

# BOONE COUNTY CHILDREN'S SERVICES BOARD MEETING

**In Person: Boone County Family Resources**

**2700 W Ash St, Columbia MO 65203**

***Thursday, December 11, 2025 at 8:00 a.m.***

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## **MINUTES**

**Board Members Present:** Greg Grupe, Lynn Barnett, Sebastián Martínez, Bob Aulgur, Leigh Spence, Wiley Miller

**Board Members Absent:** Connie Leipard, Rodney Dixon, Michele Kennet

**Staff Present:** Joanne Nelson – Director, Kristin Cummins – Deputy Director, Enola-Riann White – Program Manager (Upward Mobility), Victoria Woods – Program Manager (Health & Justice), Ben Lee – Administrative Coordinator, Michelle Thompson – Program Specialist, Kerby Webb – Program Specialist

**Guests:** Alpha Hightower

**1. Open Meeting**

Leigh called the meeting to order at 8:00 am.

**2. Motion and Vote for Closed Session Pursuant to R.S.Mo. §610.021(12)(13)**

Greg Motioned to move to a Closed Session at 8:02 am. Bob Seconded the motion.

Roll Call: Greg Grupe-yes, Lynn Barnett-yes, Sebastián Martínez-yes, Bob Aulgur-yes, Leigh Spence-yes

Action: Lynn motioned to approve Contingency Funding Request for Mary Lee Johnston Community Learning Center. Greg seconded.

Roll Call: Greg Grupe-yes, Lynn Barnett-yes, Sebastián Martínez-yes, Bob Aulgur-yes, Leigh Spence-yes

**3. Approve Minutes for BCCSB Meetings**

- November 13, 2025 BCCSB Meeting – Greg motioned to approve the minutes. Sebastián seconded. The motion passed.
- November 24, 2025 Financial Oversight and Strategy Committee Meeting – Bob motioned to approve the minutes. Lynn seconded. The motion passed.
- December 5, 2025 BCCSB Strategic Planning Retreat – Lynn motioned to approve the minutes. Sebastián seconded. The motion passed.

**4. Financial Report for December 11, 2025, Meeting**

Joanne gave a report on the net position of the children's services fund:

- The Net Position is \$6,003,639.37 which is a \$184,487.40 decrease from last month
- The sale tax revenue is \$6,524,637.81
- The use tax revenue is \$1,260,248.54
- The interest revenue is \$290,470.87
- Year-to-date expenditures and encumbrances are \$13.5 million

- Contract utilization and service reallocations were reviewed, which are currently at 78.5% average utilization rate.

Lynn motioned to approve the financial report. Bob seconded. The motion passed.

Sebastián Martínez left at 8:25 am. The BCCSB no longer had a quorum.

## **5. FY2026 Budget Update**

IT contract costs for 2026 have been finalized and their impact on the budget was reported to the Board. There was a delay in receiving IT costs for 2026 and were not accurately entered into the budget submitted to the Commissioners to approve.

The Boone County Community Services staff will meet with the Auditor and his team in January to discuss the cost to continue spreadsheet and the fund balance for future years to help inform strategic planning. This will be presented to the Board at the earliest opportunity.

## **6. Heart of Missouri CASA Strategic Innovation Opportunity (SIO) Contract**

Heart of Missouri CASA requested to transfer the contract to Mizzou Academy to alleviate the administrative burden. The BCCSB had questions about how managing the contract and case management for the program fits within Mizzou Academy's department. The vote was tabled until January until more information was gathered from both organizations.

## **7. New Business**

The Board discussed future meeting dates and structure for 2026 BCCSB meetings.

- Leigh discussed the Columbia Public Schools' "Portrait of a Graduate" program that involves presentations by current or new high school graduates of Columbia Public Schools. The Board was willing for the students to attend the next meeting for this discussion.
- Greg brought up the idea of holding at least one of the Board meetings per year, outside of Columbia. This would allow the Board to hear from public participants that might find the trip to Columbia too arduous to attend the normal Board meetings.
- There was then a brief discussion around the feasibility of Online/Hybrid Board Meetings to allow some more flexibility around attendance. Online or Hybrid meetings have been done in the past but only out of necessity.

Alphia Hightower joined the meeting at 8:44 am.

- There was a discussion on strategies to reduce the amount of time the Community Services Department staff report out. More discussion is needed on providing written reports and utilizing a consent agenda for future meetings.
- The meeting format and 2026 meeting dates will be discussed further at the January meeting when there is a quorum.

The BCCSB and staff discussed the recent Strategic Planning Retreat. Both the Board and Staff expressed positive sentiment about the work done at the retreat and at the coming next steps of implementation. The follow-up survey was discussed and next steps for the strategic plan. Joanne and Kristin have a meeting scheduled with Dr. Cynthia Gandolfo and will provide more information at the January meeting.

## **8. Director's Update – Staff**

### Columbia Values Diversity Breakfast – January 28, 20265 from 7:00 to 9:00 am.

The BCCSD always purchases a table at this event for staff members and the BCCSB. Joanne will send a follow up email asking which board members plan to attend the breakfast.

### The Source Summit

The Grassroots Funding Opportunity Panel presented at the Source Summit and was recorded. Kristin will send a link to the BCCSB to view the video.

### Child Advocacy Center Update

The contract for the Child Advocacy Center will end December 31, 2025. A final report and invoice will be provided soon.

### Grassroots Funding Opportunity

The Community Services Department staff are working closely with the Grassroots Funding Opportunity organizations to ensure 2024 remaining funds are properly utilized and avoid having excess funds from 2025.

### Upward Mobility

Upward Mobility's annual survey had a strong response rate. Enola covered the new "Workgroup Wednesdays" schedule and branding for the various Upward workgroups. Set meeting times and locations for each workgroup should allow for more attendance at meetings as there will be less ambiguity around each meeting's location and timing. Workgroups have responded very positively to the change.

### Health and Justice Coordination

Victoria has set up a meeting with IT to help coordinate data sharing across various departments (Justice, Courts, Juvenile Detention, etc). This is part of an ongoing discussion with the Health and Justice Committee to address some of the issues around data/information sharing. The next HJCC meeting is in January and will be focused on formalizing structures and bylaws of this new committee.

## **9. Family Access Center of Excellence (FACE) of Boone County**

This discussion of year end reporting and quarterly reporting schedules for FACE. The item was tabled as the Board does not have a quorum and was not listed as a voting item on the agenda.

Dr. Wiley Miller entered the meeting at 9:19 am.

## **10. Public Comment**

Alpha stated that she appreciated seeing our speakers at the Source Summit and that the Grassroots panel was very interesting and informative. She expressed interest in learning more about the other organizations in a similar manner and stated that forums like that allow the community to get a look into programs that they may not have exposure to. She did express some concern about one of the Grassroots organizations and their responses to some of the questions. She was not specific about which organization this was. She did say that this type of presentation was quite valuable for visibility/recognition of the BCCSD and the Children's Services Fund.

## **11. Adjourn**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:37 am.

**NEXT MEETING: January 8, 2026**