

Region Ten Community Services Board

Board Meeting Minutes

January 13, 2026 4:00 PM

500-B

Old Lynchburg Rd

Charlottesville, VA

Members Present

Dave Opper, Chair

Alex Stott, Vice-Chair

Francesca Diggs, Secretary

Barbara Barrett

Steve Wunsh

Patti Heggie

Peggy Whitehead

Joseph Szakos

Dr. David C. Harlow

JoAnn Robertson

Mary Katherine King

Members Absent

Dr. Barry Blumenthal

Wendy Mitchem

Others Present

Dr. Lisa Beitz, Executive Director

Kathy Williams, Deputy Executive Director

Rachel Blakey, Administrative Services Project
Coordinator

Marny Bentley, Senior Director of Clinical
Operations

Seth Ragosta, Region Ten Attorney

James Culmer, Louisa Board appointee

I. Call to Order

Mr. Opper called the meeting to order at 4pm.

II. Welcome

Mr. Opper welcomed the Board, Region Ten Staff, and guests and wished a happy new year.

Mr. Opper introduced James Culmer, a new member to the board appointed by Louisa County. Mr. Opper also congratulated Dr. Harlow on reappointment to the board by Fluvanna County.

Mr. Culmer introduced himself to the Board, stating that having a child stuck in between services led him to advocacy. He also owns a book publishing company and loves to impact and give back to the community.

The board and staff present introduced themselves to Mr. Culmer.

III. Comments from the Public

A community member receiving services wanted to share about their experience with Blue Ridge Center and stated that the staff was welcoming and empathetic.

The Board wanted to thank the community member for taking the time to speak during the public meeting regarding Blue Ridge Center.

IV. FOIA Presentation

Mr. Ragosta informed the Board regarding FOIA and how it affects the Board.

V. Strategic Plan Update

Ms. Bentley gave an update on the strategic plan.

VI. Chair's Remarks

VII. Executive Director's Remarks

VIII. Committee Reports

Legislative Committee

Mr. Opper reminded the Board of the VACSB legislation conference next week and stated that a meeting will occur after.

Bylaws- Ad Hoc Committee

Mr. Stott reviewed the language of the Bylaws being changed for the Executive Committee to comprise of the current officers and those invited to attend. Mr. Stott also explained the requirement to add remote meeting provisions into the Bylaws. Lastly, the Board member description is to ease those onto the board.

Mr. Wunsh moves to adopt the Bylaws revisions; there was no second.

Mr. Stott moved to separate out the job description and only vote on two. Ms. Diggs seconded. Mr. Wunsh and Ms. Barrett voted "no" with Mr. Culmer abstaining. The remaining board members voted in agreement.

Ms. Diggs clarified her reasoning for agreement to separate the amendments was due to Zoom potentially needing to be used in the near future in the event of inclement weather.

Mr. Szakos requested to discuss the Board job description at the next meeting. Mr. Stott seconded, with Mr. Wunsh, Ms. Barrett, and Mr. Culmer abstaining. The remaining board members voted in agreement.

Staff Appreciation- Ad Hoc Committee

Ms. Heggie stated the committee will meet soon and that spring ideas are in the development stage. There will be more to share at the February Board meeting.

Fundraising

Ms. Whitehead let the Board know that an appeal letter went out in December. There was a discussion regarding the ability to opt out of emails if a person is added to the fundraising email list; this will be verified for future reference. The Fundraising Committee will be meeting soon to discuss the Power of Ten grants.

IX. Other Business

X. Consent Agenda

Mr. Opper asked if there was motion to accept the consent agenda. Ms. Whitehead made a motion to accept the consent agenda and Mr. Wunsh seconded. The approval was unanimous.

XI. Adjournment

Mr. Opper asked if there was a motion for adjournment. Mr. Wunsh motioned for adjournment, seconded by Mr. Stott. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 6pm.