

Avita Community Partners
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

DATE: March 25, 2026	TIME: 6:12 PM
PLACE: Avita Administrative Offices and Zoom	PRESIDING: Samantha Turner, Chair

Attendance

Kandy Bond	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Monika Knight	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	UNFILLED (Hart)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Barbara Bosanko	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Rachel Mathis	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Kim Stephens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Angie Brown	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	UNFILLED (Lumpkin)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Samantha Turner	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Kathy Cooper	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Lisa McCall	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	David White	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
David Owens	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Penny Penn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Carol Williams	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Brenda Hochmuth	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Joe Perkins	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	UNFILLED (Stephens)	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

Executive Team Member Attendance

Greg Ball	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Lori Holbrook	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Don Reimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Cathy Ganter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Catherine Murphy	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Jenny Heuer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No
Allan Harden	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Hannah Quinn	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

Agenda Items	Key Discussion Points/Outcomes/Decisions/Action Items
Call to Order	The Board Meeting was called to order at 6:12 PM by Samantha Turner, Chairman. Dante McKay from DBHDD was in attendance in person.
Quorum	A quorum was present with 10/15 members.
Approve Agenda	Motion to approve the agenda made Monika Knight, seconded by Carol Williams, passed unanimously.
Approval of Minutes	Motion to approve the minutes from February 25, 2026 was made by Monika Knight, seconded by Carol Williams. Passed unanimously.
Board Chair Report	None.
CEO Report -Cathy Ganter	<p>House Bill 1368/Senate Bill 535 has passed through both the House and the Senate. All that remains is for the Governor to sign it. The Community Service Board (CSB) Chief Executive Officers had their quarterly meeting with Commissioner Tanner last week – during the meeting, he addressed next steps with the legislation, with the department and his priorities for our system. DBHDD will be offering time with their Human Resources Department to take a look at their benefits so each Chief Executive Officer can make an informed decision. The Commissioners first order of business is to hire the Executive Director that will be the point person for the CEO’s. As you are aware, the Commissioner has been working with the Ad Hoc Committee of the GACSB Leadership and some of the CEO’s that serve as the Chair of the GACSB Committees. I have been asked to serve as the Treasurer of the GACSB and the Chair of the Administrative Operations Committee, which means I will be on the Ad Hoc Committee and will have direct access to information from DBHDD and be able to provide recommendations regarding policy impacting the CSB’s.</p> <p>Our Blairsville office challenges continue. From our last report, you knew we were working with the Union County Commissioner for him to provide us with land to build on. As of last week, his office emailed and asked us to provide some information. We have provided the information and will await his feedback.</p> <p>Work continues toward our Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities group homes. We have narrowed the land search to a property in North Hall County about 7 miles from our Behavioral Health Crisis Center. On March 13th, Hannah Quinn, Hannah Campbell and I visited the site again along with our realtor, architect and builder to determine the potential for building 2-3 homes. Our architect has provided us with drawings and given us feedback on questions we should ask upon making an offer. We</p>

