

**SUMMIT COUNTY CHILDREN SERVICES
BOARD OF TRUSTEES
June 23, 2026 MEETING MINUTES**

Board Members	Board Members	Executive Team
✓ Keith Malick, Chair	✓ Traci Buckner	✓ Cassandra Holtzmann
✓ Patrick Bravo, Vice-Chair	_____ Anne Connell-Freund	✓ Darin Kearns
✓ GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary	✓ Beth Gracey	✓ Liz Mangon
✓ Anna Arvay	✓ Megan Recker	✓ Sushi Moore
✓ Omar Banks	✓ Katie Stoyhoff	✓ Catherine Van Horne
_____ Kemp Boyd		

Staff Present: Ray Jacobs-Security, Tracy Mayfield, Laura Sasser, Mary Serapiglia, Deanna Shriver, JoAnn Dunson - Recording Secretary

Call to Order and Roll Call

- Chair Malick called the meeting to order at 4:39 p.m.
- Roll call was taken.

Approval of Meeting Minutes

- Chair Malick requested a motion to approve the minutes of May 26, 2026.
- Mr. Banks moved to approve the minutes; seconded by Ms. Maddox.
- All were in favor and the motion carried.

Public Comment

- There were no requests for public comment this month.

Committee Reports

- Resources Committee
 - Committee Chair Bravo reported that the committee met today
 - There were no resolutions to approve this month.
 - Mr. Kearns presented the Financial Statement Report as of May 31, 2026.

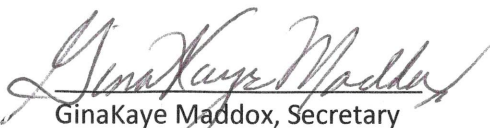
Executive Director's Report

- Executive Director Holtzmann highlighted the following:
 - Intake Timeliness
 - Goal: 95% of intake investigations completed within 60 days.
 - ❖ Current performance: 95.4% year-to-date.
 - Staff credited for strong performance and improved ability to focus on cases due to improvements in staffing and workflow.
 - Custody Numbers
 - The agency has approximately 100 fewer children in custody compared to this time last year.
 - Improvements attributed to:
 - ❖ Additional psychological safety for staff when making decisions.
 - ❖ Increased shared decision-making.
 - ❖ Collaboration between department directors, supervisors, and legal services.
 - ❖ Emphasis on alternatives to removal and court involvement.
 - Property Tax Revenue Concerns
 - Ongoing discussions around potential loss of property tax revenue.
 - The Executive Director will present on a panel in Columbus alongside other county directors.
 - Concerns include:

- ❖ What happens if property tax revenue disappears?
- ❖ Potential need to decrease expenditures.
- ❖ Possibility that the state may need to assume additional responsibility; this is considered unlikely.
- ❖ 60% of agency funding would be lost
- Recent Survey data shows:
 - ❖ **60%** initially support abolishing property tax.
 - ❖ Educational efforts reduce that to **40%**, indicating room for public outreach.
- Adult Protective Service (APS) Hotline Collaboration
 - JFS reports satisfaction with Summit County Children Services' handling of the Adult Protective Services hotline.
 - Improved consistency and responsiveness noted.
- Foster Care Recruitment Initiatives
 - Community Relations and Foster Care teams are implementing several creative recruitment strategies:
 - ❖ Foster care flyers placed on Papa John's pizza boxes (seven locations).
 - ❖ Foster Friendly Business Program: 33 current partners offering discounts; six pending.
 - ❖ Branded coffee cup sleeves promote foster care at 14 coffee shops.
 - ❖ Small foster family recruitment events hosted at local coffee shops.
 - ❖ "Immersive experience" created for Akron One City pastors to understand the child experience during removal; follow-up planned.
- Family and Children First Care (FCFC) Pilot Funding
 - \$87,000 in remaining funds being used for a pilot program involving FCFC care coordinators
 - Goal: Prevent unnecessary custody removals by providing early systemic support for multi-system-involved families.
 - Results will be monitored; continuation is not guaranteed but expected to be helpful.
- Deputy Director Moore and Executive Director Holtzmann shared information on foster parent licensing
 - Numerous families are currently in the licensing process.
 - Expected continued growth due to:
 - ❖ Community outreach
 - ❖ Church partnerships
 - ❖ Work by longtime foster parent Kathleen Paydo, supporting education for prospective foster families
 - Suggestion made to improve tracking of how families hear about recruitment efforts.
- Caseload Data
 - Updated caseload data included in board packet; minor changes made in reporting format.

Adjournment

- Chair Malick requested a motion to adjourn.
- Mrs. Stoyntoff moved; seconded by Ms. Maddox.
- All were in favor and the motion carried.
- The meeting adjourned at 4:54 p.m.


 GinaKaye Maddox, Secretary
 Board of Trustees


 Cassandra A. Holtzmann, JD, LPA
 Executive Director