

February 2026 Brown County Board of Developmental Disabilities

Regular Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, February 18, 2026 Time: 12:01 p.m. Location: Board Office

- I. Pledge of Allegiance
- II. Prayer
- III. Call to order
- IV. Roll Call of Members

Angela Marlow	Reggie McKenzie	Emily Ernst
Patrick Klump	Sam Schweickart	Marty Paeltz
- V. Additions/Corrections to the Agenda

Elizabeth Cox of Encompass Therapeutic Services will be attending the meeting and providing information and updates on the services provided under the Keeping Families Together Grant. Ms. Cox is running late. Motion by Marty Paeltz, seconded by Sam Schweickart to keep to the agenda but move along with items and return to Agenda Item VII. Guests when Ms. Cox arrives.
- VI. Meeting Minutes

No corrections or changes. Approval of January 2026 Meeting minutes made by Emily Ernst, seconded by Reggie McKenzie
- VII. Reports:
 - a. Client Services Report

There are currently 261 individuals receiving SSA services and we are continuing to receive referrals weekly. There are a total of 172 waivers. We still have one person that went to SODC on 11/20/2025 and remains there as of 2/6/2026. The SSA is searching for placement so that he can leave. The family does not choose for him to return to the family home, so SSA is looking at ICF placement or residential group home. As of 2/6/2026, there are a total of seven MUI's filed. There will be a MUI Stakeholder committee meeting in the month of March. There is one misappropriation MUI case under review by the state to see if it meets the criteria for placement on the Abuser Registry.

TCM productivity reports are completed monthly and everyone is meeting or is above the 50% requirement. There is currently one SSA position open and interviews are being completed. As of yesterday, someone has been offered the position. If all goes well, this person will start on 3/16/2026. SSA Department are preparing documents to be sent for the Plan of Correction Verification. SSA's are continuing to work hard and are completing SSA meetings biweekly.

b. Fiscal Report

General fund has a balance of \$1,681,897.63

Residential fund has a balance of \$412,907.11

c. Superintendent Report

Night to Shine was a success. On February 25th at 10:30 am, the Commissioners will have the Proclamation for DD Awareness Month in March. Board members are welcome to join for the proclamation and lunch at Butterbee's afterwards. Special Olympics Bowling will be starting soon. Reed is reaching out to all returning bowlers first to register and then determining how many open spots we will have to fill. In order to keep accreditation for Special Olympics, Brown County has to do a state event. Practices will start in March. Connections Bowling is still open to everyone. It is the first Monday of each month, from 6:00 – 8:00 pm in Georgetown. SOCOG will be in the office on February 23 – 24 for Accreditation Readiness. Something new is that last year replacement levies were done away with and now doing away with continuing levies. It will be more difficult to pass levies.

VIII. Guest: Elizabeth Cox (Better Together Program)

Jennifer Bohrer applied last year for a grant with Keeping Families Together fund and were awarded \$200,000.00. The grant was written for someone to go into the homes and work with families that are dealing with students with behavioral needs. Jennifer had very good luck with Elizabeth while she was still at Western Brown. Elizabeth works miracles with our individuals. Elizabeth spoke to the Board about her company and the services that she provides. The grant started January 1st and are still in the on boarding stage. Elizabeth has already been able to utilize services that were already in place to prevent an out of home placement. The urgent care of Child Focus was helpful to a family rather than a more intensive service. One family has multi agency involvement going back several years, and with this service, this mom has made tremendous strides and is currently looking for a job. The flexibility of this program is bringing success for

families. Elizabeth is committed to making a long-term commitment and difference to families.

IX. Unfinished Business – Levy Update

Good news: The levy information has been filed and approved. It will be on the ballot in May. However, the wording of the language for the levy appears as if it is for the county not developmental disabilities. You have to read the fine print to see that it is for Developmental Disabilities.

X. New Business

Board Member Training: Topics for board member training are levy and finances. There is an OACB training on County Board Levies at 12:00 noon on Wednesday, February 25. The personnel committee will be meeting at 11:30 am on this day. After the OACB training, we will then discuss DD finance reports and lines. Board members will be attending the training at the DD office as a group. Patrick has previous commitments.

Strategic Plan for 2025 – 2028: Project reports are done annually for the strategic plan. The results of the reports are reviewed and condensed, if there are items that are mastered, they are removed. There are approximately 15 items that were mastered and removed. This is part of accreditation and there are guidelines of items that it requires. There is also a public hearing and a survey that is sent out for input. Motion to accept the New Strategic Plan for 2025 – 2028 made by Patrick Klump, seconded by Reggie McKenzie.

XI. Policy / Procedure Needing Board Approval: None

XII. Adjournment: The regular board meeting of the Brown County Board of Developmental Disabilities was adjourned at 1:13 pm.

Moved by: Sam Schweickart

Seconded by: Marty Paeltz

Respectfully Submitted,

Emily Ernst, Recording Secretary

Date: _____

Angela Marlow, President

Date: _____