Panhandle Community Services
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Panhandle Community Services, 1309 SW 8th Ave., Amarillo, TX 79101
Minutes for May 21, 2026, 10:30 AM

Board Members by Sector:

Low Income		Private		Public	
Lydia Villanueva	A	Jason Vanosdol	A	Judge Tim Glass	P
Janice Faggan	P	John Sharp	P	Judge Rowdy Rhoades	A
Amanda Quillin	P	Brian Gillispie	P	Judge Mitchell Locke	A
Teresa Lane	P	Kerry George	A	Judge Adam Ensey	A
Chris Martinez	P	Jordan Herrera	P	Judge Isabel Carrasco	P

Staff	Position/Title
Magi York	Executive Director
John Mejia	CFO/ HR Director
Lylene Springer	Transportation Division Director
Dennis Garvey	Information Services Division Director
Christy Hilbert	Communications Division Director
Benita SanMiguel	Weatherization Director
Lisa Matthysse	Executive Assistant
Cassandra Hernandez	Administrative Specialist

Guests
Jason Sabo,
Lobbyist for TACAA

NOTICE – This meeting was publicized in compliance with the state open meetings law, as documented in Appendix A to these minutes. Appendix A also includes a list of the documents provided to members with the meeting notice and agenda. Appendix B includes committee meeting minutes.

Call to Order

Brian Gillispie, Board President, called the regular business meeting to order at 10:31 AM Central Time (Organizational Standard 2.4) and announced the Initial Public Comment Period. Lisa Matthysse, Executive Assistant, called Roll and determined that a quorum of directors was present (OS 5.5). Mr. Gillispie led the Pledge of Allegiance and the recital of the Panhandle Community Services (PCS) mission statement and vision statement. Mr. Gillispie also led the prayer.

Consent Agenda *(OS 5.9, OS 8.7)*

Mr. Gillispie referred to the Consent Agenda and asked if any board members would like to remove an item for discussion. Hearing no requests for discussion, Mr. Gillispie requested a motion to approve the consent agenda. (The consent agenda and all associated reports were included in the Board Packet. Reports included correspondence; the April 16, 2026, Board of Directors Meeting; a list of signed items presented for ratification by the Board; Program Status Reports (Red-Light/Green-Light Reports) (OS 5.9); and March Financial Statements including the Balance Sheet, Comparative Balance Sheet, Grant Summary (an organization-wide report on revenue and expenditures that compares budget to actual, categorized by program), County Funds Statement, County Funds MTD Summary, County Funds YTD Summary, Accounts Receivable Statement, and Unrestricted Funds Statement *(OS 8.7)*.)

Motion:	To approve the consent agenda.		
Moved By:	John Sharp	**Second:**	Judge Tim Glass
Vote:	**Motion carried by voice vote**		

Board Training: Advocacy – Legislative Update with Jason Sabo *(OS 5.8)*

Jason Sabo, a lobbyist for the Texas Association of Community Action Agencies (TACAA), presented a legislative update on issues of concern to community action agencies. Mr. Sabo began by outlining the context of state and federal policy issues that could affect these agencies and then reviewed the timeline for upcoming sessions. He discussed topics including a possible state budget shortfall, potential reductions in SNAP benefits, increased federal attention to fraud, and the Sunset Commission review of the Department of Health and Human Services, which oversees programs such as Medicaid, Child Protective Services, and Workforce.

The discussion highlighted the importance of continued advocacy. Mr. Sabo noted that limited state funding means any bill requiring funding will likely not receive a hearing. He also said there is a possibility of mid-decade statewide redistricting, which could negatively affect rural regions due to population loss, and that one of the Senate's legislative interim charges concerns rural fires, a matter in which the Panhandle and PCS have a major stake.

After discussing the federal government's concerns about fraud, Mr. Sabo stated that he believes benefit programs in Texas are being managed effectively and that he has not heard any talk of fraud related to the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG) and the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP). He also noted that the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) and PCS are good stewards of the public's money.

Mr. Sabo ended by noting that an emerging theme for the next session is data centers. He said that a smart, nuanced conversation is needed - one that is grounded in the real-world impacts discussed at the Bridge Builders meetings while recognizing that data centers represent an economic development opportunity for many communities in the Panhandle.

(John Sharp left the meeting at 10:58 AM.)

TACAA Conference Recap *(OS 5.8)*

Executive Director Magi York stated that several PCS staff members and one board member attended the recent Texas Association of Community Action Agencies (TACAA) Conference in Frisco, Texas. Ms. York said the conference offered some of the best training she has seen and that agency staff were impressed by TACAA's investment in training. She also noted that two PCS directors, Audra Rea and Christina Aragon, worked at the conference and represented PCS well.

Executive Director's Report

Ms. York reported the following:

- Resource Development and Fundraising – Changes are being made to management and agency structure to ensure funds are spent appropriately and that PCS serves families. Ms. York will be working online over the next few weeks and would like leadership on-site to take advantage of fundraising opportunities and to align growth with PCS's mission.
- Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) Update – Audra Rea, Division Director of Family Services, attended the TVC meeting in Austin and spoke on PCS's behalf. Although PCS was not funded for a TVC grant next year, the commission offered an extension and additional funding for PCS's current grant.

