

CENTRAL COUNTIES SERVICES
Board of Trustees
Minutes of Meeting
August 26, 2025
Hybrid Meeting

The **August 26, 2025** meeting of the Board of Trustees for Central Counties Services (CCS) was held at the Temple Main facility on **August 26, 2025** in Temple, Texas at **5:53 PM**.

The following members of the Board, CCS Staff and Guests were present:

Board of Trustees Hybrid Meeting:

Mr. Ray Ashby – Present
Mr. Steve Wick – Present
Ms. Rita Kelley – Present
Judge James Lively – Present
Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins – Present
Jesus Ramos – Present

Absent:

Ms. Felicia Inman – Absent
Judge David Blackburn – Absent
Ms. Virgie Hardeman – Absent
Chris Ellis - Absent

Guests:

Bill Cooke ~ Bell County Sheriff, Anne Jackson ~ Bell County Attorney, Jane Jeffries ~ Lampasas County

Center Attorney:

Mr. Jack Tarver – Present

Staff:

Johnnie Wardell, Executive Director – Present
Joanne Cospers, Deputy Director - Present
Leigh Miller, Chief Accountant/Interim Chief Financial Officer – Present
Andrea Erskine, Director of Intellectual and Developmental Delays - Present
James Arnold, Director of Behavioral Health – Present
Kelli Sames, Director of human Resources - Present
Rebecca Wagner, Director of Early Childhood Intervention - Present
Darla Hogan, Director of Information Services – Present
Barbara Theilen, Executive Assistant II – Present

A. CALL TO ORDER

A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order by Mr. Ray Ashby, Chairman of the Board of Trustees at 5:53 PM by a Regular Session.

REGULAR SESSION

1) Introduction of Guests:

Ray Ashby introduced Bill Cooke, Anne Jackson, and Jane Jeffries as the incoming Board members for FY2026-2027.

2) Review of Board Calendar

No comments.

3) Approval of July 22, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes

Steve Wick moved for approval of the July 22, 2025 Board Meeting Minutes as submitted, Rita Kelley seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

4) Approval of Engagement Letter for Financial Consultant Melissa Lynch, CPA, PLLC
Johnnie Wardell requested approval of the engagement letter for Financial Consultant Melissa Lynch, CPA, PLLC, and answered questions from the Board.

Andrejs Avots-Avotins moved for approval of Engagement Letter for Financial Consultant Melissa Lynch, CPA, PLLC as submitted, Steve Wick seconded. All were in favor. The motion carried.

5) Executive Summary – Center Happenings

Johnnie Wardell shared the Executive Summary, and answered questions from the Board.

B. CITIZEN COMMENTS

None

C. BOARD COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. Medical Committee-Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins – No Report
2. Personnel Committee- Rita Kelley – No Report
3. Finance Committee - James Lively – We reviewed the budget in Finance Committee and will ask for approval in Financial Matters
4. Long Range Planning and Facility Committee - Steve Wick – Steve asked about the status of the supportive housing unit. Johnnie Wardell answered with the status details.

D. PERSONNEL MATTERS

1. ACTION ITEMS:

None

2. NON-ACTION ITEMS:

a. FY2026 Personnel Schedule

Kelli Sames presented the FY2026 Personnel Schedule and answered questions from the Board.

E. FISCAL MATTERS

1. ACTION ITEMS

a. **Approval of FY2026 Annual Budget**

Joanne Cosper presented the FY2026 Annual Budget and answered questions from the Board.

*Andrejs Avots-Avotins moved for approval of the **FY2026 Annual Budget** as submitted, **Steve Wick** seconded. All were in favor. The Motion carried.*

2. NON-ACTION ITEMS

a. **Monthly Financial Statement – July 2025**

Leigh Miller presented the financial statements ending July 30, 2025, and answered questions from the Board.

F. SPECIAL REPORTS

None

G. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR COMMENTS

Johnnie Wardell shared Andrea Karlek's retirement as Data Analyst with IDD after 30 years of service. To our board members who are retiring, Thank you for your service. I am very proud of our leadership team for their work on the budget.

H. BOARD OF TRUSTEES COMMENTS/MEETING EFFECTIVENESS FEEDBACK

Rita Kelley: It has been a joy working with this group and the staff. I am impressed with the budget. Thank you everyone.

Jess Ramos: Thank you for everything you do for the people we serve. Prayers to all of you for continuing that as you move ahead.

Andrejs Avots-Avotins: The work we do is God's work, and we have to take care of our flock. Even if we save just one life out of the five Counties we serve, we have done a great job. Thank you to everyone for all you do.

Steve Wick: I am glad about the budget, and the co-responders. I am happy about the salary increase. I am going to miss our members who are retiring.

Jack Tarver: I am going to miss our retiring board members. The budget report was presented the best way I have ever seen, and I feel good about the budget for our next year.

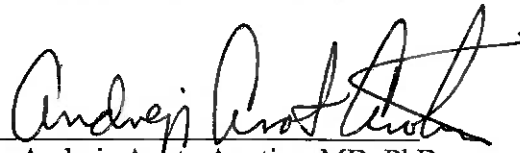
James Lively: I am going to miss our retiring board members. I also think the budget presentation was great and I fully understood the entire budget. Thank you everyone.

Ray Ashby: It has been an honor to work with our retiring board members. I am impressed with our incoming board members. Thank you to the leadership team for all the work on the budget.

I. ADJOURNEMENT:

There being no further official business, Ray Ashby adjourned the meeting at 7:22PM

SUBMITTED BY:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Andrejs Avots-Avotins". The signature is stylized with a large, sweeping initial 'A' and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Dr. Andrejs Avots-Avotins, MD, PhD
Secretary

Board of Trustees
Central Counties Services
Recorded by:
Barbara Theilen
Executive Assistant II

NOTE: The reference material disseminated during the meeting
will be archived with the official Minutes.