

The Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled met on March 20, 2025, at the LCBDD office/Community Center at 403 E. Elm Street, Aurora. Board members in attendance were as follows: Bill Alexander, chairman, Martha Pettegrew, secretary, and Blenda Moore. Absent board members: Patricia Childress, vice chair, Chris Freeman, treasurer, Lana Moore, Debbie Bowles, Rick Lamb, and Kristine Shanks. Guests present: Suzanne DePriest, TCM supervisor, Terrence Clark, new Case Manager, Kerri Watson, executive director, Rene Frazier, Oats Transportation, Lindsey Hock and Shane Willis from Firefly, Susan Miles, Champion Athletes, Linda Painter, Barry/Lawrence Development Center, Kati Rutledge, Creative Therapy, and Dave Dunn, SWI.

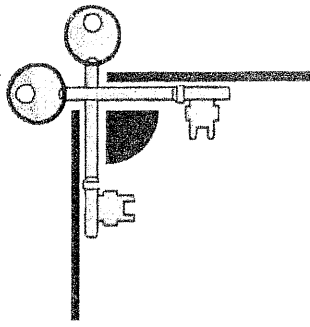
Note: With only three board members present, there was not a quorum present. There were no votes held during this meeting. All items that require a vote will be presented at the next board meeting for review and vote.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Bill Alexander, at 6:05 pm.

Without a quorum, the meeting was modified to be an informational meeting where the executive director, Kerri Watson, presented information on potential legislation that is trying to move through the Missouri house and senate that could impact board funding in the coming years. There are numerous bills that look to modify and/or decrease the percentage of levy funding, which would impact board funds, and would in turn impact the amount of money that could be utilized for grants. All current grant holders had representatives present, except the Redemption Ranch. Kerri presented the present board members, and any grant holder that wanted it, a copy of a list of contact information for the Missouri House and Senate representatives and the federal Missouri representatives and encouraged all present to contact their legislator to express how any decrease in property taxes could impact funds to assist this population and the services they require. A list of the potential legislation was also provided. Any questions were addressed.

Bill also reported that according to the Lawrence County Record newspaper, the Lawrence County budget for 2026 will have an approximate five-million-dollar shortfall, which will affect tax levy funds, which will in turn affect the LCBDD budget for 2026.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.



Martha Pettegrew
8-28-25

Lawrence County Board for the
Developmentally Disabled
Opening Doors Through Coordinating Services

The Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled met on June 12, 2025, at the LCBDD Community Center/Board office, 403 E. Elm Street, Aurora, at 6 pm. The members present were Bill Alexander, Patricia Childress, Chris Freeman, Blenda Moore, Deborah Bowles, Kristine Shanks and Rick Lamb. Members absent: Lana Moore and Martha Pettegrew. Guests present included: Kerri Watson – Executive Director and Suzanne DePriest – TCM Supervisor.

Bill Alexander, chairman, called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

The minutes from the November 14, 2024, and March 20, 2025, board meeting was reviewed. Chris Freeman made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Debbie Bowles seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, motion passed.

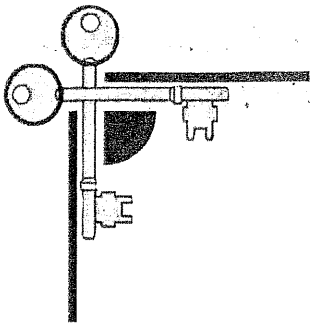
The following treasurer's report was given by board treasurer, Chris Freeman, for October 2024 – April 2025.