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	<p>continue to meet every couple of weeks with the Department of Behavioral Health and Developmental Disabilities and the other community service boards who are working on this project in their own regions.</p> <p>Our Intellectual and Developmental Disability (IDD) sites are doing fantastic job of getting everyone out into the community and making their time at Avita meaningful. Here is a February spotlight of some daily activities taking place.</p> <p>On February 13th the individuals in our IDD programs attended the “Night to Shine” event. Our individuals are supported by members of the community who volunteer their time spending an enchanted evening dressed up in their formal best. One of our individuals had a dream of spending his time at the event as a volunteer parking attendant and he did just that.</p> <p>The Dahlonega IDD celebrated Mardi Gras last month as a fun activity to encourage involvement. The festivities were a blast, filled with laughter and vibrant energy that truly encapsulated the spirit of Mardi Gras. Everyone had so much fun making colorful masks, each reflecting their own unique personalities. The parade was a highlight, with mesmerizing floats and fantastic music that had everyone dancing in the streets. As always, the food was amazing, each dish a celebration in its own right! And let’s not forget the piñata; it was such a joy to see everyone take their turns, and indulging in the candy afterwards and was the sweetest way to end the day.</p> <p>The Gainesville IDD celebrated Black History Month by going to the High Museum of Art and learned about the underground railroad, the municipal market, had a Valentine's Day dance and party, worked on arts and crafts and worked on their handwriting skills.</p> <p>The Lavonia IDD group celebrated National Pizza Day by getting a Pizza Hut personal pizza with toppings of their choice. They also had a good time coordinating some flannel outfits for National Flannel Day! The Toccoa, Hartwell, and Lavonia IDD sites joined their friends from other organizations at a Valentine’s Day party hosted by CSP at Royston Baptist Church. There was music, dancing, basketball, socialization, and food. A few lucky winners even received a door prize!</p> <p>Blairsville IDD took their annual trip to the Cabbage Patch Hospital. While they were there, they watched the activity of how a cabbage patch kid is born and they attended the gift shop where each person left with a gift to take home either for themselves or their loved ones.</p> <p>For the last several semesters, Avita has partnered with the University of North Georgia and the students in their Mural Design class. The Executive Team and the employees at our administrative office view all the potential artwork and choose. This year, because of its unique size, the students are working on a specialized canvas and once finished, the canvas will be mounted on the wall in our temporary observation unit at our Behavioral Health Crisis Center.</p> <p>Coming Soon! Avita will begin an Assisted Outpatient Treatment (AOT) program in Hall County. AOT is a court ordered, community based mental health treatment program for individuals with a severe mental illness who struggle with voluntary treatment compliance. We are expecting a contract from DBHDD shortly.</p> <p>Since 2011, we have stored our paper records, both medical and administrative, at an off-site storage facility. Having our records off site is expensive and inconvenient for our administrative employees. We made the decision to move our records back to our Thurmon Tanner location to save money and to have easier access to them to appropriately manage them.</p> <p>Every spring, the sites look to see if anything needs “sprucing up” around the office and we make changes. This year, the Demorest behavioral health staff received new furniture, and we painted their</p>

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	<p>office. In the Gainesville Youth Office, we replaced the flooring. Our pharmacy is expanding, and renovations begin soon. At our Thurmon Tanner office, we decluttered, painted, and spruced up our board room.</p> <p>As always, Avita would like to recognize the following staff for going "Above and Beyond:" Madison (Sunny) Weber, Rae Marie Emans, and Kyra Langston. Thanks for all you do!</p>
Financial Update	<p>Greg Ball reviewed the following in his report:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • February saw a deficit of \$126,000. This brings the FY surplus (not including the ERC revenues) to \$496,000. • Current year revenues without the Employment Retention Credit (ERC) payments are \$1,300,000 above prior year revenues, which is 4.9% increase over prior year's revenues. • Current expenses are \$1.4 million which is a 5.2% increase above prior year expenses. • Our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) continued to exceed the targets established by DBHDD: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Cash on Hand is 121 days—well above the 30-day minimum ○ Current Ratio – 16:1 ○ Days of Covered Expenses – 134 days –well above the minimum of 60 days ○ Long Term Debt Ratio – .17:1 – well below the maximum of 2.5:1 – same as last month
Nominating Committee - Board	<p>Board Secretary read the pertinent section on the nominating committee. Samantha Turner appointed Kim Stephens, Penny Penn and Carol Williams as the nominating committee to recommend Board Chair, Vice-Chair, and Parliamentarian.</p>
Optional Discussion on referrals	<p>Samantha Turner shared she would be willing to serve a second term and Kim Stephens stated she would be willing to be the parliamentarian a second term. The committee will make their full recommendations in June.</p>
By-Law Referral to Governance	<p>Monika Knight made a motion to refer that the by-laws be looked at during the Governance Committee next month, seconded by Rachel Mathis. Unanimously passed.</p>
Closed Session Personnel, Litigation and Negotiation reasons	<p>Lisa McCall made a motion to go into closed session for Personnel, negotiations, and litigation at 6:42 pm, seconded by Monika Knight. Unanimous to go into closed session. Monika Knight made a motion to come out of closed session at 7:13 pm, seconded by Kim Stephens, passed unanimously.</p> <p>Monika Knight made a motion to authorize a purchase offer for \$160,000 with contingencies for a parcel of land off Joe Chandler Rd in Hall County, seconded by Kim Stephens, passed unanimously.</p> <p>No other action taken.</p>
Announcements	<p>Debbie Whitlock resigned earlier in the day. From last month's directives the 401K proposal will get to DBHDD meeting on April 16th for full approval/implementation.</p>
Adjourn at 7:16 pm	<p>Penny Penn made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Carol Williams. Unanimously passed.</p>

Kathy Cooper

April 22, 2026

Presiding Officer Signature, Vice-Chair, Kathy Cooper

Date Approved

Respectfully submitted,

Hariah Hutkowski

Hariah Hutkowski, Recording Clerk