



**MINUTES OF THE APRIL IN-PERSON MEETING
OF THE
HORIZON BEHAVIORAL HEALTH BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**Horizon Behavioral Health
Triple P Conference Room
2215 Langhorne Road
Lynchburg, VA**

April 24, 2025

Board Approved 6-27-25

PRESENT:	Sonya Baker Betty Brickhouse, <i>Chair</i> Chris Faraldi, <i>Vice Chair</i> Tom Lawton Rob Merryman Jim Sikkema, <i>Secretary</i> Mary Lou Spiggle, <i>Treasurer</i>	City of Lynchburg City of Lynchburg City of Lynchburg Campbell County Campbell County Bedford County Additional Member	In-Person Attendance In-Person Attendance In-Person Attendance In-Person Attendance In-Person Attendance In-Person Attendance In-Person Attendance
ABSENT:	Bobby Shiflett Justin Stauder	Amherst County Bedford County	
STAFF:	Melissa Lucy Sandy Farmer Matt Hartsook	Chief Executive Officer Executive Assistant to CEO Chief Financial Officer	In-Person Attendance In-Person Attendance In-Person Attendance
ABSENT:	None		
GUESTS:	None		

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A. INTRODUCTION

1. Call to Order/Welcome

Chair Betty Brickhouse opened the meeting at 3:30 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

2. Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was observed.

3. Adoption of the Revised Agenda

MOTION: Sonya Baker made a motion to approve the revised agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Jim Sikkema and carried by majority vote.

B. PUBLIC COMMENT

There was none.

C. MINUTES

Consideration of the Board Meeting Minutes of February 27, 2025. Chair, Betty Brickhouse

MOTION: Jim Sikkema made a motion to approve the board minutes as mailed.

The motion was seconded by Sonya Baker and carried by majority vote. Tom Lawton abstained.

Executive Committee Minutes of February 27, 2025

Chair, Betty Brickhouse

MOTION: Jim Sikkema made a motion to approve the executive committee minutes as mailed. The motion was seconded by Sonya Baker and carried by majority vote.

Executive Committee Minutes of March 19, 2025

Chair, Betty Brickhouse

MOTION: Mary Lou Spiggle made a motion to approve the executive committee minutes as mailed. The motion was seconded by Jim Sikkema and carried by majority vote.

D. COMMITTEE REPORT – Finance Committee

The Finance Committee met prior to the board meeting to conduct the Annual Budget Review and recommended the following motion:

MOTION: Rob Merryman made a motion on behalf of the Finance Committee to approve the 2026 Horizon Behavioral Health Revised Budget as presented. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

F. CHAIRMAN'S ITEMS

None at this time.

G. CEO ITEMS

Enter into Closed Session – Lease or Acquisition of Real Property

Read by Recording Secretary - I make a consideration to enter into a Closed Meeting according to Section 2.2-3711.A.3 of the Code of Virginia in order to discuss the lease or acquisition of real property.

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MOTION: Sonya Baker made a motion to enter into a Closed Meeting in order to discuss the lease or acquisition of real property. The motion was seconded by Mary Lou Spiggle and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Sonya Baker – aye	Rob Merryman – aye
Betty Brickhouse – aye	Jim Sikkema – aye
Chris Faraldi – aye	Mary Lou Spiggle – aye
Tom Lawton – aye	

Exit out of Closed Session

Read by Recording Secretary - NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby certifies that, to the best of each members knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board of Directors of Horizon Behavioral Health.

MOTION: Rob Merryman made a motion to exit out of the Closed Meeting. The motion was seconded by Mary Lou Spiggle and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Sonya Baker – aye	Rob Merryman – aye
Betty Brickhouse – aye	Jim Sikkema – aye
Chris Faraldi – aye	Mary Lou Spiggle – aye
Tom Lawton – aye	

MOTION: Mary Lou Spiggle made a motion to allow Horizon Opportunities, Inc. to pursue additional building space. The motion was seconded by Sonya Baker and carried by unanimous vote.

