

MEETING MINUTES**Long Term Care and Behavioral Health Committee Meeting**

September 11, 2025

ATTENDEES**SHCC Members**

Valerie Jarvis
Cooper Linton
Rep. Carla Cunningham
Vanessa Ervin
Jim Martin
Tim Rogers
Quintana Stewart
Michael Garret
Sandra Greene

Planning Staff

Andrea Emmanuel
Elizabeth Brown
Amy Craddock
Lauren Barton
Nirali Patel

Other DHR Staff

Micheala Mitchell
Gloria Hale
Ena Lightbourne
Chalice Moore

Attorney General

Julie Faenza
Farrah Raja

PDA, Inc.

Kelly Ivey

Issue	Discussion
Business Meeting Introduction	<p>VJ called the meeting to order at 10:00 am.</p> <p>Committee member Introductions. Introductions of all Division of Health Service Regulation staff members in attendance.</p> <p>Review of Executive Order No. 46 and Executive Order No. 331.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No recusals made All votes will be by roll call because Teams meeting <p>Minutes of 05.15.25 approved. M-Martin / s-Stewart to approve minutes. Approval carried unopposed</p>
Chapter 10 – Nursing Care Facilities	AC reviewed data tables. No changes to report. No discussion.
Chapter 11 – Adult Care Homes	AE reviewed data tables. No changes to report. No discussion.
Chapter 12 – Home Health Services	<p>Petition 1: Medicare Certified Home Health Special Need Union County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agency report summary by EB: recommendation to deny petition because insufficient data to support Discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> TR in addition to Agency report 17 cert MHH agencies serving Union County; over 5k unduplicated patients served; the two in-county providers serve about 58% of all patients. M-Linton S-Cunningham to deny petition. Vote carried unopposed. <p>EB reviewed data tables. No changes to report. No discussion.</p>
Chapter 13 – Hospice Services	<p>Petition 2-5: Removal of Need Determinations for Hospices in Burke, Haywood, McDowell, Rockingham</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Agency report summary by EB: four options for recommendations for discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Deny petition. Approve removal of COVID19 death data for all counties. Would remove 8 needs, leaving Johnston County only. Approve petition removing only the 4 needs as requested.

Issue	Discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Approve petition using 2.6% average growth rate. Statewide impact all nine needs would be eliminated. ○ Deny petition. Retain all nine needs and develop an interested parties meeting for development of 2027 Plan. • Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ CL if remove COVID deaths is assumption that those deaths were COVID only, therefore would not have died otherwise in that time period? Seems eliminating is overly simplistic <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EB annual death data is provided by Dept Health. COVID deaths were collected and segmented out from other death related conditions. So, removing those would be COVID only and separate from other co-morbidities. ▪ AB understand the question but don't have the capacity to drill down in the data to that level. ○ CC wants to understand why if we pull out COVID deaths is there still a need in Johnston County <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EB shows data from Table 13B with COVID deaths removed – there is a deficit of 249 deaths and only 3 providers per 100k residents. Therefore, the need is still triggered. ○ CC we can't know that all COVID deaths were in hospice. Also, we can't know which of those had comorbidities that would have caused the death anyway. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EB clarify that in methodology when they use all deaths to determine need irrespective of whether they received hospice care or not. So, removing all COVID deaths would be on par with the overall methodology. ○ VJ so we do not have data that tells us what hospice patients died from COVID <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EB the only information we have on hospice deaths is based on LRAs which is only one year of data. Annual death data is a five year ratio ○ QS the death certificates read all comorbidities, but if COVID was listed at all it is lumped into that category. ○ CL removing the COVID deaths as a whole may in fact suppress the need in other areas of the state that will limit access to resources. ○ JM which of the four options does the Agency support? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ EB is #1 remove COVID deaths which removes need in 8 of the 9 counties. ○ JM if we make a specific adjustment to data in this chapter, how would that affect other chapters like acute care? Does this set us up for litigation in other chapters where a similar adjustment should have been concluded? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SG did make adjustments to acute care bed need for several years; made that early in the planning process to ensure had time for public to respond in the correct forum. Concern about making changes without having been fully vetted is reasonable. ▪ JF in terms of legality with regard to changing data, the SHCC has license to change as they see fit because the Executive Order provides that. The Governor of course has to sign off but there is no imminent legal repercussion. ▪ AE reminder of #4 that includes an interested party meeting in early 2026. ○ TR follow the math and keep Johnston, Haywood and McDowell then start a workgroup <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ CC agree this middle ground suggestion • M-Linton S-Martin to deny three petitions Burke and Rockingham as written. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote carried unopposed. • M-Cunningham S-Stewart to keep the needs in Johnston, Haywood, and McDowell and establish a workgroup for the 2027 Plan in winter 2025.

Issue	Discussion
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Vote carried unopposed. <p>Petition 6: Removal of Need Determination for Hospice in Cumberland County</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agency report summary by EB recommending denial of petition because the data show that the 90 patient deficit placeholder is warranted. • M-Rogers S-Linton to deny Agency recommendation to deny the petition and instead go forward with removing the Cumberland County need. • Vote carried unopposed. <p>EB reviewed data tables. No changes to report. Based on votes for need determinations, table 13g will change to reflect needs in Haywood, Johnston, and McDowell Counties.</p>
Chapter 14 – ICF/IID	AE reviewed data tables. No changes to report.
Recommendations for C10-C14	<p>M-Rogers S-Cunningham to approve draft tables and forward to SHCC for final vote; caveat that staff has approval to continue updating data and editing narrative as appropriate.</p> <p>Vote carried unopposed with no chapters pulled out for additional discussion.</p>
Other Business	Next Full SHCC Wednesday October 1, 2025, at 10a at the Dix Chapel.
Business Meeting – 2026 SMFP	<p>VJ called for motion to adjourn at 11:33a</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • M-Rogers S-Stewart <p>Vote carried unopposed.</p>

These minutes are believed to be an accurate account of the meeting held. If there is any understanding to the contrary, please contact the undersigned within seven (7) days of receipt of these minutes.

Submitted by:

Kelly Ivey, PDA, Inc.