

December 18, 2025

The Alamance County Social Services Board met with its regular monthly meeting changed to different dates due to holiday schedule. The meeting was held at HSC Building (1st Floor) 319 N. Graham Hopedale Rd., Burlington NC with the following in attendance were: Mr. Timothy Britt, DSS Board Chair; Mrs. Tyronna Hooker, DSS Board Vice-Chair; Dr. Darrell Warner, DSS Board Member; Ms. Candy Snyder, DSS Board Member; Commissioner Ed Priola, DSS Board Member; Ms. Candice J. Gobble, DSS Director; Ms. Virginia Hunker, DSS Business Officer; Ms. Danae Pickard, Economic Services Division Director; Ms. Jamie Hamlett, DSS Attorney; and Ms. Sherry Hook, Alamance County Assistant County Manager were present.

Mr. Timothy Britt, DSS Board Chair, opened the meeting.

Public Comment:

None

Consent Agenda: Timothy Britt, DSS Board Chair

November 2025 items on the consent agenda approved. Ms. Tyronna Hooker, DSS Vice-Chair Board Member, made the motion to approve and was seconded by Dr. Darrell Warner, DSS Board Member.

Staff Reports:

Fiscal: Virginia Hunker

	NOVEMBER 2025	% OF BUDGET	PRIOR YTD	% OF BUDGET
REVENUES	\$5,441,631.00	39%	\$4,280,952.00	34%
EXPENDITURES	\$9,572,445.00	37%	\$8,694,952.00	32%

Ms. Virginia Hunker reported we continue to trend on target. We are starting the budget meetings for the upcoming budget process with County Management.

Ms. Hunker asked the board if there were specifics budget presentations as we prepare for 2026.

Question: Any update on VAYA funds?

Director Gobble responded there has been no different information from last month. We have until January 30, 2026, to return unused funds.

We continue to have an ongoing relationship with VAYA due to Adult population who continue to receive services.

Question: If we don't return the funds – what will happen?

Director Gobble responded we continue to communicate with VAYA via email. The other counties who have VAYA funds are in the same predicament. We have not received any word on how the other counties will proceed.

VAYA will continue to see some foster children before transferring to CFSP.

Fraud: See report –

Unit	November 2025	November 2024	Current YTD	Prior Fiscal Year
Fraud	\$8,552.39	\$17,874.35	\$160,849.51	\$178,846.79

We welcome, O’Kayla Holloway, our newest Fraud Investigator. With her addition, the Program Integrity Unit is now fully staffed.

Services: Candice Gobble, Director-

Director Gobble reported the following:

Child Welfare has entered with Blue Cross/Blue Shield (Healthy Blue) into the Children and Families Specialty Plan (CFSP) – a comprehensive Medicaid Managed Care health plan. The plan is designed to ensure timely and consistent access to quality services, including medical and physical healthcare, while maintaining continuity of service delivery for children and families across the State of NC on December 1, 2025. We continue with many struggles with the new provider. We are not the only county with these struggles. We have requested a meeting with the provider as we continue to see barriers with placement and after-hours response. Director Gobble reported we potentially may have to place child in the “Blue Cottage” due to these barriers.

Director Gobble added all Persons Under Guardianship were adopted. There was a parade of gifts leaving the agency to be delivered to PUG. This is normally the only gift they receive and the staff love delivering gifts.

Child Support – (Statistical Report Information) – see report.

Unit	November 2025	November 2024	Current YTD	Prior Fiscal Year
Child Support	\$760,071.91	\$870,519.75	\$4,373,728.97	\$4,541,127.71

No report.

Economic Support: Danae Pickard, Economic Services Division Director

Ms. Pickard reported the following:

LIEAP (Low Income Energy Assistance Program) funds have been received. We can receive and process applications for the Priority Group of population of age 60 or older or disabled persons.

We also received some additional CIP funds to process applications. Staff work diligently to help citizens with heating needs.

Operations – Director Candice J. Gobble

Administrative Support/Personnel: Candice J. Gobble

Director Gobble reported we continue to post/hire for positions. Staff continue to interview positions. Director Gobble reported she plans to make an offer for the HR position.

Director’s Report – Candice J. Gobble, Director–

Director Gobble introduced two staff who will retire at the end of December. They are as follows:

- Lisa Lloyd – Economic Services Medicaid Supervisor with 28 years of service.
- Kathi Ludwig – Child Care with 22 years of service

Director Gobble presented them both with certificates. Director Gobble added she has personally worked with both staff over her tenure here at DSS. We are losing a lot of knowledge and their contributions to DSS will be missed.

Tim Britt, DSS Board Chair shared sentiments of appreciation to both staff for their dedication to public service for those years and citizens of Alamance County. Dr. Darrell Warner, DSS Board Member, shared your dedication of 50 years between both staff shows dedication of time to do the work of social services.

Director Gobble reported we will meet at the Alamance County Sheriff’s Office today to receive cans of food that ACSO collected to help DSS crisis pantry. The Sheriff’s Department “Operation Cans for Christmas” collected non-perishable food (650 items).

We have been invited today for media release to accept the food items. DSS crisis pantry was an initiative started during the federal shutdown to help families who may need food during time at DSS. This is not a large-scale pantry like food pantry with churches and nonprofit organizations. DSS does not distribute on a large scale. We will distribute a “bag of food” at application time to help offset needs.

Director Gobble invited board members to attend press conference today at ACSO at 3pm.

Question: Are we able to direct families to non-profit organization food banks?

Yes – we often send families to food banks who have more large-scale operations than DSS.

Ms. Pickard announced new resource “The Source” who is a group of churches who have created a larger food bank that will be able to distribute food to Alamance Co. citizens. We helped

Alamance Co. Health Department create their own small food pantry with donations received during the shutdown. We had such overflow food. Ms. Pickard also reported United Way does list on their website all the food pantries that serve Alamance Co.

Director Gobble asked board members as we move into the new year – what would you like to see as a board? Any suggestions on what should be included in your monthly packet?

Board Members suggested:

- Review of By-Laws
- Hear from different DSS Departments – what job functions they do? What happens when the client comes in for help? What’s the process?
- Quarterly Budget Report
- Boil down what we do with Medicaid/Budget
- Spend some time in the “weeds” for the Big Beautiful Bill
- Explore Fraud
- Performance Management Report
- “Meet & Greet” of Staff

New Business: 2026 Board Meeting Schedule

Board Members discussed 2026 Board Meeting schedule. All meetings will be on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 12noon and will be held on the 1st Floor in Professional Board Room at HSC Building located at 319 N. Graham Hopedale Rd., Burlington NC.

See Schedule:

Tuesday	January 27, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	February 24, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	March 24, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	April 28, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	May 26, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	June 23, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	July 28, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	August 26, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	September 22, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	October 27, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	November 24, 2026	12 noon
Tuesday	December 15, 2026	TBD

Discussions were held to move December 2026 meeting to 3rd Tuesday, December 15, 2026, due to Holiday Schedule. The time to be determined.

Action: Motion made by Tyronna Hooker and seconded by Dr. Darrell Warner to approve all scheduled dates with the change of December meeting date.

Announcements:

None

Adjournment -

The next board meeting is 12:00 pm **Tuesday, January 27, 2026**, at DSS – Professional Board Room located on the 1st Floor at 319 N. Graham Hopedale Rd., Burlington NC.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 12:21pm. Motion was made by Tyronna Hooker, DSS Board Member and seconded by Candy Snyder, DSS Board Member, to adjourn the meeting.

Respectfully Submitted:

Carmen L. Morrow

Date Approved: _____