Enter into Closed Session – Personnel Matter

Read by Recording Secretary - I make a consideration to enter into a Closed Meeting according to Section 2.2-3711.A.1 of the Code of Virginia in order to discuss a personnel matter.

MOTION: Mary Lou Spiggle made a motion to enter into a Closed Meeting in order to discuss a personnel matter. The motion was seconded by Sonya Baker and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Sonya Baker – aye	Rob Merryman – aye
Betty Brickhouse – aye	Jim Sikkema – aye
Chris Faraldi – aye	Mary Lou Spiggle – aye
Tom Lawton – aye	

Exit out of Closed Session

Read by Recording Secretary - NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby certifies that, to the best of each members knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public

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business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board of Directors of Horizon Behavioral Health.

MOTION: Chris Faraldi made a motion to exit out of the Closed Meeting. The motion was seconded by Sonya Baker and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Sonya Baker – aye	Rob Merryman – aye
Betty Brickhouse – aye	Jim Sikkema – aye
Chris Faraldi – aye	Mary Lou Spiggle – aye
Tom Lawton – aye	

No recommendation at this time.

Enter into Closed Session – Legal Matter

Read by Recording Secretary - *I make a consideration to enter into a Closed Meeting according to Section 2.2-3711.A.8 and A.19 of the Code of Virginia in order to discuss a legal matter.*

MOTION: Rob Merryman made a motion to enter into a Closed Meeting in order to discuss a legal matter. The motion was seconded by Sonya Baker and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Sonya Baker – aye	Rob Merryman – aye
Betty Brickhouse – aye	Jim Sikkema – aye
Chris Faraldi – aye	Mary Lou Spiggle – aye
Tom Lawton – aye	

Exit out of Closed Session

Read by Recording Secretary - *NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors hereby certifies that, to the best of each members knowledge, (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certification resolution applies, and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed, or considered by the Board of Directors of Horizon Behavioral Health.*

MOTION: Chris Faraldi made a motion to exit out of the Closed Meeting. The motion was seconded by Sonya Baker and carried by roll call vote as follows:

Sonya Baker – aye	Rob Merryman – aye
Betty Brickhouse – aye	Jim Sikkema – aye
Chris Faraldi – aye	Mary Lou Spiggle – aye
Tom Lawton – aye	

No recommendation at this time.

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CEO items continued:

- Melissa gave a brief update of the Horizon 3rd Quarter Strategic Plan located in each member's board packet.
- We are pleased to share that Horizon has been awarded \$380,797 in STEP-VA grant funding to enhance care coordination and expand access to behavioral health services for underserved individuals across Amherst, Appomattox, Bedford, Campbell Counties, and the City of Lynchburg. This initiative will run from July 1, 2025, through June 30, 2026.

The funding will support the deployment of Peer Support Specialists in our community and the hiring of school-based therapists, enabling Horizon to reach individuals dealing with serious mental illnesses, substance use disorders, and emotional disturbances among youth and veterans. This initiative will also involve collaboration with the Center for Healthy Veterans, also known as the Valor Farm, located in Campbell County. These services will enhance our trauma-informed, culturally responsive care and help remove longstanding barriers to access.

This investment reinforces Horizon's ongoing commitment to person-centered care and our mission to empower individuals and families throughout Central Virginia.

- Each board member received the Horizon Annual Report and the VACSB Annual Report at their places, highlighting several Horizon staff and programs.

H. FINANCIAL REPORT

Matt Hartsook reviewed the March 2025 Statement of Revenue and Expenditures Monthly Report.

I. NOTICES AND REMINDERS

The next scheduled meeting of the Horizon Board of Directors will be **June 26, 2025 from 3:30 p.m. until 4:30 p.m.** and the meeting will be held in-person at the Horizon Wellness Center, Triple P Conference Room, 2215 Langhorne Road, Lynchburg.

J. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Chris Faraldi made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Rob Merryman and carried by majority vote.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:37 p.m.