived experience should drive change. The restructuring diminished that voice, removing ORS from its clear leadership role. Furthermore, we are troubled by implications that staff acted inappropriately by reaching out to community members for support. In peer recovery, seeking connection and raising concerns is not insubordination - it is integrity. It is leadership.

6. Cultural, Historical, and Gender Responsiveness

Peer support was born from lived oppression - from voices ignored, silenced, and dismissed. Virginia has made great strides in recognizing that history and building equity through lived experience leadership. Eliminating ORS as a standalone, visible office risks returning us to systems where the voices of survivors and peers are once again placed on the margins.

We respectfully call on this Board to:

- Restore a clearly defined, peer-led structure at DBHDS with a direct seat at the executive leadership table;

- Align state efforts with the federal Peer Support Act to ensure peer leadership is meaningfully integrated and protected;
- And recommit DBHDS to the six trauma-informed principles not just in rhetoric, but in policy, process, and personnel decisions.

Virginia was once a leader in trauma-informed, recovery-focused systems. Please do not let this moment redefine that legacy.

Thank you for your time and thoughtful consideration.

- Cheryl DeHaven, BS, CPC, CPRS

STATE BOARD OF BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND DEVELOPMENTAL SERVICES

Policy and Evaluation Committee
FINAL APPROVED MINUTES

JULY 9, 2025

1220 BANK STREET, RICHMOND, VIRGINIA 23219

*This meeting was held in person with a physical quorum present,
with electronic or phone connection available.*

Members Present: Sandra Price-Stroble
Rebecca Graser
Cindy Lamb

Members Absent: Varun Choudhary, MD

Staff Present: Madelyn Lent, Public Policy Manager
Meghan McGuire, Deputy Commissioner, Policy and Public Affairs
Chaye Neal-Jones, Director, Office of Enterprise Management Services (virtual)
Crystal Lipford, Director of Quality and Risk Management, Division of Facility
Services (virtual)
Todd McDonald, Virginia Management Fellow

I. Call to Order

II. Welcome and Introductions

Sandra Price Stroble called the meeting to order at 8:40 am

III. Adoption of Agenda, July 9, 2025

Rebecca Graser moved to adopt the agenda. Cindy Lamb seconded. The agenda was adopted.

IV. Adoption of Minutes, April 2, 2025

Rebecca Graser moved to adopt the agenda. Cindy Lamb seconded. The agenda was adopted.

V. Review Policy Plan for FY2025 - FY2030

Madelyn Lent presented the policy review plan to the Policy Committee.

VI. Presentation of Background Reviews

Madelyn Lent provided a brief overview of Policy 2010 (ADM) 88-2 Policy Development and Education. No revisions to the policy were recommended. The committee completed the periodic review of the policy without revisions.

Crystal Lipford provided a review of Policy 2011 (ADM) 88-3 Naming of Buildings, Rooms and Other Areas at State Facilities and discussed recommended revisions in concept. DBHDS will present a draft of proposed revisions at the next committee meeting.

VII. Introduce Draft Revisions

The committee received background information on the Policy 6005 (FIN) 94-2 Retention of Unspent State Funds by Community Services Boards and Policy 4018 (CSB) 86-9 Community Services Board Performance Contracts at the April 2nd meeting.

Meghan McGuire and Chaye Neal-Jones presented the DBHDS recommendation to rescind Policy 6005, explaining that procedures for CSB unspent balances are defined in the performance contract and State Board requirements for the performance contract are defined in Policy 4018. They answered questions from committee members and provided performance contract language defining procedures for CSB unspent balances for the committee to reference. The committee will review the recommendation to rescind Policy 6005 at their next meeting in September.

The committee reviewed draft technical revisions for Policy 4018 presented by Chaye Neal-Jones. The committee will review the recommended revisions at their next meeting in September.

VIII. Presentation of draft revisions for recommendation to the full board

The committee reviewed and discussed draft revisions for Policy 5008 (FAC) 87-12 Accreditation/Certification and Policy 5010 (FAC) 00-1 State Facility Uniform Clinical and Operational Policies and Procedures at the April 2nd meeting. Rebecca Graser moved to recommend the amendments to the full board. Cindy Lamb seconded. The revisions were recommended unanimously.

IX. Next Quarterly Meeting: September 24, 2025.

X. Adjournment

Sandra Price Stroble adjourned the meeting at 9:15 am.

All current policies of the State Board are here: <https://dbhds.virginia.gov/about-dbhds/Boards-Councils/state-board-of-BHDS/bhds-policies/>.

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State Board of Behavioral Health and Developmental Services

BIENNIAL PLANNING MEETING

Wednesday, July 9, 2025

DBHDS Central Office, 13th Floor South Conference Room
 Jefferson Building, 1220 Bank Street, Richmond, VA 23219

MEMBERS PRESENT	R. Blake Andis, Chair Rebecca Graser Cindy Lamb Tony Vadella
MEMBERS ABSENT	Varun Choudhary, MD Sandy Chung, MD Moira Mazzi Jane McDonald Sandra Price-Stroble
STAFF PRESENT	Mary Broz-Vaughan, Regulatory Affairs Director and State Board Liaison Meghan McGuire, Deputy Commissioner, Policy and Public Affairs Nathan Miles, Chief Financial Officer Susan Puglisi, Regulatory Research Specialist Chance Welfare, Manager of Strategic Planning and Execution

CALL TO ORDER	Sheriff Andis called the biennial planning meeting to order at 12:05 p.m., noting the lack of a quorum would not impede the session as it did not involve the transaction of public business.
REVIEW OF BYLAWS AND STATUTORY DIRECTIVE	<p>Ms. McGuire reviewed the board’s practice of sending a letter conveying its priorities to the Governor and the General Assembly as the new biennial budget is developed, which fulfills two statutory requirements:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To review and comment on all budgets and requests for appropriations for the Department prior to their submission to the Governor; and • To advise the Governor, Commissioner, and General Assembly on matters relating to mental health, developmental, and substance abuse services. [§ 37.2-203 of the Code of Virginia] <p>Members received a copy of the 2023 letter expressing the board’s priorities for the 2024-26 biennium.</p>

PRESENTATIONS	<p>Mr. Miles provided an overview of the Department’s budget and major system funding issues.</p> <p>Mr. Welfare delivered an update on strategic continuity and Department objectives aligned with the board’s existing priorities.</p>
FACILITATED DISCUSSION	<p>Through facilitated discussion with Ms. McGuire, members drafted a list of priorities for the 2026-28 biennial budget focused on continuing the transformational system change made over the previous biennium.</p> <p>Staff will prepare and circulate a preliminary version for review by board members.</p>
ADJOURNMENT	<p>Mr. Andis adjourned the meeting at 1:30 p.m.</p>