Bank of Billings

Start	Debits	Credits	Ending Balance
October – \$183,644.05	\$121.73	\$50,000.00	\$133,765.78
November - \$133,765.78	\$109.91	\$0	\$133,875.72
December - \$133,875.72	\$113.70	\$0	\$133,989.42
January - \$133,989.42	\$113.80	\$0	\$134,103.22
February - \$134,103.22	\$5,106.02	\$0	\$139,209.24
March - \$139,209.24	\$50,144.26	\$0	\$189,353.50
April - \$189,353.50	\$22,161.96	\$0	\$211,515.46

First Independent Bank

Start	Debits	Credits	Ending Balance
October - \$190,430.54	\$38,933.76	\$50,000.00	\$179,364.30
November - \$179,364.30	\$46,045.12	\$50,000.00	\$175,409.42
December - \$175,409.42	\$35,498.33	\$50,000.00	\$160,907.75
January - \$160,907.75	\$29,167.02	\$0	\$190,074.77
February - \$190,074.77	\$29,805.66	\$50,000.00	\$169,880.43
March - \$169,880.43	\$57,101.24	\$0	\$226,981.67



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April - \$226,981.67	\$41,877.38	\$100,000.00	\$168,859.05
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Mid Missouri Bank

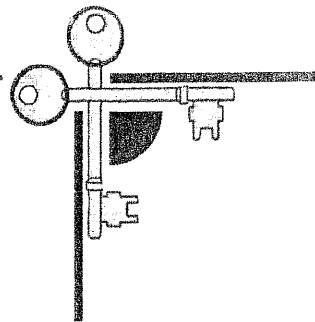
Start	Debits	Credits	Ending Balance
October - \$47,000.00	\$0	\$0	\$47,000.00
November - \$47,000.00	\$0	\$0	\$47,000.00
December - \$47,000.00	\$0	\$0	\$47,000.00
January - \$47,000.00	\$0	\$0	\$47,000.00
February - \$47,000.00	\$45,000.00	\$0	\$92,000.00
March - \$92,000.00	\$50,000.00	\$0	\$142,000.00
April - \$142,000.00	\$0	\$0	\$142,000.00

Freedom Bank

Start	Debits	Credits	Ending Balance
October - \$26,971.61	\$100,306.36	\$88,303.16	\$38,974.81
November - \$39,591.49	\$50,009.20	\$72,597.25	\$17,003.44
December - \$17,003.44	\$128,229.11	\$68,101.77	\$77,130.78
January - \$77,130.78	\$218,520.63	\$110,511.24	\$185,140.17
February - \$185,140.17	\$519.43	\$102,599.61	83,059.99
March - \$83,059.99	\$239,706.12	\$177,501.15	\$145,264.96
April - \$145,264.96	\$89,618.42	\$71,365.61	\$163,517.77

The motion to accept the treasurer report as read was made by Patricia Childress. Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed. Motion carried.

Suzanne DePriest, TCM supervisor, gave the TCM report. She explained there are currently 4 active Partnership for Hope waivers, as one was recently terminated for non-use. TCM currently has 254 Medicaid and 16 non-Medicaid consumers. They are receiving 1-2 new consumers weekly, and any attrition is related to transfers county to county. There are currently 4 full-time case managers carrying approximately 48 consumers each. The newest case manager, Terrance, is in his second month of billing. Case managers are currently billing between 124-136 hours a month. The monthly billing goal is 118 hours a month. The annual TCM audit was held on 5/29/25. There were no findings in ISP, QA, and



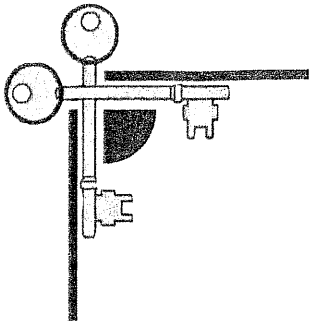
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Case Manager reviews. There were 3 minor findings that require remediation. Both Columbus group and the regional office stated it was a very good review.

