

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Meeting Date: January 22, 2026



Chairman: Kevin McDonald

Date: January 22, 2026

Location: KCI Boardroom

Members Present: Brad Rodgers, James Nations, Elizabeth Thompson, Rebecca Schatt, Diana Brown, Rachel Kaser, Stephen Spivey, Chuck Troutman, Lt. Anthony Piarulli

Advisors: John Cooper (CEO), John Aitken (CFO), Veraunda Jackson (CLO), Shalonda McHenry-Sims (COO)

Not Present: Carly Sayles-RESIGNED

Guests: via phone: Robert McAllister (DCF Contract Mgr.), Mark Wickham (LSF CEO)

In person: Michelle Mongeluzzo

Minutes: Vicki Austin, Executive Assistant

Quorum: Yes

Call to order at 12:30 pm

I. Chairman's Remarks

- a) Introductory Remarks – Stephen Spivey on behalf of the absent Chairman and Vice Chairman welcomed all and called the meeting to order.
- b) Approval of December 4, 2025, Minutes - Spivey moved to approve. Schatt seconded the motion, **all voted in favor and passed unanimously.**
- c) Board development was discussed.
 - Accepted the resignation of Carly Sayles email dated January 21, 2026.
 - Rebecca Schatt officially dates out of her Board appointment in May. A gracious appreciation for her 18 years of service was expressed by all the Board members.
 - John Aitken has a Board recommendation he is in discussions with a former Citrus County Administrator.
 - Diana Brown asked if location within a County (i.e. N, S, E, W) side was a factor in recruiting. She answered with, no, it makes no difference as long as we have representation from each of our five county designation.
- d) 2026 Board meeting dates were discussed, particularly May 28, which falls on the Holiday week and will be shorter for preparation and attendance for anyone vacationing. No request was made to change the date.

Board Educational Segment

John Cooper introduced Michelle Mongeluzzo, Sr. Case Management Director for Marion County. The Business plan to change the culture in Marion County Case management through leadership changes has resulted in striving daily to promote positivity through celebrations. Michelle encourages staff to “remember their why”. Keeping with the celebrations theme, door prizes have been incorporated into the All-Staff meetings to encourage attendance and participation. Michelle continues to create a documentation environment with a pro-parent attitude to encourage unification, strength based and supportive. Michelle has made space for everyday hygiene products to be available for children during intake. Lastly, a video was created by staff was presented where staff members expressed their WHY and commitment to the work they do for the community, children and families.

Following the video Diana Brown expressed the desire to visit Marion Case Management staff to express her appreciation for their commitment and good efforts, she encouraged other board members to also visit and would coordinate a group effort for those interested.

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II. President's Report

- a) November 2025 Performance – John briefly reviewed November's Balanced Score Card and noted that the targeted items listed in RED the population type of cases are TPR not reaching permanency till after 10 months. The targeted items in YELLOW are stable performance.
- b) FY 25/26 DCF Contract monitoring summary findings John found to be pleasing without many findings to be concerned about, Retta is reviewing any findings for challenges if necessary.
- c) Marion Recruitment Update – Marion CMA maintains an 85% to 90% retention rate.
- d) 2026 Winter Olympics, Ocala has two kids again achieving positions on the Olympic team. Erin and Brittany will be competing for the USA in the speed skating competitions in Italy. Executive Staff would like to schedule another skating event, including Board with them in April when they return. Staff is gathering cards from our kids to send wishing them luck.
- e) Residential Group Home search to replace the Heart of Florida Youth Ranch continues. Ideally finding a 5 to 10 acre parcel with two home structures able to house 8-12 children would be the best option.
- f) SCC packet has three bills that potentially effect KCI. HB0529/SB0660 is one being a liability insurance bill to reduce liability. Another HB0475/SB1650 regarding youth between DJJ / JCC level 1 priority to get off the wait lists. One other HB1431/SB1600 about liability insurance regarding training and accreditation. Talks of another regarding Public Records Requests and exemptions for Children in child welfare system. These will be provided in summary form to the board at a later date.
- g) KPMG funding formula concerns letter from the Board was hand delivered to Legislators and was reviewed. There is not a Bill, but the formula was presented to committee. John hopes to encourage a pilot program before the final formula is voted into law.

III. Operations Report – Shalonda reviewed the Marion Office

- a) Out of Home Care: The 67% adoption goal has been challenged by Mr. Cooper to exceed the target rate of 250 and achieve 300 for this FY.
- b) Diversion & Prevention: Lake Sumter LSF has had a strong shift in culture mirroring Marion CMA
- c) Quality Management & Training
- d) Healthy Start /MIECHV Chart. Healthy Start presented to ALL STAFF CPR and Infant car seat installations by certified staff. Dates for onsite classes and car seat inspections will be made available to staff and Board members interested.

IV. Finance Report

- a) November 2025 Financials – Jim Nations briefly reviewed the financials and although it is over budget due to salaries, benefits and adoptions it should come into alignment with the amended budget. John Cooper and John Aitken made comments that the benefit increases along with staff attrition being less than expected (which is a good thing) is contributing.
- b) Jim Nations presented an amended Budget with narrative for approval. The current financials represent a deficit that between Risk Pool and back fill of funding we expect to be made whole. Seconded by Liz and all approved.
- c) Finance committee recommends that the Audit come to the Finance Committee before presentation to the full board for reconciliation purposes. The audit at this time shows no concerns. First by Jim, seconded by Diana and all approved.

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V. Committee Reports

- a) Executive Committee – October report was reviewed and discussed in the December Board meeting, next meeting will be in February.
- b) Community Development – No recent meetings:
 - The Community Development Calendar was shared so board members can plan for their participation –Especially noted was:
 - Boot Scootin’ Boogie – 02/27/26 invite your family, friends, co-workers.
 - Request for any donations to fund the Raffle basket presented on behalf of the Board.
 - Diana requested that Kimberly resend the link to purchase tickets.
- c) SIC Committee January meeting draft minutes – Diana briefly reviewed progress of each of the workgroups within this committee.
 - Special thank you to the judges of the Holiday Decorating Contest. Acknowledgement of the Holiday Decorating Contest luncheon with the Board for all participants on March 26th before the Board meeting.
 - Name change of the SIC committee is still in discussions.
 - Sub-committees can hopefully move forward with the good works without Board oversight. Jim mentioned he appreciates working with staff and hopes to be considered more of just another co-worker and not a Board oversight. Kevin stated seeing ideas come to fruition without hands on oversight is appreciated.
 - Diana again encouraged Board members to visit Ocala case management office.
 - Jim mentioned he has reached out to various local clubs for mentoring and in his efforts received a \$500 donation.
 - Veraunda updated the Clock entrance sign with pictures coming along. Must have releases before they can be hung.
 - Diana mentioned that with Liz’s assistance the Kudo’s notes have been being hand delivered.

VI . Unfinished Business/New Business –

- Veraunda reviewed Florida Statutes § 286.011(8), often related to §119 records requirements for shade meetings.
- The approved Ninth Amended By-Laws were signed by the remaining Board members.

VII. Public Forum – None

Chairman, Kevin McDonald Adjourned the meeting at 1:47 pm.

Next meeting – March 26, 2026, 12:30 pm – 2:00 pm. KCI Wildwood Board Room