



MEETING MINUTES

BRUNSWICK COUNTY SUBSTANCE USE, ADDICTION, & MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION REGULAR MEETING OFFICIAL MINUTES

May 1st, 2025
5:00 PM

The Brunswick County SUBSTANCE USE, ADDICTION, & MENTAL HEALTH COMMISSION met in Regular Session on May 1st, 2025, at 5:00 p.m. in the Boardroom of the Health Services Building, located at the Brunswick County Government Center, 25 Courthouse Drive NE, Bolivia, North Carolina.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Kate Gomes, District 1
Anthony Grimaldi, Local Mental Health Professional
Jeremy Gunn, District 5
Charles Francka, District 4
Josh Torbich, Chair, District 2
Jennifer Faircloth, Board of Education
William Eberle, Vice-Chair, District 3
Laura Trueman, Member-at-large
Emma Long- Sheriff's Office

STAFF PRESENT

Rachel Crowder, Health Educator
Erika Booth, Community Paramedic

OTHERS PRESENT

Teresa Mobley, Coastal Horizons
Sara Miller- Coastal Horizons
Dwane Richard- Christian Recovery Centers, Inc.
Steven Inman- Christian Recovery Centers, Inc.
Chad Sellers- Christian Recovery Centers, Inc.
Jose Zepeda- Christian Recovery Centers, Inc.
Tabitha Floyd- Brunswick County Treatment Court
Chris Willis- Brunswick County Treatment Court

MEMBERS ABSENT

Jeremy Seamon, Member-at-large
Cecelia Peers, Trillium Regional Director
Johnnie McAdams, Chief Superior Court Judge

Commission Action, containing all items in this set of minutes, is filed within Health Services.

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Torbich called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

II. INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Vice-Chair Eberle gave the Invocation.

III. ATTENDANCE

Commission Member Seamon was absent.
Commission Member Peers was absent.
Commission Member McAdams was absent.

IV. ADJUSTMENTS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Chair Torbich asked for adjustments to the agenda. Hearing none, Vice-Chair Eberle made the motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Gunn and passed unanimously (9 to 0).

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Meeting Minutes – April 3rd, 2025, Regular Meeting

Vice-Chair Eberle made the motion to approve the Meeting Minutes of the April 3rd, 2025, Regular Meeting. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Trueman and passed unanimously (9 to 0).

VI. PUBLIC COMMENT

No Public Comment.

VII. PRESENTATIONS

1. Staff Report

Rachel Crowder, Health Educator II, introduced herself to the committee members. She has taken on this new role replacing Travis Greer. Ms. Crowder informed the commission Olivia Jarvis and David Howard would be unable to attend today's meeting. They will discuss the Opioid settlement funds at the next commission meeting as well as the upcoming Opioid Settlement Funds Annual Meeting Wednesday, May 28th, 2025.

Commission Member Trueman reviewed the Brunswick County Opioid Settlement Dollars Received, Authorized, Spent, and Ending Balance Report. She discussed creating a strategic plan for the Opioid settlement funds. Commission Member Trueman is meeting with the North Carolina Association of County Commissioners (NCACC) tomorrow May 2nd at 12:30pm. She will be discussing with them how other counties are utilizing their funds. This information will help inform the development of a local plan for fund allocation.

2. Treatment Program Participants

Commission Member Emma Long started the discussion by sharing the different treatment services provided at Coastal Horizons. Commission Member Anthony Grimaldi then discussed treatment options at Southeastern Integrated Care.

Chair Torbich started a panel discussion with former treatment participants from Coastal Horizons, Christian Recovery Centers, and Brunswick County Treatment Court. Participants shared their testimonies and experience going through treatment. The commission staff thanked them for coming out and sharing.

VIII. OLD BUSINESS

1. April 21st Presentation at the BOCC Recap

The commission discussed how the presentation went well. Chair Torbich talked with the Commissioners after, and they shared how the presentation was informative and very helpful.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

1. Vice-Chair Eberle shared the upcoming Encompass training June 28th, 2025.

X. BOARD/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

1. **Small Working Group for "Treatment" Focus**

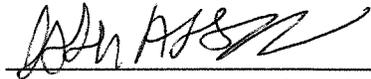
Chair Torbich shared the next update to BOCC on treatment will be August 18th.

XI. OTHER BUSINESS/INFORMAL DISCUSSION

1. Brief discussion on upcoming presentations at the next commission meetings. Brunswick County Community Paramedic Erika Booth is tentatively coming to present at the June meeting. Chair Torbich confirmed the Healing Place will be coming to the July 3rd meeting to share their services. The commission discussed wanting the Anchor Initiative to come share and the Opiate Biomarker program in Wilmington.

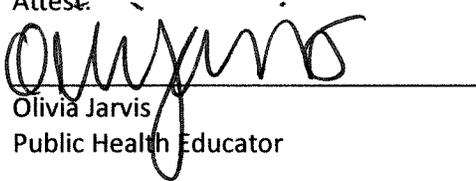
XII. ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chair Eberle moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:46 p.m. The motion was seconded by Commission Member Trueman and passed unanimously (9 to 0).



Josh Torbich, Chair
Brunswick County Substance Use, Addiction, &
Mental Health Commission

Attest:



Olivia Jarvis
Public Health Educator