Kerri Watson, Executive Director, gave the Executive Director report. She reported that she had an information table set up at the Marionville and Aurora High School transition fairs. The county audit was held on 3/24/25 and no issues have been reported as of this date. We are going to collaborate with the Coalition of Charities, Aurora School Special Education director and the University of Missouri Extension office to hold an Expo at the Extension office outside of Mt. Vernon on September 25th from 3:30-6:30 pm. Empower Abilities is also wanting to collaborate with LCBDD to do life skills classes for ages 14-23 in Lawrence County. Kerri is trying to figure out something to send to consumer families to determine interest. Kerri explained that Eitas in Jackson County is providing a "Levy 101" web call to get a better understanding of the levy process. Kerri and Chairman Bill are going to attend. Kerri was able to meet with Missouri Senator Josh Hawley's staff in Springfield on 6/3/25 to talk about concerns regarding the federal government making changes to Medicaid, and if Medicaid is cut for our consumers. Kerri attempted to contact Missouri state representative, Mitch Boggs, and Missouri state senator, Mike Moon, with no return contact. Kerri also talked about at the last MACDDS monthly meeting, there was a presentation about creating a policy or procedure on working with Law Enforcement/ICE. The board tabled this until more information could be obtained at the next meeting. Kerri talked about the SB3 bill that is on Governor Kehoe's desk for signature that has a section regarding property tax freezes. Lawrence County is among many counties that are at a 0% increase freeze. Kerri reported she would keep the board updated on status and potential impacts. Kerri reported that there is one board member that will not be recommissioned in August for another term. There are two community individuals that Kerri is hoping to hear back soon on desire/ability to volunteer for a term starting in August 2025. Kerri also reminded members that the levy vote and officer vote is coming up in the August meeting.

Next, Bill discussed that the board's levy increase request went to the polls in April 2025 and it passed with 68%, increasing the levy from 0.0851 to 0.100 per every \$100 collected. Bill then informed the members that the board was billed \$23,000.00 for the request being placed on the ballot. He also informed them that the board recently received a check from the county for a little over \$19,000.00 for taxes collected over the past three months.

Bill then discussed a concern that has been raised regarding Creative Therapy and their billing/invoices for grant funds. Bill reminded the board that grant funds can only be utilized for services provided. There have been numerous complaints from consumer parents and staff that sessions have been cancelled somewhat frequently. Bill showed a pie chart that was created that shows the breakdown of



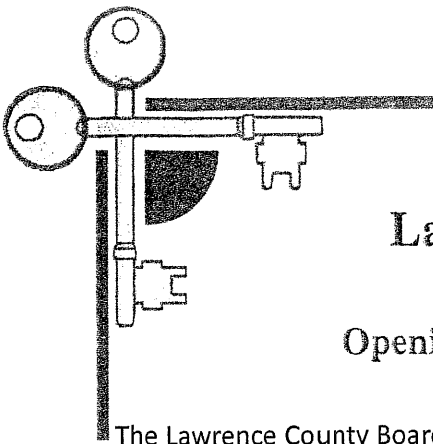
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grant recipients and how much of the total grant funds each recipient receives. Creative receives the most of any recipient, including related services funds total. Bill discussed the surplus that was indicated in their latest invoice, but it is not known if the surplus includes surplus for Barry county. Bill discussed that the current salary that is indicated for each therapist/teacher is significantly higher than what is paid for the same services both in the Springfield area, and the state of Missouri as a whole. Bill also reported that music therapy is not recognized by the state as a therapy for individuals with developmental disabilities. Bill explained that an option to keep the billing for services provided only is to deduct the surplus from the requested amount on the invoice, if it is not already deducted. Bill informed the board that both he and Kerri will be monitoring this and will update the board as needed.

The next meeting will be held in August. The date will be determined when the levy information is received from the county and the two-week posting can be completed.

A motion to adjourn was made by Chris Freeman. Debbie Bowles seconded the motion. All were in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:22 pm.



Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled

Opening Doors Through Coordinating Services

The Lawrence County Board for the Developmentally Disabled met on October 23, 2025, at the LCBDD Community Center/Board office, 403 E Elm Street, Aurora, at 6 pm. The members present were Bill Alexander, Sonya Messenger, Blenda Moore, Kristine Shanks, Lana Moore, Chris Freeman, Debbie Bowles, and Rick Lamb. Members that were absent: Martha Pettegrew. Guests present included: Kerri Watson- Executive Director, and Citizens: Patricia Stott, Lindsey Eutsler, Rene Frazier, Treanna Daugherty, Kathleen Creekmer, Sayward Harris, Paula Haverly, Debra Heyshirle, Susan Miles, April Townsend, Kodie/Noah Harris, Deanna Cecenas, Jon Carder, Shane Willis, Diana Denn, Rachel Ameni, Jackie Wasson, Patty Pippin erica Thrasher, Kaiti Rutledge, Valarie Schroll and Joe, Patty Childress, Gail Irwin, David Dunn and Lynda Painter.

Bill Alexander called meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

Bill made a statement about how the SB40 has the authority to spend taxpayer money in an orderly fashion and if there were any outbursts the room would be cleared.

First order of the meeting was to approve the August Meeting Minutes. Approved by Lana Moore and seconded by Debbie Bowles. None Opposed, motion carried.

The following treasurers report was given by Kristine Shanks, Treasurer, for August 2025.

Bank of Billings

Start	Debit	Credits	Ending Balance
August-\$171,021.30	\$147.72	0.00	\$171,169.02

First Independent Bank

Start	Debit	Credits	Ending Balance
August-\$136,917.25	\$49,737.31	\$50,000.00	\$136,654.56

Mid Missouri Bank

Start	Debit	Credits	Ending Balance
August-\$142,000.00	0.00	\$30,000.00	\$112,000.00

Freedom Bank

Start	Debit	Credits	Ending Balance
August-\$63,310.01	\$110,016.69	\$68,345.76	\$109,980.94

Rick Lamb motioned to approve, and Chris Freeman seconded the motion, none opposed, motion carried.

Bill Alexander- Chairman went over two resolutions. First Resolution was to have Patricia Childress removed from Freedom, Mid Mo, and Bank of Billings. Kristine made motion to approve, and Rick seconded, none opposed, motion carried.

Second Resolution was for Judy Williard to be removed from Mid Missouri Bank. Lana Moore made a motion to approve, and Rick Lamb seconded the motion, none opposed, motion carried.

Kerri Watson-Executive Director informed the Board that the Website needed to be updated and be ADA compliant. She presented two different proposals. Lana Moore proposed to table until next meeting in order to have more time to investigate proposals. Sonya Messenger seconded the motion, none opposed, motion carried.

Bill Alexander-Chairman discussed Board Vision for the future and would like for the SB40 Board to think of different strategies that can be discussed at next meeting.

Bill Alexander-Chairman proposed the 2026 Projected Budget.

Projected Budget	Admin	TCM	Grants
\$1,327,909,81	\$339,802.00	\$526,978.00	\$461,129.81

Bill explained that he was not able to get an estimate of 2026 taxes from the county clerk or collector at this time, so the levy amount is based on a very conservative amount close to what is expected for the current year when all levy money is received from the county. It was explained that Bill and Kerri went over line by line trying to tighten the budget as much as possible for the year on Administrative and TCM operating budgets. Questions were discussed by board members. All questions were answered. Rick Lamb motioned to approve the budget. Chris Freeman seconded the motion. All in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Grants

SWI Workshop

Dave Dunn presented his grant request of \$78,000.00. Dave Dunn remarked how well the workshop is doing and how far they have come. The workshop now is up to 73 employees. Rick Lamb motioned to approve, and Kristine Shanks Seconded. All were in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Oats Transit

Rene Frazier presented her grant request for \$78,500.00. Rene explained what grant was used for and how useful it was to our community. Chris Freeman motioned to approve and Lana Moore seconded the motion, all were in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Barry Lawrence County Development Center

Lynda Painter presented her grant request of \$33,000.00. Lynda is serving 12 children with a possibility of 2 more being added. She explained she has two buses with two drivers and two monitors. She also let board members know she was being donated iPads to use as communication devices. Debbie Bowles motioned to approve, and Rick Lamb Seconded. All were in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Champion Athletes

