



## MEETING MINUTES

# March 17, 2026

6:30 P.M.

Development Services Bldg., Room 107 a/b

\* ABSENT FROM MEETING

\*\* ATTENDED MEETING VIRTUALLY

### **Open Meeting**

Chair Laurie Wilson opened the meeting at 6:33 PM.

### **Approval of Minutes-**

The minutes from the February 17, 2026, meeting were approved [CT, JM; approved unanimously]

### **Public Comment**

None

### **Presentation**

PWC Budget/DSS

- 1) Directory Phyllis Jennings-Holt provided the DSS AB with several bullet points regarding current DSS budget requests and CXO's PWC budget proposal.
  - \$250,000 for hypothermia services
  - \$3,000,000 for additional CSA funding
  - \$100,000 for Harmony system replacement (CSA)

Director Jennings-Holt was present at the CXO presentation to the BOCS. She has not been asked any follow up questions to date.

Much depends on the tax rate that is adopted. If lowered, it may impact DSS requests.

There are many CIP's such as fire stations and the juvenile facilities in budget and BOCS are seeking constituent opinion.

There appears to be a lot of questions from the community about the budget proposal.

- 2) Class and Compensation Study- process ongoing. County HR will meet with Director Jennings-Holt if any DSS staff are affected by recommendations.
- 3) Discussion and clarification regarding the CSA budget. Total budget is approximately \$20 million; with projection of an additional \$3 million needed. The increase is needed due to continuing increases in private day placements of IEP/Special Education students. Currently 256 students in Private Day placements. A total of 606 youth served by CSA budget. PWCS contributes \$356,000 to the CSA budget.

### **Action Items**

None

### **Chairman's Time**

Chairman Laurie Wilson commented on the Homeless Navigation Center-East groundbreaking, and how nice it was to see board members present as well as hear so much positive feedback in the community. This prompted discussion of the FE space currently used for Homeless programs, and what it could be used for once the HNC-E is open. Director Jennings Holt indicated that it would take a lot of restoration to be able to use it for other programs. Discussion continued about the community missing the old Day Reporting Center as a program for community youth; and how there is a great need for youth programming. Mr. Mosser reported that Scouting America does fundraising all year to provide camp scholarships to youth.

Laurie Wilson inquired about the upcoming All Staff event. It will be May 29<sup>th</sup> at Camp Snyder 9am-1230pm. Julie Blakely will send out detailed information to members.

Child Abuse Prevention Pinwheel Garden will be April 7, 2026, at 1pm.

### **Director's Time**

Director Phyllis Jennings-Holt's made several announcements:

- Ms. Jennings-Holt will be accepting the Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention month the same day as the Pinwheel Garden event- April 7, 2026, at 2pm.
- Ms. Jennings-Holt will be attending planning sessions for the design of the Homeless Navigation Center-West
- Today Ms. Jennings-Holt accepted the Proclamation for Social Work Month. Protective Services will have a celebration on March 30, 2026.
- Ms. Jennings-Holt announced that they have completed interviews for Linda Meier's vacant position. They had a pool of 17. They are making one offer and have two alternates as well.
- Ms. Jennings-Holt stated that DSS has 2 weeks before the extended hypothermia shelter is complete on March 31, 2026. The FE shelter has 78 beds, serve about 100 when very cold. The extended space (FE cafeteria) has been wonderful for clients to use 11:30-5:30, following the hours of the drop-in Center in the mornings. Thirty-fourty people have utilized this space. This has ended the issue of people loitering in the atrium and lobby area.

### **Board Members' Time**

Clarice Torian reminded the board that the Potomac Health Foundation grant submission deadline is March 30, 2026. Details are available online.

Jacob Mosser announced that the Lakeridge Rotary is hosting a "Celebrity Luncheon" as fundraiser the last Wednesday of April.

Director Phyllis Jennings-Holt announced that she has been asked to be part of a panel discussion at the Maternal Health Workshop.

