

BOONE COUNTY CHILDREN'S SERVICES BOARD (BCCSB) MEETING

In Person: Boone County Family Resources

2700 W Ash St, Columbia MO 65203

Thursday, January 8, 2026 at 8:00 a.m.

MINUTES

Board Members Present: Greg Grupe, Lynn Barnett, Bob Aulgur, Leigh Spence, Wiley Miller, Connie Leopard, Michele Kennet, Rodney Dixon

Board Members Absent: Sebastián Martínez

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

Guests: Matt Leuchtman – Columbia Public School (CPS) Teacher, Nathaniel Alley – Battle High School (BHS) Student, Alex Bell – Hickman High School (HHS) Student, Blake Hall – BHS Student, Baneen Zahra – Rockbridge High School (RBHS) Student

1. Open Meeting

Leigh opened the meeting at 8:05 am

2. Approve Minutes for BCCSB Meetings

Greg motioned to approve the December 11, 2025 meeting minutes. Bob seconded. The motion passed.

3. Financial Report for January 8, 2025, Meeting

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

- The Net Position is \$6,058,295 which is a \$128,832 decrease from last month.
- The sale tax revenue is \$7,248,531.25
- The use tax revenue is \$1,424,662.43
- The interest revenue is \$315,573.85
- Year-to-date expenditures and encumbrances are \$13.5 million
- Contract utilization and service reallocations were reviewed, which are currently at 84.5% average utilization rate.

The Board discussed use tax revenues and their impact on the finances of the Children's Services Fund. There was discussion about whether the community is as aware of the use tax and whether additional marketing or public announcements may be needed.

Utilization rates for the year were discussed in detail, with the Board noting that the utilization rate looks good overall. The Children's Services Fund expects to hit a 90% or higher average utilization rate for 2025. Reallocations were covered as there was an increase in requests as organizations were submitting final invoices. Organizations were informed they had until February 14, 2026 to make any final submissions for the 2025 fiscal year.

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

4. FY2026 Budget Update

The final 2026 Budget was shared with the Board. The CSD will be meeting with the Auditor to continue refining the forecasting models for the Children's Services Fund budget. The Board discussed budget cuts required by the County and the need to work with the Auditor's office to better forecast for the future.

Lynn motioned to approve the 2026 Budget. Greg seconded. The motion passed.

5. Heart of Missouri CASA Strategic Innovation Opportunity (SIO) Contract

Heart of Missouri CASA requested to transfer their Speech Language Therapy contract to Mizzou Academy to alleviate the administrative burden. Mizzou Academy's ability to do this type of clinical case management was discussed in detail, with several instances of similar work being done by Mizzou Academy in the past.

Connie motioned to approve the contract change. Michele seconded. The motion passed.

6. BCCSB Strategic Planning Update

The Board was updated as to the status of the Strategic Planning since the Board retreat in December. The CSD has met with Dr. Gandolfo and are in the process of prioritizing the goals selected by the Board and staff at the retreat. Further information will be available in the future, with a timeline of goals and action items to be presented soon.

7. New Business

The Board was reminded of CSD holiday closures on February 12th and February 19th. The upcoming BCCSB meeting schedule for 2026 was discussed, along with the possibility of making meetings hybrid. The Auditor is planning to attend the February meeting, and the Commissioners will be attending the April Board meeting. The Board will use a consent agenda for future meetings to include approving board meeting minutes and the Director's Update.

8. Director's Update – Staff

Columbia Values Diversity Breakfast – January 28, 2026 from 7:00 – 9:00 am

The BCCSD always purchases a table at this event for staff members and the BCCSB. The Board was reminded that the deadline for purchasing tickets is coming up soon.

Board Term Expiration in March 2026

Some of the Board members terms are ending soon, and they were reminded that they need to submit the appropriate paperwork, including ethics agreements, if they intend to reapply for their seats.

The Source Summit – SIO Utilization

There were no updates for this at this time, but there will be a report on this at the February meeting.

Missouri Ethics Report

The Board was reminded that their Missouri Ethics Report will be required soon.

CoMo Helps

CoMo Helps reconvened during the federal government shutdown and was able to distribute more than \$100,000 in aid to nonprofits. CoMo Helps stopped taking funding requests in December. CoMo Helps was developed during the Covid-19 pandemic and can be activated quickly in the face of community need.

National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform (NICJR) - Office of Violence Prevention

The Office of Violence Prevention is working with the National Institute for Criminal Justice Reform on a violence study encompassing both Boone County and the city of Columbia. There is currently no timeline for the completion of this study, but updates will continue to be provided.

Grassroots Funding Opportunity

A written report was provided to the Board

Upward Mobility

A written report was provided to the Board

Health and Justice Coordination

A written report was provided to the Board

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

FACE requested to modify their reporting structure to the CSD and Board. The current structure requires them to provide quarterly, interim, and year end reports as well as have monthly Board meetings that are facilitated by the CSD. FACE wishes to remove the requirement to submit quarterly reports. The Board found that the other required reports and monthly meetings were sufficient oversight.

Bob motioned to approve the change. Connie seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Rodney left the meeting at 8:52am.

Guests arrived at 9:09am.

10. Portrait of a High School Graduate

The Columbia Public School program "Portrait of a High School Graduate", headed by Matt Leichman, brought students from several of Columbia Public School's high schools to speak with the Board. The aim of the program is to have students speak with members of the community to gain insight into what those community members think a successful high school graduate should look like in 2026. Board and staff were broken into groups and given discussion prompts by the students. The students recorded notes during the discussion to combine with notes from discussions with other groups. The Board and staff enjoyed and appreciated the discussion with the students.

Wiley joined the meeting at 9:20am

Bob left the meeting at 9:37am.

11. Public Comment

There was no public comment at this time.

12. Adjourn

The meeting adjourned at 10:02 am

NEXT MEETING: February 19, 2026