Susan Miles presented her grant request for \$5,300.00. Susan currently serves 67 of our community in various sports. Sonya Messenger made motion to approve, and Kristine Shanks seconded. All were in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Related Services Program

Bill Alexander has allotted 270 spots for related services program, each spot allowing \$600.00 for a total of \$162,000.00. Debbie Bowles made a motion to approve, and Rick Lamb seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Partnership of Hope

Bill Alexander explained that this year we will have 5 slots for a total of \$12,500.00. Kerri explained that the Partnership for Hope waiver is a "starter waiver" and that it has a cap of \$12,500.00, of which the county is responsible for a 20% match of funds. \$12,000.00 times 20% is \$2,500.00 times 5 slots equals \$12,500.00. Rick motioned to approve and Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Arc of the Ozarks

Treanna Dougherty presented her grant request of \$2,500.00. This grant will help with summer camp, discovery club and page turners. Blenda Moore motioned to approve and Sonya Messenger seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, motion carried..

Firefly Supported Living

Shane Willis presented her grant request for \$4000.00. This grant will help cover lawn care and if needed, replacement of big appliances. Lana Moore made a motion to approve, and Blenda Moore seconded the motion. All were in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Redemption Ranch

Gail Irwin presented her grant request of \$5000.00. She hopes to have more clients this coming year. She served 4 of our clients this past year with horse therapy. Debbie Bowles made the motion to approve, and Rick Lamb seconded. All were in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

Creative Therapy Center

Deanna Cecenas and Kaiti Rutledge presented their grant request of \$140,578.00. The Board offered them \$80,329.81 as that is all that is remaining of tax levy money in the 2026 projected budget after operating expenses and previously approved grants. It was discussed that this amount would not be enough to fund a full year of music and dance therapy and art classes. They were asked how long they

could sustain at current level of business with the money offered. Deanna stated that they could maintain, as is, for six months. It was proposed by one of the board members that they accept this amount and then put in another proposal in March or April of 2026 for the remainder of the amount. At that time, a better understanding of where tax levy amounts will be for the year. They accepted and will present again in June of 2026 to see if more funds are available to help them then. Chris Freeman made a motion to approve, Lana Moore seconded. All were in favor, none opposed.

Bill Alexander spoke of next board meeting, which will be January 15 2026, with weather permitting. The newest board member proposed having a closed meeting for the SB40 board. It was explained to her that a closed meeting has to be posted at least 24 hours in advance of the meeting, per the sunshine law. The general public left at this time as all grant business was completed.

Upon the general public leaving, David Dunn with SWI discussed how he works with other SB40 boards, and all are the same. The board must come up with a projected number for a budget and cannot go or spend over the projected budget. He discussed coming into the Monett workshop and the process of working with the board on that project and that since they took over and remodeled, they have only asked for increase of three to four thousand dollars over the last 3 years. The last two years the grant request has been the same. He also explained that boards generally need to have a starting point on budget to work from.

Bill Alexander and older board members discussed how it was good that the new members were asking questions and engaging in conversation and encouraged that to continue. He expressed the need for the board to use this time as a platform to build on and become an active board. He explained that previous executive director discouraged board members from being too involved.

Bill Alexander discussed that the northern part of the county is devoid of services for this population and he has heard that 'if there was a day program in Mount Vernon' they would attend. He also explained that the board could be held liable for not providing SVCS for the whole county.

Kerri Watson discussed wanting to explore the possibility of going into a contract with Barry County SB40 board to open up the LCBDD Community Center to Barry County consumers/residents for a small fee so the Barry County individuals could attend activities with their Lawrence County Friends. Motion to allow to explore made by Chris Freeman, Debbie Bowles seconded the motion. None opposed, motion carried.

Chris Freeman made a motion to adjourn; Lana Moore seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.