

THE WACCAMAW CENTER FOR MENTAL HEALTH
Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2026
The meeting was held via Zoom

MEMBERS' PRESENT:

Arthur Tisdale, Carolyn Hickman-Williams, Sherry Buie James, Roscia Hardee, Amy Elder, Katrina Reaves, Amy Flagler, Debbie Heller

EXCUSED MEMBERS: Amy Jo Kyle, Jacob Lee, Teresa Robinette, Joyce Phillips, Katie Wise

Topic	Discussion	Comments/ Follow-Up
Welcome	Mr. Tisdale called the meeting to order at 5:00pm.	
Approval of the Minutes	Approval of minutes April 21 st minutes Ms. Debbie Heller made a motion to approve, Ms. Katrina Reaves seconds.	
Clinic Report Winferd Pendergrass	- Welcome all. - Highlighted: - Avatar rollout is complete and it has been a challenge. - We had a very nice mental health conference. We traveled to Georgetown. - We will have our graduation on May 29th. - Provided stories of two graduates and their success stories.	
Executive Director Jackie Brown Corporate Compliance Officer, Jackie for Pearl Calhoun	- Thank to all that attended our Mental Health Conference in Georgetown at the Howard Center, it was very nice. - The sky wheel was supposed to be lit up in green last night on a boulevard in Myrtle Beach. - There are no corporate compliance issues. - Our last audit, we scored 87%.	
Administrator Jackie for Jay Ragin	- We had our budget meeting yesterday. - Jay, our Administrator, retired.	
Medical Director Dr. Shetty	- We have sufficient coverage in all the clinics. - Today we had the medical director's meeting for the state, one of the things they talked about is medication-assisted treatment. This is considering our merger with DAODAS, we'll be seeing more patients with substance use. We will be receiving formal training (in September) in prescribing meds so that they don't relapse.	

Chief of Staff Kisha Guess-Black	- Highlighted that we did interview, an individual for the John McGill internship placement. We will complete the paperwork to request the intern to be able to participate and get their clinical hours here with Waccamaw Center. - Received one patient advocate referral for the month of April that will be processed. We did come up with a resolution for that. - Due to the merger, there has been an increase of patients that are on the autistic spectrum. As you know, our focus has primarily been mental illness, and secondary have been some of these other diagnoses, but now we're finding that we need to get more familiarized with some protocols, techniques to treat these other populations.	
SCDMH Deputy Director Deb Blalock	- Mentioned, the Senate budget was not much friendlier to the agency than the House budget. The House budget went to \$21M in new money. The Senate budget recommended only \$23M in new money. Last year, OMH alone got \$31M in new money, so you can see the difference. - Dr. Banks' retirement party was today. It went really, well and it was packed. His last official day is June 1st. On Tuesday, May 26th, the governor's office will announce an interim Office Director for the Office of Mental Health. - As was mentioned, the new EHR has rolled out now across all 16 centers. Hitting bumps here and there across the centers.	
New Business	No new business to report.	
Old Business	Vote to have a Board Meeting after Annual In-Service (December 4, 2026).	
Nominating Committee	No new business to report.	
Mental Health Planning	No new information to report.	
Personnel	No new information to report.	
County Council Report	Ms. Heller: Georgetown County Council meeting, they did the proclamation for Mental Health Week. Amy Fowler was there also. Kisha did a wonderful job on asking the county for more funding. I thought it was well received, but she did a great job on that.	
Adjournment	The meeting was adjourned.	