



**BOARD OF DIRECTORS – REGULAR MEETING**  
**Wednesday, August 20, 2025, 6:00 PM**

Meeting Minutes	
<b>1. Call to Order, Opening Comments and Welcome</b>	Jennifer Coker called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM. She proceeded to thank the NWCSB staff (Alexandra Hannigan, Rich Gaudette, Morgan Ward, Facilities Team and Katie Russell) who worked hard to update the Board Room and meeting spaces. She thanked Our Family Table for another wonderfully catered meal.
<b>2. Roll Call</b>	<p><u>Board Members in Attendance</u>  Jennifer Coker, Lisa Goshen, Amanda Whitson, Katie Jordan, Kahle Magalis, Sharon Kessler, Amanda Kibler, Elisabeth Alger, Mary Orndorff, Bisma Y. Sheikh</p> <p><u>Board Members Absent</u>  Charolette Eriksson, Sharon Surratt, Chris Rinker</p> <p><u>Board Members Participating Virtually</u>  None</p> <p><u>Staff/Public Attendance</u>  Katie Russell, Ellen Harrison, Crystal Jordan, Morgan Ward, Andrea Bieber, Tim May, Ashley Bailey, Anthony Hensley, Barbara Perry, Denise Acker</p> <p><u>Staff/Public Virtual Attendance</u>  Rich Gaudette</p>
<b>3. Approval of Minutes</b>	Kahle Magalis motioned to approve the June 18, 2025, meeting minutes as presented. Lisa Goshen seconded. The motion passed with Bisma Y. Sheikh abstaining from the vote since she was not in attendance at the June meeting.
<b>4. Approval of Agenda</b>	Amanda Whitson motioned to change the agenda and add an item to “New Business”. Sharon Kessler seconded. The motion passed.
<b>5. Public Comment</b>	None



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**6. Reports**

**a. CEO Report**

Ellen Harrison allowed an opportunity for board members to ask questions regarding the CEO report provided at the meeting. There were no questions.

**b. Personnel Committee**

Jennifer Coker led the Personnel Committee meeting in Chris Rinker’s absence. The Committee voted to move four policies to the full board for review.

Conflict of Interest (Secondary Employment)

Parental Leave Policy

Retiree Insurance Policy

Transfer Policy

The full board will receive the policies for review. They should send all questions to Morgan and the Board will vote in September.

**c. Finance Committee**

Kahle Magalis delivered the Finance Committee report. The committee voted to bring a policy before the full board for review.

Accounts Receivable Policy

The full board will receive the policy for review. They should send all questions to Morgan and the Board will vote in September.

**7. Old Business**

None

**8. New Business**

**a. Recovery Court Presentation**

Ashley Bailey, Substance Use Outpatient Coordinator, gave a presentation to the board regarding the work of NWCSB in the Recovery Courts (RC).

- Virginia has 53 Recovery courts and NWCSB works with four. We represent more than any other treatment provider in the state.
- Operational age of the courts: Winchester RC is four years old, Warren RC is two, Shenandoah is two, Page is four.
- Recovery Court can be an alternative to incarceration.
- The program is a minimum of 15 months.
- It’s a collaborative program because NWCSB is working with community partners constantly.



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- There is a court every week, but it is not like a typical court with consequences but also rewards and encouragement by the presiding judge.
- NWCSB provides case management, therapy, counseling, MAT, medication management and peer services.
- We provide 50 hours of group therapy a week and we project that when we add more groups for the community track, the time will increase to 80 hours.
- Recovery courts require at least 200 hours of treatment, but our clients have anywhere from 250 -1000 hours at graduation.
- There are 65 participants across the region. We anticipate that this will increase to approximately 100 clients at any given time.
- Peers provide a relearning of sober fun options; rafting, bowling etc.
- We’ve had 48 commencements to date. In July the total number of graduates exceeded 100.
- Success rates feel subjective because success throughout the program cannot be measured in the number of graduates alone, but in the rebuilding - longest sobriety, rebuilding of relationships, gaining employment, obtaining driver license, etc.
- The final phase of the program is a community project. Typically, participants will pick things that are part of their story or that they are good at (i.e., raising money for humane society, offering haircuts, clothing drives for professional clothes or hygiene products, etc.)
- Sometimes people don’t make it through the program, but it doesn’t mean that they don’t retain the information they have learned. There is still value in the program even if it is not completed.
- Upcoming graduations:  
October 10, 2025, 1:30 Warren County Courthouse
- Please visit the Northern Shenandoah Valley Substance Use Coalition Facebook page. They post photos and stories.

Ashley expressed her thanks to the agency and the commitment to what Recovery Court does. She expressed gratitude for her team and all that they do. Sharon Kessler said she heard a participant speak recently and it was amazing.

**9. Announcements**

Lisa Goshen shared that she and Bisma Y. Sheikh met with her locality’s County Administrator, Chris Boise to get clarification regarding what the locality’s expectations of NWCS board members are. He outlined five things that are expectations. She provided handouts for the other members of the board.

**10. Closed Session**



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Kahle Magalis motioned for the Board to enter Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code §2.2-3711 (A)(4), for the purpose of discussing matters involving the personal privacy of an individual, furthermore, allowing Ellen Harrison to join the board for the purpose of providing relevant information to the discussion. Lisa Goshen seconded. The Board entered a closed session at 6:41 PM.

**11. Certification of Closed Session**

Kahle Magalis motioned to exit closed session. Lisa Goshen seconded. The board entered open session.

Certification of Closed Session Roll Call Vote

Elisabeth Alger: I so certify

Amanda Whitson: I so certify

Amanda Kibler: I so certify

Sharon Kessler: I so certify

Lisa Goshen: I so certify

Bisma Y. Sheikh: I so certify

Mary Orndorff: I so certify

Katie Jordan: I so certify

Kahle Magalis: I so certify

Jennifer Coker: I so certify

**12. Votes from Closed Session**

Elisabeth Alger motioned to give permission to pursue an appeal to the State Human Rights Committee based on the final outcome determined by the LHRC's decision. Amada Whitson seconded, and a roll call vote was performed.

Elisabeth Alger: Aye

Amanda Whitson: Aye

Amanda Kibler: Aye

Sharon Kessler: Aye

Lisa Goshen: Aye

Bisma Y. Sheikh: Aye

Mary Orndorff: Aye

Katie Jordan: Aye

Kahle Magalis: Aye

Jennifer Coker: Aye

Elisabeth Alger gave a quick announcement regarding the health of Sharon Surratt's family. She will be providing a meal train sign up that Morgan will send to the board if they would like to contribute.



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Ellen Harrison announced that we received the paperwork for the 501(c) 3 and we are ready to file the necessary paperwork.

**13. Call to Adjourn**

Bisma Y. Sheikh motioned to adjourn the meeting. Amanda Whitson seconded. The meeting adjourned at 7:02 PM.