

**BRUNSWICK COUNTY SUBSTANCE USE, ADDICTION, AND MENTAL HEALTH  
COMMISSION MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES**

*June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
12:00PM – 1:00PM*

*Location: Second Floor Conference Room in the David R. Sandifer Administration  
Building at the Brunswick County Government Complex.*

**I. CALL TO ORDER**

The Brunswick County Substance Use, Addiction, and Mental Health Commission monthly meeting – taking the place of the July meeting – was called to order at 12:00PM on June 27<sup>th</sup>, in the Second Floor Conference Room in the David R. Sandifer Administration Building. No video meeting scheduled.

**A. Attendance**

<b>Member Name</b>	<b>Position Held</b>	<b>Term Expiration</b>	<b>Present?</b>
Kathleen Gomes	District 1	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2028	Y
Joshua Torbich	District 2; Chair	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2028	Y
William Eberle	District 3; Vice-Chair	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Y
*Vacant*	District 4	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	n/a
*appointment official following July 8 <sup>th</sup> BOC meeting*	District 5	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	n/a
*New appointment official on July 8 <sup>th</sup> BOC meeting*	Board of Education	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2027	n/a
Johnnie McAdams	Chief Superior Court Judge	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2025	Y
Acacia Alston	Sheriff's Office	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2026	Y
Jeremy Seamon	Member-At-Large	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2027	Y
Laura Trueman	Member-At-Large	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2027	N
Cecilia Peers	Trillium Regional Director	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2028	N
*Vacant*	Local Mental Health Professional	June 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2028	n/a

<b>Guest Name</b>	<b>Agency/Title</b>
Tyler Smith	CRCI, Inc. Chief Operations Officer
Savannah Tenenoff	Brunswick Beacon
David Howard	Brunswick County Health Services, Health Director
Olivia Jarvis	Brunswick County Health Services, Health Educator
Travis Greer	Brunswick County Health Services, Health Educator

B. Agenda Approval

Motion:

Second:

Changes/Comments: n/a, no formal agenda designated for this meeting as it commission members wanted to keep it more informal, to debrief from the Annual Opioid Settlement Funds meeting and the June 6<sup>th</sup> meeting, and to prepare for coming meetings.

C. Approval of June Meeting Minutes

Motion:

Second:

Changes/Comments: n/a, meeting minutes from June 6<sup>th</sup> will be approved at the August 1<sup>st</sup> meeting.

D. Public Comment

Notes: None

E. Special Presentation

Notes: None

II. OLD BUSINESS

A. Recommendations and Quarterly Update for County

Commissioners

Notes: Discussion of quarterly update schedule for presentations to the Board of Commissioners, and review of the timeline created for developing the updates.

### III. REGULARLY OCCURRING ITEMS

#### A. enCompass & Responding to Addiction

Upcoming Trainings Scheduled:

Briefing on Recent Trainings:

Notes: None

#### B. Needs Identification Survey Report

Notes: None

### IV. NEW BUSINESS

#### A. CHESS App Coastal Horizons Brunswick

Notes: None

#### B. Quarterly Focus

Notes: Topics to discuss for exploration and quarterly focuses are prevention; supportive housing for recovery; transportation; motivation for individuals to engage in services. Further discussion of motivating individuals to seek out services/come when they are ready, a program of “attraction” rather than seeking them out. The subcommittee headed up by Seamon designated to explore best practices for incorporating mental health data tracking and co-occurring MH/SUD. Discussion followed on prevention and where those best practice strategies can lead. Discussion of protective/risk factors/ACEs and what to explore as far as that topic. Jennifer – director of the children’s program at PORT – Seamon will be reaching out to her to ask if she will come discuss the need for services for youth and similar information. The upcoming Quarterly Report will focus on Prevention – understanding best practices for adolescents/kids; Ms. Jarvis will be sharing information on preventing ACEs at the next meeting. Go from population to treatment strategies, wide to narrow down pov as suggested by Mr. Howard when researching elements that lead to healthy kids and will produce healthy adults. Mr. Greer shared information regarding the JCPC Guiding Good Choices Curriculum. Coastal Horizons utilizes this prevention program for at risk families and youth through the JCPC but struggles to have individuals that genuinely want help or are ready to change.

## V. DISCUSSION TOPICS

### A. FY24 – 25 Budget Proposals Related to Substance Abuse

Notes: None

### B. Commission Membership

Notes: Mr. Torbich requested clarification from Mr. Howard on SUAMHC vacancies and new appointments. Ms. Acacia Alston, the new Sheriff's Office appointee, is present. The district 5 seat will be approved at the July 8<sup>th</sup> BOC meeting, that individual has been identified. The School Board appointee will be approved on July 8<sup>th</sup> as well. This leaves the District 4 and the Local Mental Health Clinician positions open. Ms. Gomes has identified an interested candidate for the LMHC slot (Heather Stoume) who lives in another county but works in Brunswick County. Discussed if living in the county is a requirement, Mr. Howard pointed out that the bylaws do not state any residential requirements, nominees may live elsewhere but work in the county. Will request further clarification.

### C. Data Gathering

Notes: Discussion of topics and missing information that needs to be gathered identified. Ms. Peers and Ms. Mills will be coordinated with to potentially share data and relevant information at the August meeting as determined in the prior meeting. PORT has residential services for youth in New Bern. Data desired: troubled youth and strategies/services/actions taken with them for coordination of services. Brief discussion of recent events of PORT Health Services with an investigation into an overdose death of an adolescent client following elopement and PORT Health was held liable despite it not being a "lock-down/involuntary" facility. Mr. Howard pointed out that this liability issue and the deterrent it causes for organizations not wanting to provide adolescent services could be shared with County Commissioners to discuss at NACC.

## VI. COMMISSION INPUTS

Notes: No July meeting, this meeting takes the place of that meeting. June meeting minutes and this meetings minutes will be approved at the august meeting.

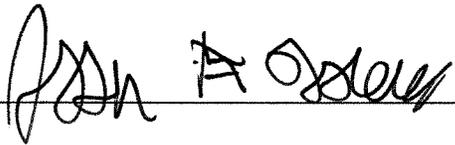
September brings the next BOC update from SUAMHC. Preparations will begin for that presentation. August agenda should have election of new officers added onto it.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Kathleen Gomes

Second: Jeremy Seamon

There being no further business, the Brunswick County Substance Use, Addiction and Mental Health Commission monthly meeting was adjourned at 1:09PM. The next scheduled meeting will be held at 5:00PM on August 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, in the Brunswick County Health Services Boardroom.

 \_\_\_\_\_ Chairperson