- County Judges' Visits – Ms. York recently met with County Judges, both virtually and by phone, and they have agreed to continue contributing to PCS at current or higher levels. Ms. York stated that this indicates PCS maintains a solid relationship with area judges and uses funds wisely.
- Fundraising – PCS staff are forming a fundraising committee that will include staff from across the agency. Board President Brian Gillispie's wife has also agreed to join the committee. Ms. York stated she would like other board members or their spouses to serve on the committee and for a board member to chair it. Board Member Janice Faggan said she was interested.

Ms. York requested a motion to accept her report.

Motion:	To accept the Executive Director's report.		
Moved By:	Janice Faggan	**Second:**	Amanda Quillin
Vote:	**Motion carried by voice vote**		

Committee Reports *(OS 5.9)*

Committee meeting summaries from the Audit and Finance, Programs, and Resource Development committees were presented to the board.

Audit and Finance Committee – Chief Financial Officer John Mejia reported that two interviews were conducted for transportation positions, one for the Director of Maintenance and one for the Foreman. Mr. Mejia also reported that he is restructuring the accounting department. He accepted the resignation of the Assistant Finance Director and interviewed a candidate for the position this week. He is also interviewing a candidate for the open Senior Accountant position today.

Mr. Mejia stated that risk management was added to the Audit and Finance Committee's duties and that a revised job description was approved. He reported that the agency's health insurance increased by 44.5%, noting that leadership will continue to review health insurance and benefits and to educate staff on this issue. The new rates will take effect on July 1.

Programs Committee – Board member Amanda Quillin reported on the status of PCS programs for the first quarter of 2026 and reminded the board that the programs' Red-Light / Green-Light reports are posted on SharePoint for board members' review.

Ms. Quillin reported that the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) Homes for Heroes program benefited from lower repair costs this year, which allowed more veterans to be served than expected. The TVC contract was extended through February 2027. The TVC General Assistance grant, which provides assistance with utilities, deposits, and other general needs, was also extended. Weatherization programs remain on track, with contractors continuing work on apartment complexes. Additional funding has been requested to cover health and safety costs.

The 2025 Comprehensive Energy Assistance Program (CEAP) contract was fully expended in the first quarter of 2026, serving 2,308 families during the program year. Early spending trends for the 2026 CEAP grants indicate that these funds will also be fully expended. Ms. Quillin stated that PCS's Family Development program, also known as the Community Services Block Grant (CSBG), is on track to meet the grant's compliance goals. She also noted that CSBG client service expenditures have remained low because other funding sources have covered many client needs.

The Rural Pathway to Home program has exceeded its goal for the number of individuals and families housed, with most placements consisting of individuals in one-bedroom units. New strategies are being developed to improve client services for those housed through the program. Ms. Quillin also reported that the Housing Choice

Voucher (HCV) program, which includes Veterans Affairs Supportive Housing (VASH) and Foster Youth to Independence (FYI) vouchers, continues to perform well.

Ms. Quillin reported that VITA volunteers completed more than 1,000 tax returns and secured more than $1.1 million in refunds for families. She reminded the board that the RSVP grant ended in March and noted that volunteers assembled 600 senior care packages in the first quarter. Funding for the care packages came from a new grant from the Isla Carroll Turner Friendship Trust.

Resource Development Committee – Dennis Garvey, IS Division Director and Resource Development Committee Lead, stated that the committee did not have a quorum, and the meeting was adjourned. Board member Janice Faggan was the only committee member in attendance. She joined the Programs Committee meeting after learning her own committee was unable to convene due to the absence of a quorum.

Mr. Gillispie asked whether there were any questions about the committee reports. In response to a question about the cause of the increase in PCS's insurance, Mr. Mejia said the agency's claims exceeded premiums last year and that the insurance company is trying to recoup its losses.

Mr. Gillispie requested a motion to accept the committee reports.

Motion:	To accept the committee reports.	
Moved By:	Teresa Lane	**Second:** Jordan Herrera
Vote:	**Motion carried by voice vote**	

Final Public Comment Period

Mr. Gillispie called for public comment. Although no public comments were made, Board Member Teresa Lane took the opportunity to request that PCS hold Bridge Builders events more often. Ms. York thanked Ms. Lane for her comment and said she would look into holding more events next year.

The Promise of Community Action

Mr. Gillispie led the board in reciting the Promise of Community Action.

Community Action changes people's lives, embodies the spirit of hope, improves communities, and makes America a Better place to live.
We care about the entire community, and we are dedicated to helping people help themselves and each other.

Motion to Adjourn

Mr. Gillispie requested a motion to adjourn, and Judge Tim Glass moved to adjourn the meeting. Hearing no objections, Mr. Gillispie adjourned the meeting at 11:37 A.M. (OS 2.4).

I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of the minutes approved by the Panhandle Community Services Board of Directors.

Signature: Mitchell Locke
Name: Judge Mitchell Locke
Title: Board Secretary
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